

# St Stephen

a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

The Rev. Robert G. Schaefer, Pastor



Encouraging and  
strengthening faith in Jesus,  
and sharing the joy of God's love.

August 30, 2020

13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

10:15am

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## Holy Communion

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### Introduction to the Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost

*The prophet Jeremiah speaks of the incurable wound of his suffering yet finds in God's words the delight of his heart. When Peter doesn't grasp Jesus' words about suffering, Jesus tells the disciples they will find their lives in losing them. Such sacrificial love is described by Paul when he urges us to associate with the lowly and not repay evil with evil. In worship we gather as a community that we might offer ourselves for the sake of our suffering world.*



### Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

### Prelude

### Welcome

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be God forever, Father, ✚ Son, and Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Dear friends, God is merciful to us and blesses us. Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

For the times we have not turned back and stood before the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the times our love be has not been genuine; we have not hated what is evil, or held fast to what is good. Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

For the times we have failed to deny ourselves and take up their cross and follow.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

*The presiding minister announces God's forgiveness.*

May almighty God have mercy on you, forgive † you all your sins, and bring you to everlasting life. **Amen.**

**GATHERING SONG:**

**Let Streams of Living Justice**

**ELW# 710**

1 Let streams of liv - ing jus - tice flow down up - on the earth;  
2 For heal - ing of the na - tions, for peace that will not end,  
3 Your ci - ty's built to mu - sic; we are the stones you seek;

give free - dom's light to cap - tives, let all the poor have worth.  
for love that makes us lov - ers, God grant us grace to mend.  
your har - mo - ny is lan - guage; we are the words you speak.

The hun - gry's hands are plead - ing, the work - ers claim their rights,  
Weave our var - ied gifts to - geth - er; knit our lives as they are spun;  
Our faith we find in ser - vice, our hope in oth - ers' dreams,

the mourn - ers long for laugh - ter, the blind - ed seek for sight.  
on your loom of time en - roll us till our thread of life is run.  
our love in hand of neigh - bor; our home - land bright - ly gleams.

Make lib - er - ty a bea - con, strike down the i - ron pow'r;  
O great weav - er of our fab - ric, bind church and world in one;  
In - scribe our hearts with jus - tice; your way—the path un - tried;

a - bol - ish an - cient ven - geance: pro - claim your peo - ple's hour.  
dye our tex - ture with your ra - diance, light our col - ors with your sun.  
your truth—the heart of strang - er; your life—the Cru - ci - fied.

Text: William Whitla, b. 1934  
Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1874–1934  
Text © 1989 William Whitla.

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**APOSTOLIC GREETING**

*The presiding minister and assembly greet each other.*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

# CANTICLE OF PRAISE: Glory to God

*Refrain*

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and  
peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

1 Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther,  
we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you  
*Refrain*  
for your glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high -  
est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,  
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the  
right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.  
*Refrain*  
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and  
peace to God's peo - ple on earth. 3 For you a -  
lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,  
you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the  
Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.  
A - men. A - men. A - men.  
*Final refrain*  
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and peace to God's  
peo - ple on earth. Glo - ry to God in the high -  
est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

*A brief silence is kept, then the presiding minister leads the prayer.*

O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world.

Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

*The assembly sits.*



## Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading and song.

### **FIRST READING: Jeremiah 15:15-21**

A reading from Jeremiah.

<sup>15</sup>O LORD, you know; remember me and visit me, and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult. <sup>16</sup>Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart; for I am called by your name, O LORD, God of hosts. <sup>17</sup>I did not sit in the company of merrymakers, nor did I rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation. <sup>18</sup>Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail. <sup>19</sup>Therefore thus says the LORD: If you turn back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my mouth. It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them.

<sup>20</sup>And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the LORD.

<sup>21</sup>I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

L: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM 26:1-8**

<sup>1</sup>Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived with integrity;

I have trusted in the LORD and have not faltered.

<sup>2</sup>**Test me, O LORD, and try me; examine my heart and my mind.**

<sup>3</sup>For your steadfast love is before my eyes; I have walked faithfully with you.

<sup>4</sup>**I have not sat with the worthless, nor do I consort with the deceitful.**

<sup>5</sup>I have hated the company of evildoers; I will not sit down with the wicked.

<sup>6</sup>**I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD,**

**that I may go in procession round your altar,**

<sup>7</sup>singing aloud a song of thanksgiving and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

<sup>8</sup>**LORD, I love the house in which you dwell and the place where your glory abides.**

### **SECOND READING: Romans 12:9-21**

A reading from Romans.

<sup>9</sup>Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; <sup>10</sup>love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. <sup>11</sup>Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. <sup>13</sup>Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

<sup>14</sup>Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. <sup>15</sup>Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. <sup>16</sup>Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. <sup>17</sup>Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. <sup>18</sup>If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. <sup>19</sup>Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." <sup>20</sup>No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." <sup>21</sup>Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

*After a brief silence, the assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
 words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**GOSPEL: Matthew 16:21-28**

P: † The Holy Gospel, according to Matthew.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>21</sup>From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. <sup>22</sup>And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." <sup>23</sup>But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

<sup>24</sup>Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>25</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. <sup>26</sup>For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

<sup>27</sup>"For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. <sup>28</sup>Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The assembly is seated.*

**SERMON**

**The Rev. Robert Schaefer**



1 Tú has ve - ni - do a la o - ri - lla, no has bus -  
 1 You have come down to the lake - shore seek - ing  
 2 You know full well what I have, Lord: nei - ther  
 3 You need my hands, my ex - haus - tion, work - ing  
 4 You who have fished oth - er wa - ters; you, the



ca - do ni a sa - bios ni a ri - cos; tan só - lo  
 nei - ther the wise nor the wealth - y, but on - ly  
 trea - sure nor wea - pons for con - quest, just these my  
 love for the rest of the wea - ry— a love that's  
 long - ing of souls that are yearn - ing: O lov - ing



quie - res que yo te si - ga.  
 ask - ing for me to fol - low.  
 fish nets and will for work - ing.  
 will - ing to go on lov - ing.  
 Friend, you have come to call me.

Refrain / Estribillo



Se - ñor, me has mi - ra - do a los o - jos; son - ri - en - do,  
 Sweet Lord, you have looked in - to my eyes; kind - ly smil - ing,



has di - cho mi nom - bre. En la a - re - na he de - ja - do mi  
 you've called out my name. . . . On the sand I have a - ban - doned my



bar - ca; jun - to a ti bus - ca - ré o - tro mar.  
 small boat; now with you, I will seek oth - er seas.

Text: Cesáreo Gabaráin, 1936–1991; tr. Madeleine Forell Marshall, b. 1946  
 Music: PESCADOR DE HOMBRES, Cesáreo Gabaráin

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**APOSTLES CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
 creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
 born of the virgin Mary,**

suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
 was crucified, died, and was buried;  
 he descended to the dead.  
 On the third day he rose again;  
 he ascended into heaven,  
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
 and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
 the holy catholic church,  
 the communion of saints,  
 the forgiveness of sins,  
 the resurrection of the body,  
 and the life everlasting. Amen.

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

A: Confident of your care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*After each petition of the prayer is said:*

A: Hear us, God our Savior;

C: in your steadfast love, receive our prayer.

P: In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

*The assembly sits.*



**MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

**SETTING THE TABLE**

**OFFERING SONG:**

**All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly**

**ELW# 416**



1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad-ly; ho-ly man-na is our bread.  
 2 All who hun-ger, nev-er strang-ers; seek-er, be a wel-come guest.  
 3 All who hun-ger, sing to- geth-er, Je-sus Christ is liv-ing bread.



Come from wil-der-ness and wan-d'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.  
 Come from rest-less-ness and roam-ing. Here in joy we keep the feast.  
 Come from lone-li-ness and long-ing. Here in peace we have been fed.



You that yearn for days of full-ness, all a-round us is our food.  
 We that once were lost and scat-tered in com-mu-nion's love have stood.  
 Blest are those who from this ta-ble live their days in grat-i - tude.



Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.  
 Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.  
 Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993  
 Music: HOLY MANNA, W. Moore, *Columbian Harmony*, 1825  
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*The assembly stands.*

## OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray.

Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever. **Amen.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks.*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The presiding minister continues to give thanks:*

Lord, you are holy indeed, ...

...Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

...all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**



P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;**

**and forgive us our trespasses**

**as we forgive those who trespass against us;**

**and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

## Communion

*The bread is broken for the communion.*

P: This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Friends of Jesus, come to the table. Receive nourishment for your journey.

*The assembly is seated.*

## Lamb of God



Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;  
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .



ten pie-dad de no - so - tros,                      ten pie-dad de no - so - tros.  
have . . mer-cy up - on us,                      have . . mer-cy up - on us.



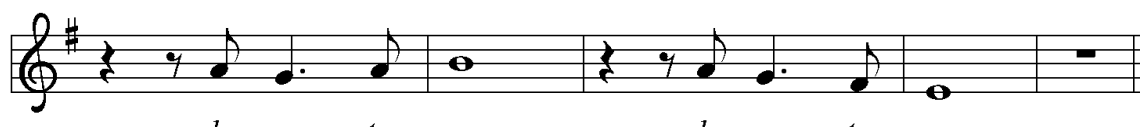
Cor-de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;  
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .



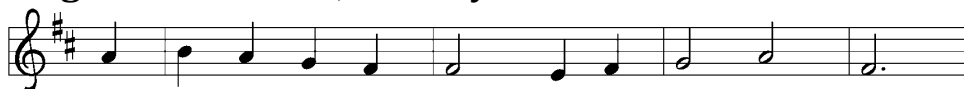
ten pie-dad de no - so - tros,                      ten pie-dad de no - so - tros.  
have . . mer-cy up - on us,                      have . . mer-cy up - on us.



Cor-de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;  
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .



da - nos tu paz,                      da - nos tu paz.  
grant us your peace,                      grant us your peace.



1 Lord, take my hand and lead me up - on life's way;  
 2 Lord, when the tem - pest ra - ges, I need not fear;  
 3 Lord, when the shad - ows length - en and night has come,



di - rect, pro - tect, and feed me from day to day.  
 for you, the Rock of A - ges, are al - ways near.  
 I know that you will strength - en my steps toward home,



With - out your grace and fa - vor I go a - stray;  
 Close by your side a - bid - ing, I fear no foe,  
 then noth - ing can im - pede me, O bless - ed Friend!



so take my hand, O Sav - ior, and lead the way.  
 for when your hand is guid - ing, in peace I go.  
 So, take my hand and lead me un - to the end.

Text: Julie von Hausmann, 1825–1901; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*  
 Music: SO NIMM DENN MEINE HÄNDE. Friedrich Silcher, 1789–1860  
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## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*The assembly stands and the assisting minister leads the prayer after communion.*

Let us pray.

O God, our life, our strength, our food, we give you thanks for sustaining us with the body and blood of your Son. By your Holy Spirit, enliven us to be his body in the world, that more and more we will give you praise and serve your earth and its many peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**



## Sending

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

## Announcements

### BLESSING

*All may make the sign of the cross as they receive God's blessing.*

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Almighty God, Father, ✚ Son, and Holy Spirit bless you, now and forever. **Amen.**

*The assembly turns toward the cross as it passes by.*

1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call  
 2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call  
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call  
 4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call  
 5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call

your name? Will you go where you don't  
 your name? Will you care for cruel and  
 your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners  
 your name? Will you quell the fear in -  
 my name. Let me turn and fol - low

know and nev - er be the same?  
 kind and nev - er be the same?  
 free and nev - er be the same?  
 side and nev - er be the same?  
 you and nev - er be the same.

Will you let my love be shown, will you let my  
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -  
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as  
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the  
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and

name be known, will you let my life be  
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer  
 this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I  
 world a - round, through my sight and touch and  
 foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and

grown in you and you in me?"  
 pray'r in you and you in me?"  
 mean in you and you in me?"  
 sound in you and you in me?"  
 grow in you and you in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949  
 Music: KELVINGROVE, Scottish traditional  
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## DISMISSAL

**A:** Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**C:** Thanks be to God.



## ***RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION TODAY OUTSIDE!***

The Eucharist is the Real Presence of Jesus and central to nourishing and sustaining our faith—especially during this pandemic. While we can't safely gather in large groups in the church yet, you are encouraged to come with your loved ones to receive the Lord's Supper in a safe way outside the church. The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be given today by Pastor Bob in the church parking lot, in front of the main entrance from 12:00pm—12:30pm. It will be drive through. Please follow the ushers' directions on arrival and maintain social distancing. Please wear a mask except when receiving the sacrament.

## IN OUR PRAYERS...

In our prayers today are these members of our homebound and others of our parish family in need of healing: Randy Mottesheard, Marti Stroberg, Dolores Lauterberg, Laurel Blake, Dorothy Johnson, James Loggins, Don Schutt, Normagene Richardson, Mildred Grady, Carol Chmelynski, Rosie & Jimmy Fennelli, Roy Kaptain, Pat Engle.

## BARBARA KAPTAIN HAS DIED IN CHRIST

Long time St. Stephen member **Barbara Kaptain** died in Christ on August 25 at an assisted living facility in Boca Raton. Barbara had been ill for several years. She is membered here by many from her active days. She had no living close family members and there will be no public funeral due to the pandemic. We pray for her repose: *Rest eternal grant her, O Lord, and may light perpetual shine upon her. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.*

## PRAYERS FOR FRIENDS OF THE PARISH

✠ Aiden, Chandler, Becky, Braemen, Craig, Cheryl, Robert, Betty, Sharon, Susie, Belinda, Marjorie, Roy, Gene, Chris, Amanda, Annette, Madison, Mason, Betty, Joanna, Susan, Betty, Chuck, Pat, Bruce, Carol, Valerie, Jason, Melissa, Greg, Annie.

## IN A FACILITY OR HOMEBOUND:

Evelyn Braun - 6152 Verde Trail Room 106 Boca Raton, Fl. 33433  
Jim Loggins - John Knox Village - Woodlands 700 SW 4th St, Pompano Beach, FL 33060  
Bud Danker - 3020 N. Ridge Road Apartment W-316 Ellicott City, MD 21043.



*In response to the amazing love, mercy and grace of God, St. Stephen Lutheran Church is a community that openly welcomes all who are seeking God's divine love and grace. All are welcome in this place regardless of race or culture, sexual orientation or gender identity, economic situation or life situation, marital or relationship status, or your doubts about faith and church. Our unity is in Christ. Your family, children, friends, spouses and partners are welcome. Your diversity and uniqueness enriches and expands our community. We are a Reconciling in Christ congregation.*

## ***It's time for a clean-up day! (sort of)***

Covid-19 is not only having a big effect on our lives, it is also starting to have an effect on the church grounds! Normally we would ask people to come together for a work and cleanup day. Unfortunately, we still can't do that right now. The Congregation Council had the great idea to have a virtual parish cleanup day. It works like this: The Administration Team has provided a list of all the projects that need attention around our campus. Thank you to those who have begun work on list of projects. Please refer to my ***Weekly Update from St. Stephen*** from this past Wednesday for a list of projects that remain.



We are currently supporting FEEDING SOUTH FLORIDA with our virtual Change for Change Tower. Feeding South Florida is the largest, most efficient food bank serving Palm Beach, Broward, Miami-Dade, and Monroe Counties. **Send your loose change to Church and let's fill up the Change for Change Tower. You may give on line by following the link on our homepage at: [www.ststephenlutheran.net](http://www.ststephenlutheran.net)**

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