



# St Stephen

**Lutheran Church, ELCA**



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

**January 28, 2018**

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany**

**10:15am**

Rev. Dr. Sidney Nelson, Interim Pastor

# —WE GATHER—

## INTRODUCTION

*In Deuteronomy God promises to raise up a prophet like Moses, who will speak for God; in Psalm 111 God shows the people the power of God's works. For the church these are ways of pointing to the unique authority people sensed in Jesus' actions and words. We encounter that authority in God's word, around which we gather, the word that trumps any lesser spirit that would claim power over us, freeing us to follow Jesus.*

## CHOIR PRELUDE

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who stretches out the heavens,  
who sends light to the nations,  
who gives breath to us all. **Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.  
*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Loving God,

**C: we confess that we have often turned from your way  
to follow our own ways.**

**Forgive us for the times  
we have spoken or acted too quickly;  
we have not spoken or acted at all;  
we have hurt those closest to us;  
we have hurt those we have yet to know;  
we have thought more about ourselves than others;  
we have thought less of ourselves than we ought.  
Turn us around, and give us a fresh start,  
so that we can live again as your children. Amen.**

P: Even when we have done wrong, God makes us right.  
Even when we have messed up, God puts us together.  
God's love never runs out. God never tires of calling us beloved children.  
Hear God say to you now: Your sins are forgiven,  
for the sake of † Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**



1 O Ho - ly Spir - it, en - ter in, and in our hearts your  
 2 Left to our - selves, we sure - ly stray; oh, lead us on the  
 3 O might - y Rock, O Source of life, let your good Word in



work be - gin, and make our hearts your dwell - ing. Sun of the soul,  
 nar - row way, with wis - est coun - sel guide us; and give us stead -  
 doubt and strife be in us strong - ly burn - ing, that we be faith -



O Light di - vine, a - round and in us bright - ly shine, your strength  
 fast - ness, that we may fol - low you for - ev - er free, no mat -  
 ful un - to death and live in love and ho - ly faith, from you



in us up - well - ing. In your ra - diance life from heav - en now is  
 ter who de - rides us. Gent - ly heal those hearts now bro - ken; give some  
 true wis - dom learn - ing. Lord, your mer - cy on us show - er; by your



giv - en o - ver - flow - ing, gift of gifts be - yond all know - ing.  
 to - ken you are near us, whom we trust to light and cheer us.  
 pow - er Christ con - fess - ing, we will cher - ish all your bless - ing.

Text: Michael Schirmer, 1606–1673; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, adapt.  
 Music: WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET, Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608


**THE 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 (Sung)


*Refrain*



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,

*Refrain*



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

# HYMN OF PRAISE "This is the feast"

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be



peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and



*Refrain*



hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. This is the feast of



vic - t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al -



le - lu - ia. 2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and



join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Final refrain*



This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray together:

**C: Compassionate God, you gather the whole universe into your radiant presence and continually reveal your Son as our Savior. Bring wholeness to all that is broken and speak truth to us in our confusion, that all creation will see and know your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## Youth and Children's Message

### —WE HEAR GOD'S WORD—

#### FIRST READING:

#### Deuteronomy 18:15-20

[Moses said:] <sup>15</sup>The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. <sup>16</sup>This is what you requested of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the LORD my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." <sup>17</sup>Then the LORD replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. <sup>18</sup>I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. <sup>19</sup>Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. <sup>20</sup>But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die."

L: This is the word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

#### PSALM 111

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,  
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

<sup>2</sup>**Great are your works, O LORD, pondered by all who delight in them.**

<sup>3</sup>Majesty and splendor mark your deeds, and your righteousness endures forever.

<sup>4</sup>**You cause your wonders to be remembered; you are gracious and full of compassion.**

<sup>5</sup>You give food to those who fear you, remembering forever your covenant.

<sup>6</sup>**You have shown your people the power of your works  
in giving them the lands of the nations.**

<sup>7</sup>The works of your hands are faithfulness and justice; all of your precepts are sure.

<sup>8</sup>**They stand fast forever and ever, because they are done in truth and equity.**

<sup>9</sup>You sent redemption to your people and commanded your covenant forever;  
holy and awesome is your name.

<sup>10</sup>**The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;  
all who practice this have a good understanding. God's praise endures forever.**

**SECOND READING:****Philippians 1:3-11**

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God. **Amen.**

L: This is the word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

(Please Rise)

**THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION "Alleluia"**

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.

P: The Holy Gospel, according to St. Matthew the 6<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

**GOSPEL:****Matthew 6:5-13**

"And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. "When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. "Pray then in this way: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ!**

P: You may be seated.

**SERMON**

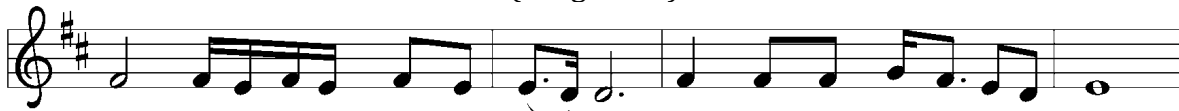
**Rev. Dr. Sidney Nelson**

**— WE RESPOND —**

**SERMON SONG: Lord, Listen to your Children Praying**

**ELW#752**

(sung twice)



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Text: Ken Medema, b. 1943

Music: CHILDREN PRAYING, Ken Medema

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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.**



## THE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

A: Confident that God our light and our salvation hears us when we pray, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

*After each petition of the prayer is said:*

A: Let us pray.

**C: Have mercy, O God.**

A/P: Merciful God, you hear our prayers even before we speak them. Receive them for the sake of the one through whom you have revealed your goodness, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us share with one another the peace of the Lord.

# - WELCOME TO THE LORD'S TABLE -

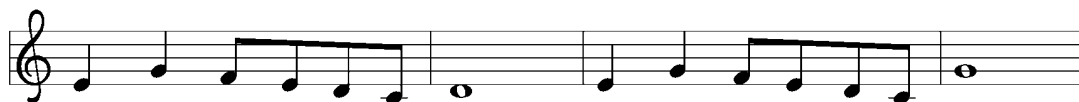
## OFFERING

**MUSICAL OFFERING:**

**Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am**

**ELW #814**

(sung twice)



Take, oh, take me as I am; sum - mon out what I shall be;



set your seal up - on my heart and live in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: TAKE ME AS I AM, John L. Bell

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## OFFERING PRAYER

A: Merciful God, receive the gifts we bring, ourselves, our time, and our possessions.

Through this meal unite us as your body, shining with the light of your justice and mercy; for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

# THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

## Dialogue

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, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, 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.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

P: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**C: Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

**C: Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal.  
May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light.  
Bring the gift of peace on earth.

**C: Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate,  
Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen... 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.**

**Invitation of Communion**

P: Welcome to the Lord's table.

**Reception of Communion**

The body of Christ, given for you.  
The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

*Communion distribution is continuous. Please come forward by the center aisle and receive the bread in your hands as you hear the words "The body of Christ, given for you" to which you may respond, "Amen." You may then dip the bread into the cup as you hear the words "The blood of Christ, shed for you," to which you may respond, "Amen." Please note that the communion wine is alcohol-free. Please indicate if you need gluten-free elements.*

**"LAMB OF GOD"**

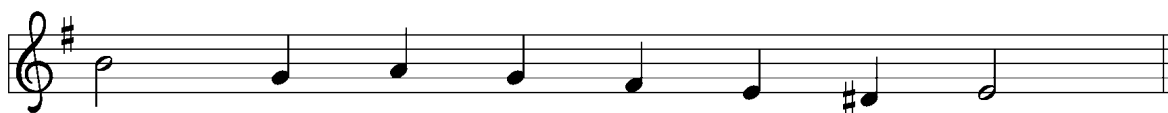
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.



1 O God of love, O King of peace, make wars through -  
 2 Re - mem - ber, Lord, your works of old, the won - ders  
 3 Whom shall we trust but you, O Lord? Where rest but  
 4 Where saints and an - gels dwell a - bove all hearts are



out the world to cease; our greed and sin - ful wrath re - strain.  
 that our el - ders told; re - mem - ber not our sins' deep stain.  
 on your faith - ful word? None ev - er called on you in vain.  
 knit in ho - ly love; oh, bind us in that heav'n - ly chain.



Give peace, O God, give peace a - gain.

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821-1877

Music: ERHALT UNS, HERR, J. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543

### *Instrumental Music*

*Cesar Vidaud*

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

A: Let us pray.

A: O Morning Star, fair and bright, you have refreshed us again with heavenly food.

You are our dearest treasure. Go with us now— today, tomorrow, every day that we tell the story of your never-ending love and sing your praise both now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

# -WE ARE SENT FORTH-

## Benediction

P: The God of glory dwell in you richly, name you beloved, and shine brightly on your path; and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

## SENDING SONG:

### What a Friend We Have in Jesus

ELW #742



- 1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
- 2 Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?
- 3 Are we weak and heav - y - lad - en, cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!  
We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged—take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge—take it to the Lord in prayer.



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; oh, what need - less pain we bear—  
Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor - row share?  
Do your friends de - spise, for - sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!  
Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness—take it to the Lord in prayer.  
In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a so - lace there.

Text: Joseph Scriven, 1820–1886

Music: CONVERSE, Charles C. Converse, 1832–1918

## DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Share the joy of God's love.

C: Thanks be to God.

### **Stewardship Snippet**

**January 28, 2018** (4th Sunday after the Epiphany)

**Psalm 111:1** –Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart!

*What can we do to open the way for God to transform us into more-faithful steward disciples? Praise and thanksgiving are key! As you go through your day, keep these two phrases in your heart and on your lips: "Praise be to God!" "Thanks be to God!" Think of them and say them often. Then see what God can do with you.*

## IN OUR PRAYERS

**In our prayers** today are these members of our homebound and others of our parish family in need of healing: Laurel Blake, Jim Loggins, Barb Taylor, Diane Adler, Katie, Roy and Barbara Kaptain, Lisa Allen, Bob & Jane Reinhold, Trudy DiCarlo and Marie Koach.

**Prayers for Friends of the Church:** Dee Daigle, Joe Palmero, Cindy Hackler, Barbara Gummo, Marjorie, Jerry, Cheryl, Robert, Craig, Henry Q., Damien S., Monique Rogers and her mom Betty, Myrka Alverist's family, Maggie Alverist, Ann Farrell, Normagene Richardson, Aiden Chase, Rita Stevenson, Mike, Barbara Greco, Dr. Willis Allen, Eleanor Knauf, Alessandra, Cheryl, Nick Caldwell Sr., Lucille Capece, Lexie Sachlis, George F., David Spall, Joan Coletti, Adam Rubino, Berna, Braemen Weiner, Chandler Weiner, Debbie Seckel, Elizabeth Kraus, Kenneth Smith, Mary Taylor, Cynthia, Richard H., Laurie Engelhardt, Gina Tamargo, Orestes Amador, Betty Frye, Sue Luinetti, Edna Hayn, Joseph Pellegriti, and Anne Hoove.

**Flowers this week sponsored by:** Carol and Kelly Jacobson in memory of Don Burroughs.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**A NOTE FROM THE QUILTERS,** We're looking forward to seeing you all on February 11th for our annual QUILT SUNDAY Mass. We enjoy this day so much because we get to display some of our beautiful handmade quilts that we are so proud of. Thank you for your years of support. Kathy Leone- Leader

**CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS,** we have them ready for you to pick it up at the entrance of sanctuary. Please note that they are in alphabetic order for an easier search. Thank You.

**CONFIRMATION CLASSES AND SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGIN,** Today, January 14 at 9:00am our confirmation classes begin. Parents are asked to attend this first session. Our classes will meet in the Fellowship Hall and our teachers will be Pastor Nelson and Sera Butz. Also Sunday school for Elementary children will start on January 14 at 9:00am. We are thankful for our families and children at St. Stephen Lutheran church.

**BREAKFAST BUNCH,** On February 10 at 9 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Come for a great breakfast, like always, and have fun! Everyone is welcome!

**COMMITMENT CARDS** for our Estimate of Giving can be placed in our offering plate (use envelope for confidentiality); bring to office; by mail; or by email [sslcpompano@gmail.com](mailto:sslcpompano@gmail.com)

**OFFERING ENVELOPES,** 2018 offering envelopes are available for pick up on the back table. If any other friends of the church who would like offering envelopes, please see Larry Jones or Carol Jacobson.

**ATTENDANCE CARDS,** are in our bulletin today for members and visitors. Please place in offering plate. Thank You.

## *Service Assistants for January*

10:15 AM	<i>January 28</i>
ASSISTING MINISTER	Sera Butz
ACOLYTE	Madison Kibler
LECTOR	Carol Jacobson
USHERS – Need 4 to Serve	Marsha Kibler (w) Drew Kibler Darin Kibler Catherine Zippay
Head Usher	Rosie Fennelli
GREETERS – Need 2 to Serve	Kelly Jacobson Rose Jones
SOUND	Dennis Magarrell
PROJECTION	Larry Jones





### **Sunday Schedule**

10:15 a.m. Worship

Holy Communion is celebrated weekly

### **Church Staff**

**Rev. Dr. Sidney Nelson** – Interim Pastor  
ststephenpastornelson@gmail.com  
561-235-0929

**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

### **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

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## **Why are we doing attendance cards every week?**

This is the shortlist of why we are doing it. In fact, there are many more but it would get boring to write them all. So, here are just a few reasons:

1. So we can grow! Visitors seem to gladly fill out our attendance cards with contact information. Previously the old system did not seem that inviting to them. Now we can contact them and invite them to join. Whoopee!
2. It is a convenient way to solicit prayer requests. This enriches our prayer life.
3. Communicate – communicate – communicate. We need stronger communication at Saint Steven and this is one of many improvements available. How wonderful it is to get this kind of information instead of being in the dark: “I’m going into the hospital on Thursday; I need offering envelopes; can we sing hymn #503: my daughter had a baby last week; could Pastor Nelson stop by my house? “This is awesome”. Every week we get information like this. Before we did not.
4. Do I need to fill out the whole card every week?! Absolutely not! If you have already filled out the information one time, we can update our records. After that, kindly just put your name so we know that you were in worship. I use cards that only have names on them to remind myself to speak with that person that week; write a note; or do something for him or her. Even a card with only a name on it is extremely helpful (Pastor Nelson)
5. Can I just stick it in the hymnal every week? Only if you want to make the usher (your friend) do extra work and have to walk down each pew pulling out attendance cards to be thrown away. They are not recyclable because they change week to week. (Please help the ministry of the church. Enter your name and place it in the offering plate. It’s not hard at all)
6. The attendance card can be modified week to week so that we can take an occasional survey (like today’s Lenten survey) or recruit volunteers to help with something (like today’s request to help clean up the Luther room)

There are more reasons, but these should be enough. I thank you for your weekly kindness in helping your church to grow strong, healthy, and vibrant.

Pastor Nelson