



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

January 5, 2020

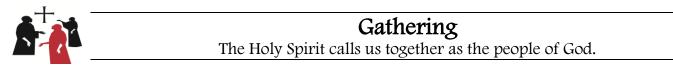
Feast of the Epiphany of Our Lord 10:15am

The Rev. Robert G. Schaefer, Pastor

Festival Holy Communion

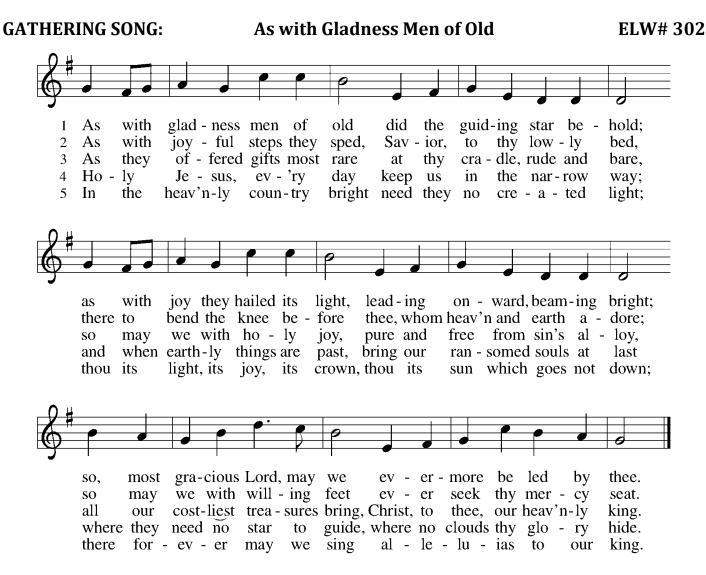
INTRODUCTION to the Feast of Epiphany

Epiphany means "manifestation." As the Christmas season continues, on this day we celebrate the revelation of Christ to the Gentiles—that is, to all nations. Some Christian traditions celebrate three great epiphanies on this day: the magi's adoration of the Christ child, Jesus' baptism in the Jordan River, and his first miracle, in which he changes water into wine. In the West, we will end this cycle next week with Jesus' baptism. The word and sacraments are for us the great epiphany of God's grace and mercy. We go forth to witness to the light that shines brightly in our midst.



Choir Prelude

Welcome



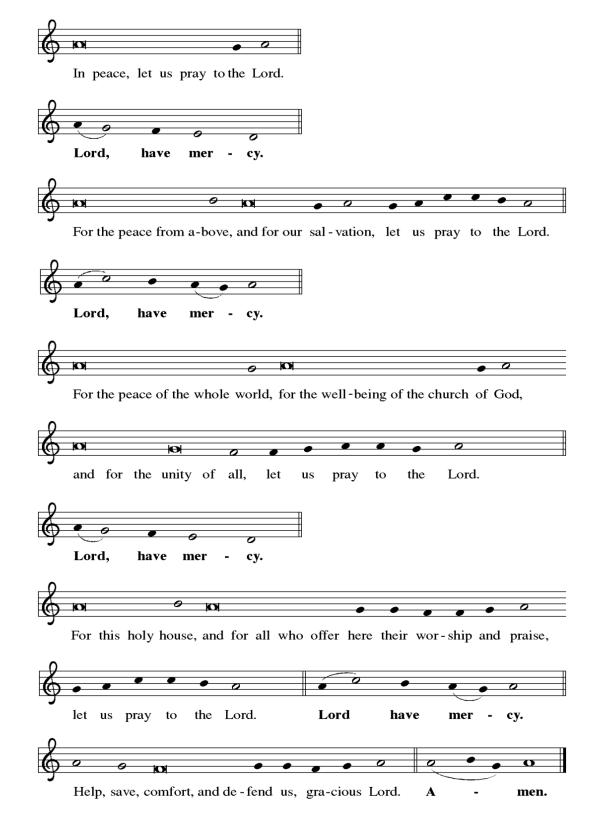
Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898, alt. Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872

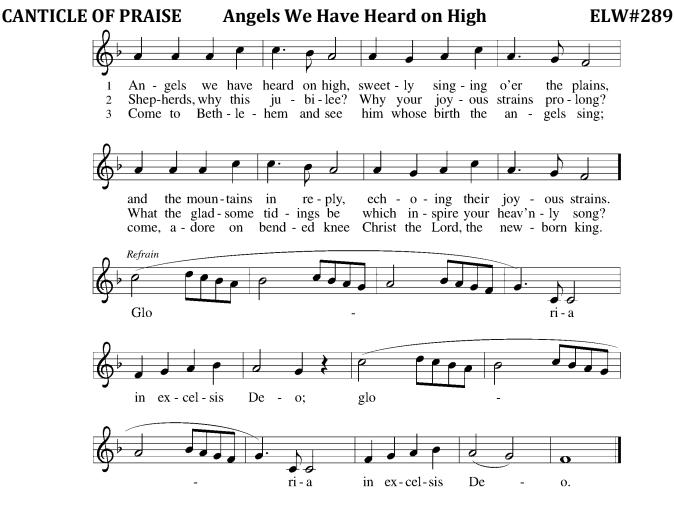
APOSTOLIC GREETING

P: May the grace and truth and light of Christ, born of Mary, worshipped by the magi, be with you all.

C: And also with you.

KYRIE





Text: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864 Music: GLORIA, French carol

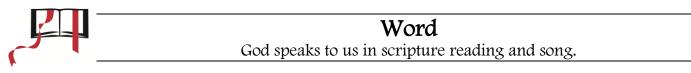
PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. A brief silence is kept, then the presiding minister leads the prayer.

P: O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The assembly sits.



FIRST READING: Isaiah 60:1-6

A reading from Isaiah.

¹Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. ²For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. ³Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. ⁴Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. ⁵Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. ⁶A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 72:1-7, 10-14

¹Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the king's son;

²that he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice;

³that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, and the hills, in righteousness.

⁴Let him defend the needy among the people, rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.

⁵May he live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another.

⁶Let him come down like rain upon the mown field,

like showers that water the earth.

⁷In his time may the righteous flourish;

and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

¹⁰May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles pay tribute,

and the kings of Sheba and Seba offer gifts.

¹¹May all kings bow down before him, and all the nations do him service.

¹²For the king delivers the poor who cry out in distress,

the oppressed, and those who have no helper.

¹³He has compassion on the lowly and poor, and preserves the lives of the needy.

¹⁴From oppression and violence he redeems their lives,

and precious is their blood in his sight.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 3:1-12

A reading from Ephesians.

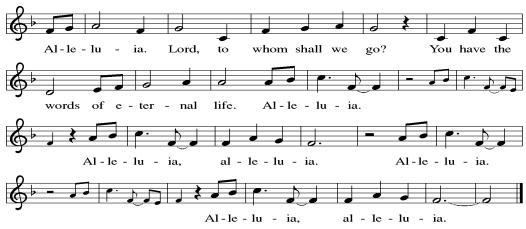
¹This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—²for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, ³and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: ⁶that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. ⁷Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. ⁸Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Matthew 2:1-12

P: The Holy Gospel, according to Matthew. **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: ⁶'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

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

The assembly is seated.

Children and Youth Message

SERMON

The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.



Text: John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820–1891, alt. Music: THREE KINGS OF ORIENT, John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820–1891

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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: Gathered with all who seek the Christ child, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need. *A brief silence.*

After each petition: Hear us, 0 God. **Your mercy is great.**

P: Standing in the light of Christ's birth, into your hands, merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Christ, our Lord. **C: Amen.**

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

The assembly is seated.

MEAL God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

The assembly stands as the gifts are presented at the altar.



Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898 Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray.

Holy God, your beauty shines forth from the manger and your love flows from the cross. As you gather us around these signs of your love come among us, warm us to extend your care among the hungry and all in need. We ask this through Christ the Lord. **C: Amen.**

C: Amen.

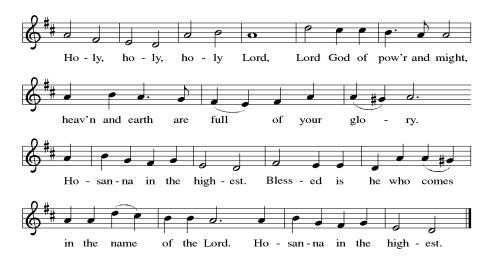
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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:



The presiding minister continues to give thanks: Holy God, Creator of all and Source of life,Let us proclaim the mystery of faith. Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. ... both 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 to the table where Christ meets you. Eat, rejoice, and be glad!

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: That means that you may **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.**



Additional Communion songs are sung as needed

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray.

God of wonder, in Jesus we behold the light of the world come near.

As you have come among us now, send us out in joy, hastening to share the good news of your love.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit dwelling among us now and forever. **C: Amen.**



Announcements (The assembly is seated)

BLESSING

P: May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi, and the peace of the Christ child.

Almighty God, Father, 🕂 Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**



Music: THIS JOY, African American spiritual

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Share the joy of Christ. **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)

✤ Rudy, Jose R., Myriam, Christian C., Jake, George, Jill, Jordan, Betty, Pat Jean, Pat Ruth, Jerry, Robert, ♣ Bill Y. Tony, Ariana, John W., Zeus, Lorraine, C.C., Enes, Richie, John ♣ Eric, Edith, Bill, Carol, Susan, Jim, Gene, Annette, Chuck, Betty, John, Susan, Joanna, Craig, Braemen, Chandler, Aiden, Cheryl, Craig, Robert, Jerry, Becky, Mellisa, Nettie, Donnie.

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

Assisting at Worship in January 2020

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

10:15 AM	<u>January 5</u>	January 12	January 19	January 26
ASSISTING MINISTER	Sera Butz	Carol Jacobson	Eric Castaneda	Natalie Prego
ACOLYTE	Pat Belanger	Natalie Prego	Sera Butz	Carol Jacobson
LECTOR	Catherine Zippay	Pat Belanger	Erika Flanigan	Rita Sharkey
USHERS –Need 4 to Serve	Suzanne Loggins Jeanne Pettit Lisa Castaneda (w) Karen Breslin	Erika Fanigan R. Mottesheard Lynda Smith Zachary Smith (w)	Rosie Fennelli Lisa Castaneda (w) Jeanne Pettit Pat Engle	Marsha Kibler (w) Drew Kibler Darin Kibler Suzanne Loggins
Head Usher	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli
GREETERS – Need 2 to Serve	Caroline Smith Ruth Wagle	Rose Jones Kelly Jacobson	Caroline Smith Ruth Wagle	Kelly Jacobson Rose Jones
SOUND	Sera Butz	Larry Jones	Dennis Magarrell	Eric Castaneda
PROJECTION	Eric Castaneda	Jake VanZile	Jake VanZile	Larry Jones

Welcome to worship, the season of Christmas continues! 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!

Today we welcome the Rev. Frank Kopania

Pastor Kopania will be presiding and preaching while Pr. Bob is away with family this weekend. Pr. Kopania is a native of Germany and lives in Miami. Ordained in the Lutheran Church in Germany in 1998, he served two rural congregations north of Frankfurt. From 2008 to 2013 he served on the roster of the Florida-Bahamas Synod at St. Mark's in Coral Gables and as the Director for German Ministries as part of Bishop Benoway's team. Since September 2018 he serves the nationwide office of EKD (Evangelical Church in Germany) as Executive Director Global Ministries, being responsible for more than 100 German speaking congregations and Pastors worldwide. Pr. Bob will be back tomorrow night. Please give Pr. Kopania a warn St. Stephen welcome!

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!





Our devotionals, Christ in Our Home and Word in Season are available today

They cover January through March. Pick yours up in the Narthex today and make a New Year's resolution to spend some time in devotion Our Lord every day in 2020.

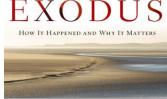
Tuesday Evening Bible Study returns this Tuesday, January 7 and Sunday January 12!!!

We will gather at 7:00pm this Tuesday in the Luther Room to begin a study of the Book of Exodus. Learn about how God saves the chosen people from slavery and how the Exodus events relate to Christ, to Lent

and Easter, and to the Lord's Supper for Christians. The class will be repeated on Sunday from 9-10am in Pr. Bob's office. Come and Invite a friend!!

Congregation Council meeting this Wednesday.

Council members please pick up your council packets today and don't forget our first meeting of the year this Wednesday at 7pm in the Luther Room.



Offering Envelopes for 2020 are here...

If you haven't yet, 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 . Just go there and click on "Give" and then "electronic giving.

Change for Change Tower:

Norman During the month of January, we will be collecting our change for NovusWay, the camping ministry of the Florida-Bahamas Synod. Our camp is Luther Springs in Hawthorne Florida (near Ocala). Each year hundreds of

kids from congregations and communities all over Florida are impacted by one of our camps (NovusWay has three other camps in the Southeast in addition to Luther Springs). The money we collect will be used for camp scholarships to help campers who otherwise could not pay to have the powerful experience of outdoor ministry at a Lutheran camp. On January 26, we will have "Camp Sunday" at St. Stephen and our special guest will be Pr. Jan Setzler, who will be here to preach and share with us the work we are doing together in Lutheran outdoor ministry. Please be generous for our children.

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.**

<u> January Serving Schedule:</u>

	9am	5pm
1/8	Carol/Kelly Jacobson – Juliet Crawford	Erika Flanigan
1/15	Judy Dooge – Karen Breslin	Joe Leone
1/22	Suzanne Loggins – Carol/Kelly Jacobson	Jake Waldecki
1/29	Juliet Crawford – Judy Dooge	Judy Hoyer – Annie Mandler

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity: Save January 23 at 7:00pm!!!



Each January Christians of various faith communities gather to lament the sinful division of the one holy catholic and apostolic church and to pray for the gift of unity from the Holy Spirit. Please hold Thursday, January 23 at 7:00pm for this year's prayer service in our community. Join us this year at St. Paul the Apostle c Church 2700 NF 36th St. Lighthouse Point

Roman Catholic Church, 2700 NE 36th St. Lighthouse Point.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER:

Last Sunday Attendance: 78

Last Sunday Income (all sources): \$ 2,374.64

WORSHIP EVERY SUNDAY. THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!!!!







Sunday Schedule 9:00am Bible Study in Pastor's Office

10:15 a.m. Liturgy of Holy Communion

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 <u>sslcpompano@gmail.com</u> Office hours: 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 Mon- Fri

2020 Congregation Council

Erika Flanigan - President councilpresident@ststephenlutheran.net Lynda Smith- Vice-president Eric Castaneda - Treasurer Natalie Prego - Secretary Patricia Engle Harry Ambrose Jake Waldecki Karen Breslin Randy Mottesheard

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Weekly Calendar Sunday 5— Feast of the Epiphany of Our Lord (observed)

10:15am Worship

Monday 6—Christmas weekday 9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

Tuesday 7—Christmas weekday 9:30am-12:30pm Office Open 7:00pm Women's AA (Fellowship Hall) 7:00pm Exodus Bible Study (Luther Room)

Wednesday 8—Christmas 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
7:00pm Congregation Council (Luther Room)

Thursday 9—Christmas weekday

9:30am-12:30pm Office Open 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday 10—Christmas weekday 9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

Saturday 11-Christmas weekday

Sunday 12—The Baptism of Our Lord

9:00am Exodus Bible Study (Pastor's Office) 10:15am Worship/Renewal of Baptismal Vows



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 and click on "GIVE"

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