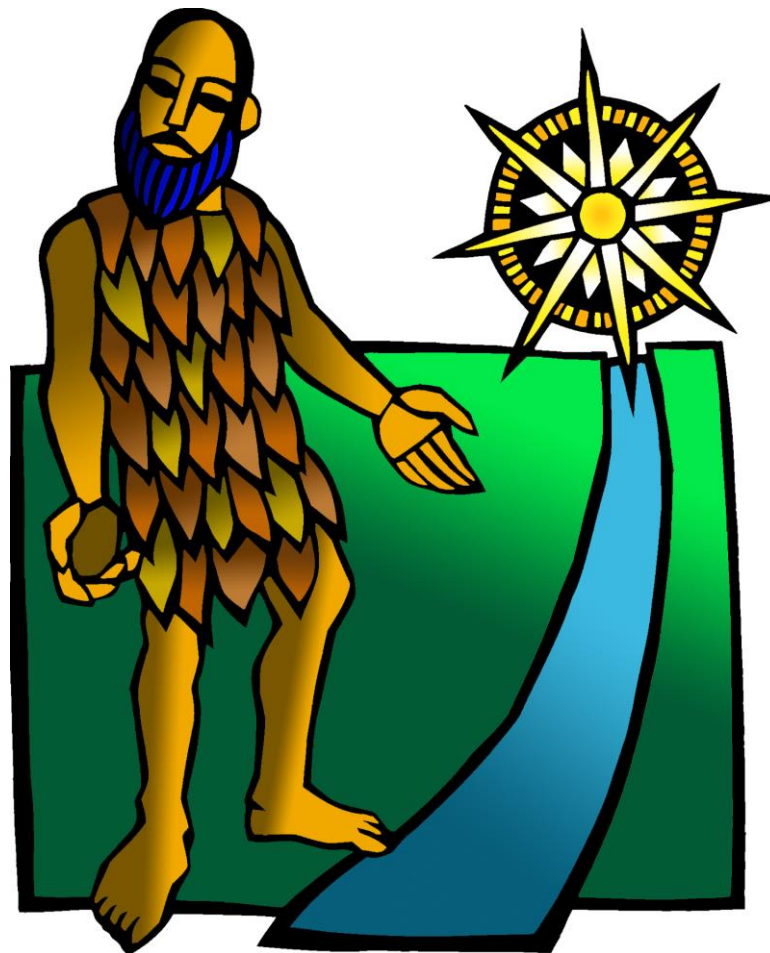


# St Stephen

a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



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

**December 15, 2019**

**Third Sunday of Advent**

**10:15am**

**The Rev. Robert G. Schaefer, Pastor**

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# Holy Communion

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## INTRODUCTION to the Third Sunday of Advent

*The season of Advent continues as a time of quiet preparation. The church does not celebrate Christmas until the night of December 24, a celebration that lasts until the Baptism of Our Lord, the second Sunday of January. The color of Advent is deep blue, the color of the sky from which Christ will return, the color of Blessed Mary, the color of hope. On this Third Advent Sunday we light the pink or rose candle. In some places, rose vestments are worn today to show the lighter note of our preparations. A note of joyful expectation marks today's worship. Isaiah announces that the desert shall rejoice and blossom, and Jesus points to the unexpected and transforming signs of God's reign. We wait with patience for the coming of the Lord, even as we rejoice at his presence among us this day: in word and holy supper, in church and in our homes, in silent reflection and in works of justice and love. We pray that God would open our eyes and ears to the wonders of Christ's advent among us.*



## Gathering

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

## Choir Prelude

## Welcome

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the parent who rouses us from slumber,  
the One who makes the desert rejoice and blossom,  
the deliverer who brings everlasting joy and gladness.

**Amen.**

Let us come before God in confession.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

To you, O God,

**we lift up our souls.**

**You know us through and through; we confess our sins to you.**

**Remember not our sins; remember us with your steadfast love.**

**Show us your ways; teach us your paths;**

**and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness**

**in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Children of God, come with joy and draw water from the well of salvation. Remember the gift of baptism: your sin is washed away in the name of † Jesus; you belong to Christ; you are anointed to serve. Stand up and raise your heads! The reign of God is near.

**Amen.**

*The assembly remains standing to sing, turning to the altar as the cross passes by.*

The assembly sings the first two verses as the procession moves to the Advent Wreath.



The wreath is then blessed and the third candle is lit. The blessing concludes as follows:

P: O ransomed people of the Lord, come,  
let us travel on God's holy way and enter into Zion with singing. Amen.

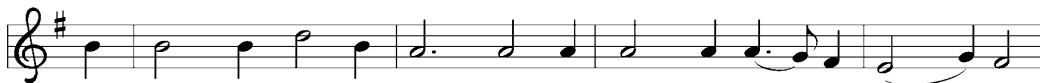
Then the assembly sings verses 3 and 4.



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!  
2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king!  
3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!  
4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!  
Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!  
Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.  
His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:  
God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!  
All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:  
So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:



Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*  
Music: BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN, Swedish folk tune, 17th cent.  
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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**GREETING**

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

C: And also with you.

**KYRIE**



Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.



Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, ev - 'ry day.



1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the  
2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the  
3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . . for  
4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the

u - ni - ty of all; for  
 hun - gry and the poor; that  
 friends and fam - i - ly; for  
 wa - ter and the word; that you

this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,  
 we may live out . . . . truth and jus - tice and grace,  
 life and for love, . . . . for our work and our play,  
 nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,

let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

*Refrain*

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray.

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

P: Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God, and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

*The assembly sits.*



**Word**

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

**FIRST READING:**

**Isaiah 35:1-10**

A reading from Isaiah.

<sup>1</sup>The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus <sup>2</sup>it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. <sup>3</sup>Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. <sup>4</sup>Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." <sup>5</sup>Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; <sup>6</sup>then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; <sup>7</sup>the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. <sup>8</sup>A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. <sup>9</sup>No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. <sup>10</sup>And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

L: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 146:5-10

<sup>5</sup>Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help,  
whose hope is in the LORD their God;

<sup>6</sup>**who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;  
who keeps promises forever;**

<sup>7</sup>who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger.  
The LORD sets the captive free.

<sup>8</sup>**The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;  
the LORD loves the righteous.**

<sup>9</sup>The LORD cares for the stranger;  
the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

<sup>10</sup>**The LORD shall reign forever,  
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!**

## SECOND READING: James 5:7-10

A reading from James.

<sup>7</sup>Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. <sup>8</sup>You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. <sup>9</sup>Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! <sup>10</sup>As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

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 11:2-11

P: The Holy Gospel, according to Matthew.

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

<sup>2</sup>When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples <sup>3</sup>and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" <sup>4</sup>Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: <sup>5</sup>the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. <sup>6</sup>And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

<sup>7</sup>As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? <sup>8</sup>What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. <sup>9</sup>What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>10</sup>This is the one about whom it is written, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.' <sup>11</sup>Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

*The assembly is seated.*

## Youth and Children's Message

### SERMON

The Rev. Robert Schaefer

*Silence for reflection follows the sermon. The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in Song.*

### HYMN OF THE DAY:

### There's a Voice in the Wilderness

ELW #255

1 There's a voice in the wil - der - ness cry - ing, a  
 2 O Je - ru - sa - lem, her - ald good tid - ings, as -  
 3 But the word of our Sav - ior is faith - ful, the

call from the ways un - trod; Pre - pare in the des - ert a  
 cend to the heights and sing! Pro - claim to a des - o - late  
 arm of our God is strong, who stands in the midst of the

high - way, a high - way for our God!  
 peo - ple the com - ing of their king.  
 na - tions and soon will right the wrong.

The val - leys shall be ex - alt - ed, the  
 Like flow'rs of the field we per - ish, like  
 Lord, feed your flock like a shep - herd, the

loft - y hills brought low; make straight all the crook - ed  
 grass our works de - cay; the pow'r and the pomp of  
 lambs so gent - ly hold; in pas - tures of peace now

plac - es where God, our God, may go!  
 na - tions shall pass like a dream a - way.  
 lead them, and bring them to your fold.

Text: James Lewis Milligan, 1876-1961, alt.  
 Music: ASCENSION, Henry Hugh Bancroft, 1904-1988  
 Music © Estate of Eldred Bancroft. B. Burrows, Executor.

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## **NICENE CREED**

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **INSTALLATION OF LEADERS IN THE CONGREGATION**

*The assembly is seated. The presiding minister addresses the assembly.*

*The offices and names of those who are to be installed are read.*

*The presiding minister addresses those being installed and then questions them:*

... On behalf of your sisters and brothers in Christ, I ask you:

Will you accept and faithfully carry out the duties of the offices to which you have been elected?

*Response:* I will, and I ask God to help me.

*The assembly stands.*

*Those being installed face the assembly. The presiding minister addresses the assembly.*

People of God, I ask you: Will you support these, your *elected* leaders, and will you share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized?

**We will, and we ask God to help us.**

Those being installed face the presiding minister, who addresses them.

I now declare you installed as council members of this congregation. Almighty God bless you, and direct your days and your deeds in peace, that you may be faithful servants of Christ.

**Amen.**

### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: Keeping awake as we watch for Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

After each petition of the prayer is said:

A: Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

P: You hear the cries of our hearts, O Lord. Fill us with hopeful expectation, that in each day and hour we may love and serve our neighbors, in Jesus' name.

C: **Amen.**

### PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**



### MEAL

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

### OFFERING

#### OFFERING SONG:

#### Come Now, O Prince of Peace

ELW #247



*O - so - sŏ o - so - sŏ, pyong - hwa - ũi - im - gŭm*

1 Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one bod - y.  
 2 Come now, O God of love, make us one bod - y.  
 3 Come now and set us free, O God, our Sav - ior.  
 4 Come, Hope of u - ni - ty, make us one bod - y.



*u - ri - ga han - mom i - ru - ge ha - so - sŏ.*

Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.  
 Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.  
 Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.  
 Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.

Text: Geonyong Lee, b. 1947; tr. Marion Pope  
Music: OSŌSŌ, Geonyong Lee, b. 1947  
Text and music © Geonyong Lee

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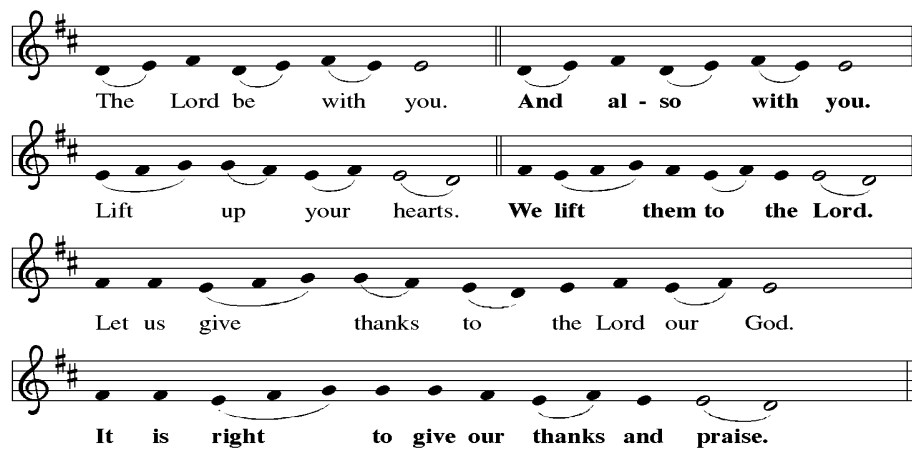
### OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray.

God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**




# THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so 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, Lord God of pow'r 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.

*The presiding minister continues to give thanks:*

...Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

With this bread and cup...We look with hope for his coming.

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit...Bring the gift of peace on earth.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours... one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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

P: This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Come now with joy to Emmanuel's table. Feast at the banquet of hope and love.

*The bread is broken for the communion. The assembly is seated.*

*All baptized Christians are invited to participate in the celebration of holy communion. Those who are not baptized and children not yet communing may come forward for a blessing, please cross your arms on your chest if you desire a blessing.*

*At St. Stephen we receive Holy Communion by receiving the bread and then either **drinking directly from the cup** or by **intinction**: (receive the bread in your hand and then dip bread in the wine.)*

**Gluten free bread is available on the right side. (please ask)**

**Alcohol free wine is available on the right side. (please ask)**

The body of Christ, given for you. *Response: Amen.*

The blood of Christ, shed for you. *Response: Amen.*



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; . .



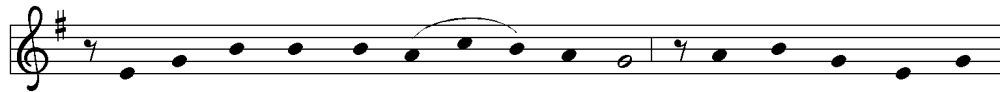
ten pie-dad de no - so - tros,                      ten pie-dad de no - so - tros.  
have . . mer-cy up - on us,                      have . . mer-cy up - on us.



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 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive  
 2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things  
 3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on  
 4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
 far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;  
 Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law  
 tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
 teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joice! Re-joice!  
 in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.  
 and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

- 5 O come, O Key of David, come,  
 and open wide our heav'nly home;  
 make safe the way that leads on high,  
 and close the path to misery. *Refrain*
- 6 O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer;  
 O Sun of justice, now draw near.  
 Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
 and death's dark shadow put to flight. *Refrain*
- 7 O come, O King of nations, come,  
 O Cornerstone that binds in one:  
 refresh the hearts that long for you;  
 restore the broken, make us new. *Refrain*
- 8 O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
 and ransom captive Israel,  
 that mourns in lonely exile here  
 until the Son of God appear. *Refrain*

Text: *Psalterium Canticum Catholicarum*, Köln, 1710; tr. composite  
 Music: VENI, EMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent.  
 Text sts. 2, 6, 7 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

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## ***Additional Communion songs are sung as needed***

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

A: Let us pray.

Holy One, we give you thanks that in this bread and cup we have feasted again on your endless love. Let that love overflow more and more in our lives, that we may be messengers to prepare your way, harvesters of justice and righteousness, and bearers of your eternal Word, our Savior Jesus Christ. **C: Amen.**



# Sending

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

## Announcements

### BLESSING

P: May God, who gathers us in love, lead you into pathways of righteousness and justice.

C: Amen.

P: May God, who knows us more deeply than we know ourselves, lead you in pathways of forgiveness and freedom.

C: Amen.

P: May God, who fills us with good things lead you in pathways of equity and abundance.

C: Amen.

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

P: Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

### SENDING SONG:

### People, Look East

ELW# 248



1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the crown - ing  
 2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is  
 3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the  
 4 An - gels an - nounce with shouts of mirth him who brings new



of the year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble,  
 plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish,  
 bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er,  
 life to earth. Set ev - 'ry peak and val - ley hum - ming



trim the hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo - ple, look  
 that in course the flow'r may flour - ish. Peo - ple, look  
 bright as sun and moon to - geth - er. Peo - ple, look  
 with the word, the Lord is com - ing. Peo - ple, look



east, and sing to - day— Love, the Guest, is on the way.  
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Rose, is on the way.  
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Star, is on the way.  
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965  
 Music: BESANÇON, French carol  
 Text © Miss E. Farjeon Will Trust, by permission of David Higham Associates.

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### DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Christ is near.

C: Thanks be to God.



*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.*

**IN OUR PRAYERS...**

**In our prayers** today are these members of our homebound and others of our parish family in need of healing: Normagene Richardson, Mildred Grady, Laurel Blake, Katie Paff, Dorothy Johnson, Carol Chmelynski, Jimmy Fennelli, Edith Reichenbach, Jim Loggins, Roy and Barbara Kaptain, Bob & Jane Reinhold, and Shelley Amato.

**Prayers for Friends of the parish: (Please renew your request every 3 weeks)**

✠ Jane, Glen, Eric, Nicholas ✠ George, Greg, Ann, Jason, Valerie, Doris ✠ Rudy, Susan, Bill, Carol, Edith, Billy, Jose R., Myriam, Christian C., Jake, George, Jill, Jordan, Gene, Annette, Chuck, Betty, Joanna, John, Betty, Pat Jean, Pat Ruth, Zeus, Aiden, Cheryl, Craig, Chandler, Braemen, Jerry, Robert, Becky, Nettie.

**In a facility or homebound:**

- Barbara Kaptain – The Atrium Assistant Living at Boca Raton.  
1080 NW 15TH Room 215 Boca Raton, Fl. 33486
- Jane Reinhold – Platinum Loving Group, P. O. Box 410572, Melbourne, FL 32941
- 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

**Flowers this week sponsored by:** Carol Jacobson in honor of Kelly's birthday.

**Assisting at Worship in December**

*(w) will give the cup at communion. Thank you all for serving.*

10:15 AM	<u>December 15</u>	<u>December 22</u>	<u>December 24</u>		<u>December 29</u>
			<u>Christmas Eve Services</u>		
			<u>5:30pm</u>	<u>7:30pm</u>	
<b>ASSISTING MINISTER</b>	Eric Castaneda	Carol Jacobson	Sera Butz	Sera Butz	Sera Butz
<b>ACOLYTE</b>	Sera Butz	Natalie Prego	Carol Jacobson	Natalie Prego	Carol Jacobson
<b>LECTOR</b>	Catherine Zippay	Rosie Fennelli	Tom Peterson	Tom Peterson	Pat Belanger
<b>TORCH CARRIERS</b>			Eric Castaneda Zachary Smith	Eric Castaneda Chris Belanger	
<b>BOOK CARRIER</b>			Pat Belanger	Pat Belanger	
<b>USHERS –Need 4 to Serve</b>	Jimmy Fennelli Karin Breslin Rosie Fennelli (w) Pat Engle	Suzanne Loggins Jeanne Pettit Lynda Smith Lisa Castaneda (w)	Lynda Smith Lisa Castaneda (w)	Patricia Engle Rosie Fennelli (w)	Lisa Castaneda (w) Karin Breslin Pat Engle R. Mottesheard
<b>Head Usher</b>	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli			Rosie Fennelli
<b>GREETERS – Need 2 to Serve</b>	Rose Jones Kelly Jacobson	Caroline Smith Ruth Wagle			Rose Jones Kelly Jacobson
<b>SOUND</b>	Dennis Magarrell	Sera Butz	Dennis Magarrell	Larry Jones	Larry Jones
<b>PROJECTION</b>	Larry Jones	Eric Castaneda	Dennis Magarrell	Larry Jones	Jake VanZile

# PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **Welcome to worship, its Advent! Welcome returning winter residents!**

We are thankful you are here! We especially welcome our guests and our first time guests today. Stop at the desk to pick up a **name tag** if you don't have one. Please take a moment to fill out the attendance cards in the worship folder with your name, number and email—especially if you are visiting so that we can welcome you. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact Pr. Schaefer. Please join us for refreshments and conversation in the gathering area at the back of the church (Narthex) following the liturgy this morning. St. Stephen members: don't forget to put a little something in the jar on the table to help support this ministry! We thank **Linda Hanzlik** for her generous stewardship of this ministry of hospitality!



### **Wear your name tag every Sunday**

If you signed up for one, it is waiting for you. If you need one, just ask! Members and friends, please wear your name tag to every church function. We want St. Stephen Church to be a place where everyone knows your name!

### **Live Generously:**

#### **Please return your estimate of giving card for 2020!**

Our stewardship theme is **LIVE GENEROUSLY**. St. Paul gives the following advice to Christians: *"They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, <sup>19</sup>thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life."* (1 Timothy 6:15-19). Please take time to pray about this and return your **Live Generously Estimate of Giving Card** if you did not return it last week on Commitment Sunday.



### **Offering Envelopes**



#### **Offering Envelopes for 2020 are here...**

Please look for your name and pick them up today. Remember you can also elect to give your offering or special gifts to St. Stephen on our website at [www.ststephenlutheran.net](http://www.ststephenlutheran.net). Just go there and click on "Give" and then "electronic giving."

### **2020 Congregation Council to be installed this morning**

The following people were elected to serve beginning January 1, 2020:

**For a one-year term:** Harry Ambrose, Patricia Engle, Natalie Prego.

**For a two-year term:** Eric Castaneda, Lynda Smith, Erika Flanigan (previously elected to a three-year term).

**For a three-year term:** Karen Breslin, Randy Mottesheard, Jake Waldecki.

They will all be installed into office during the Eucharist this morning, please take a moment to



thank them for their serve. Also be sure to thank Larry Jones, Chris Hecker and Dennis Magarrell who are completing their service on congregation council at the end of December.



**Poinsettias Sale: LAST CALL!**

Today is the last Sunday we will be selling poinsettias as a fundraiser to adorn our sanctuary. The poinsettias can be dedicated to loved ones and will decorate our altar until after the 7:30pm Christmas Eve--Christ Mass when you can take them home. *If you wish to leave them for the duration of the Christmas season, we would welcome that!* Christmas will continue this year through January 5, Epiphany Sunday. Donation: \$10.00.

**Christmas Eve at St. Stephen—two services**

**5:30pm** Family Christ Mass with Candlelight and Children's Message

**7:30pm** Festival Sung Christ Mass with Candlelight



**Florida-Bahamas Synod**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

**Change for Change Tower:  
Hurricane Relief in the Bahamas**

For the final three months of 2019, we will be forwarding all money collected in the Change for Change tower to the

Office of the Bishop in the Florida-Bahamas Synod to assist our brothers and sisters there recover from Hurricane Dorian.

**Holy Grill needs:**

Breakfast continues to be served Wednesday at 9am and dinner at 5pm in the same location in our east lot in front of the sanctuary. Please check the box on the attendance card if interested becoming a volunteer. Be sure to include your email. Pr. Bob will contact you. We continue to collect for these clothing needs: **Men's/women's underwear, socks, T-shirts, shorts, towels.**



**DECEMBER HOLY GRILL VOLUNTEERS**

**WEDNESDAY 9AM**

**12/18** Suzanne Loggins – Juliet Crawford

**WEDNESDAY 5PM**

Erika Flanigan

***STEWARDSHIP CORNER:***

**Last Sunday Attendance: 74**

**Last Sunday Income (all sources): \$ 10,448**

**WORSHIP EVERY SUNDAY! LIVE GENEROUSLY!  
& THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!!!!**



### Sunday Schedule

10:15 a.m.

Liturgy of Holy Communion

### Tuesday Bible Study Resumes in January

#### Church Staff

The Rev. Robert G. Schaefer – Pastor  
pastoratststephen@gmail.com  
941-716-5687

Cesar Vidaud – Director of Music

Clarence (Teddy) Rowe – Sexton

Aidee Koach – Administrative Assistant  
sslcpompano@gmail.com

Office hours: 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 Mon- Fri

#### 2019 Congregation Council

Larry Jones - President  
councilpresident@ststephenlutheran.net  
Christian Hecker – Vice-president  
Eric Castaneda - Treasurer  
Natalie Prego – Secretary  
Lynda Smith  
Patricia Engle  
Harry Ambrose  
Dennis Magarrell  
Erika Flanigan

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## Weekly Calendar

### Sunday 15—Third Sunday of Advent

10:15am Worship

### Monday 16—Las Posadas

9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

### Tuesday 17—Advent Weekday

9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

10:00am Broward-Bahamas Conference Clergy Meeting

### Wednesday 18—Advent Weekday

9:00-10:00am Holy Grill Feeding Ministry

9:00-12pm Threads of Love

9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

5:00-6:00pm Holy Grill Feeding Ministry

### Thursday 19—Advent Weekday

9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

### Friday 20— Katharina von Bora Luther, Renewer, 1552AD

9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

### Saturday 21—Advent Weekday

### Sunday 22—Fourth Sunday of Advent

10:15am Worship



We offer you the opportunity to give online through our website and also to set up automatic offerings so you don't wish to fill an envelope each week, if you choose. Electronic gifts are fast and secure. Go to [www.ststephenlutheran.net](http://www.ststephenlutheran.net) and click on "GIVE"

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