



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

November 17, 2019

23rd Sunday after Pentecost 10:15am

The Rev. Robert G. Schaefer, Pastor

INTRODUCTION to the 23rd Sunday After Pentecost

The lectionary always looks toward the end of time on the final Sundays of the Church's Year. This is the last "green" Sunday after Pentecost. We end the liturgical year with the feast of Christ the King next Sunday. The end is near. There is no doubt about it. The warnings are dire. The tone of today's texts is ominous. But the baptized know how to live in the "meantimes." The baptized are strengthened for the living of these days in word and sacrament. The baptized rally around the invitation of the apostle: "Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right."



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 that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, 🕂 one God, healer of our every ill, source of unending mercy. **Amen.**

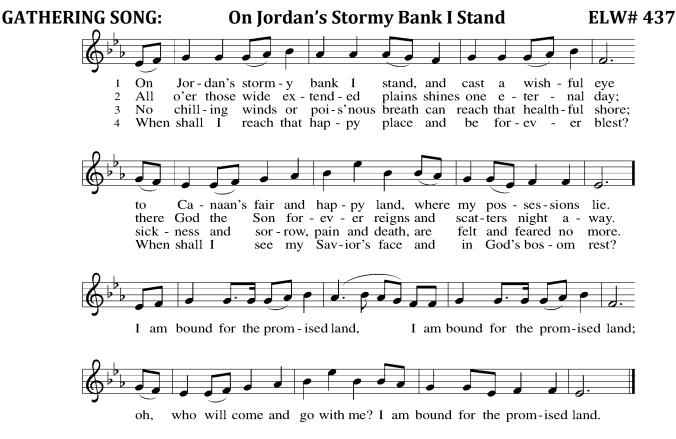
Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Embraced in enduring grace and good hope, let us turn again to God, confessing the truth about ourselves.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

For all who revere God's name, the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**. The assembly continues standing to sing, turning to the cross as it passes by.



Text: Samuel Stennett, 1727–1795 Music: PROMISED LAND, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; adapt. Rigdon M. McIntosh, 1836–1899

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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





PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

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

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy. Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The assembly sits.



FIRST READING: Malachi 4:1-2a

A reading from Malachi.

¹See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. ²^aBut for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 98

¹Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things,

whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

²O LORD, you have made known your victory,

you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.

³You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel;

all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

⁴Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

⁵Sing to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song.

⁶With trumpets and the soundof the horn shout with joy before the king, the LORD. ⁷Let the sea roar, and all that fills it, the world and those who dwell therein.

⁸Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to judge the earth.

⁹The LORD will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.

SECOND READING: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

A reading from the second letter to the Thessalonians.

⁶Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us. ⁷For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, ⁸and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labor we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. ⁹This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. ¹⁰For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. ¹¹For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. ¹²Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. ¹³Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

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: Luke 21:5-19

P: The Holy Gospel, according to Luke.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

⁵When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, [Jesus] said, ⁶"As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down."

⁷They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" ⁸And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them.

⁹"When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately." ¹⁰Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; ¹¹there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

¹²"But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. ¹³This will give you an opportunity to testify. ¹⁴So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance; ¹⁵for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. ¹⁶You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. ¹⁷You will be hated by all because of my name. ¹⁸But not a hair of your head will perish. ¹⁹By your endurance you will gain your souls."

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

The assembly is seated.

Children and Youth Message

SERMON

The Rev. Robert Schaefer

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

O God of Every Nation



Text: William W. Reid Jr., b. 1923

Music: LLANGLOFFAN, Welsh tune, 19th cent. Text © 1958, ren. 1986 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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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: United with the saints of every time and place, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

After each petition of the prayer is said:

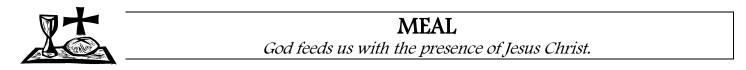
A: Hear us, O God. C: Your mercy is great.

P: Rejoicing in hope, we lift our prayers to you, most gracious Lord, trusting that you have received them in your care. **C: Amen.**

PEACE

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

After all have greeted each other the assembly is seated.



OFFERING/Offering Music

The assembly stands.

OFFERING SONG:

We Plow the Fields and Scatter

ELW# 680



Text: Mathias Claudius, 1740-1815; English tr. Jane M. Campbell ,1817-1878,alt.; Spanish tr. Ernesto Barocio, 1866-1948 Music: Luis Olivieri, b.1937 *Music C 1989 Abinadon Press. admin. The Copvriaht Company*

OFFERING PRAYER

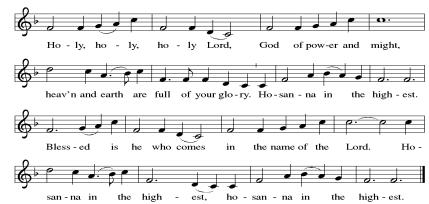
After the table is set, the assisting minister leads this prayer.

Let us pray. God our creator, you give us all we are, all we have, all we bring, and all we need. Draw us together around your table with all your saints on earth and in your eternal home. Let us eat and drink your promise of new life, that we might be your promise to the world, spoken in Jesus' name. **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, holy and mighty, holy and immortal: ...

... With thanksgiving we lift this bread and this cup before you and proclaim the mystery of faith.

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

...all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

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

The bread is broken for the communion. The presiding minster addresses the assembly. This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Hunger no more. Thirst no more. Come to the banquet of life.

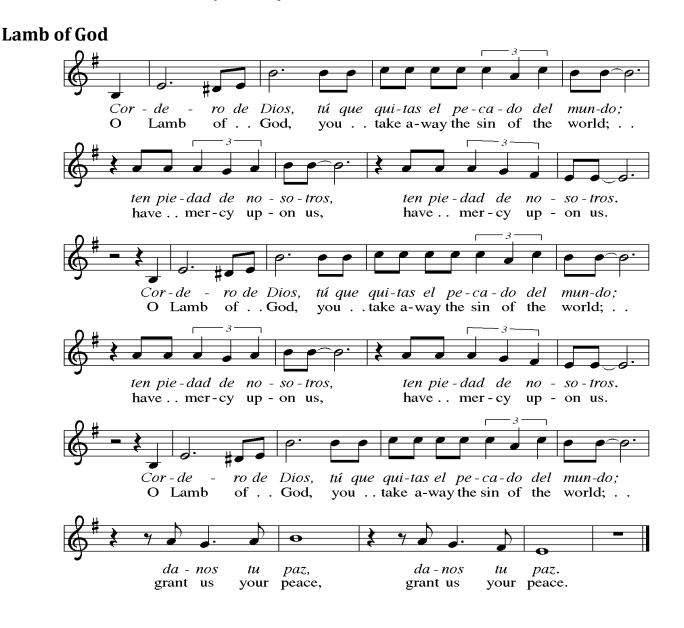
The assembly is seated.

All baptized Christians are invited to participate in the celebration of holy communion. If you desire baptism, the pastor would love to speak with you! 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 cup.)

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.**





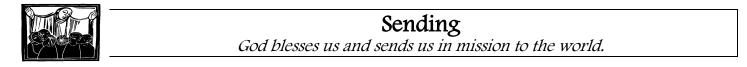
Text: John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820–1891 Music: WERDE MUNTER, Johann Schop, 1600–1665

Additional Communion songs are sung as needed

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

An assisting minister leads the prayer. Let us pray.

We thank you, God our host, for inviting us here to taste the future when you will feed all the hungry at your table. May this eucharist keep this hope alive in us and in our communities, so that we might bring hope to a suffering world, in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**



Announcements

BLESSING

The presider pray, then all may make the sign of the cross as they receive God's blessing.

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and through grace gave us eternal comfort and good hope, comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word; and the blessing of almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you, now and forever. **Amen.**

The assembly turns toward the cross as it passes by.

SENDING SONG:

Soon and Very Soon



Music: VERY SOON, Andraé Crouch Text and music © 1976 Bud John Songs, Inc./Crouch Music, admin. EMI Christian Music Publishing

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DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Set your hope on 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 Church: (Please renew your request every 3 weeks)

➡ Gene and family, Annette and family, Betty & Chuck, John, Joanna, Betty, Emma, Carlos, Chandler, Craig, Braemen, Cheryl, Aiden, Jerry, Becky, Nettie, Robert, Donnie, Angela & family, Nicholas ➡ Celia, Kristen, Joe, Eric, Jose, Rangel, Jim, Millie ➡ Bill, Carol, Pat Jean, Pat Ruth, Glen, Jake, Mary Gangloff.

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: Harry Ambrose



Assisting at Worship in November

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

10:15 AM	<u>November 17</u>	<u>November 24</u> Christ the King
ASSISTING MINISTER	Eric Castaneda	Carol Jacobson
TORCH BEARERS		Eric Castaneda Zac Smith
ACOLYTE	Sera Butz	Natalie Prego
CRUCIFER		Natalie Prego
BOOK BEARER		Pat Belanger
LECTOR	Erika Flanigan	Tom Peterson
USHERS –Need 4 to Serve	Rosie Fennelli (w) Jeanne Pettit Suzanne Loggins Karen Breslin	Marsha Kibler (w) Drew Kibler Darin Kibler Catherine Zippay
Head Usher	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli
GREETERS – Need 2 to Serve	Caroline Smith Ruth Wagle	Kelly Jacobson Rose Jones
SOUND	Dennis Magarrell	Sera Butz
PROJECTION	Larry Jones	Jake VanZile

DARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS



Welcome to worship! 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!

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.



The Book of Genesis: This Tuesday and each week at 7pm in the Luther Room.



The Bible's first book contains many well-known stories, many familiar since childhood: creation and the Garden of Eden; an ark full of animal adrift in the flood; Abraham, Isaac and Jacob; the dreams of Joseph. Now hear these ancient stories in a new way and find that from Eden to Egypt, Genesis affirms God's love for all! Join us and, don't be shy, invite a friend!!

First Holy Communion next Sunday

On the Feast of Christ the King, Mark Koach and Dillon Kelley will receive the Lord Jesus in his body and blood for the first time in the Sacrament of the Altar. Come and rejoice with these families!





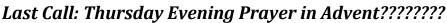
Thanksgiving Eve Soup Supper and Evening Prayer—November 27

Please sign up this morning. Starting at 6pm at the Fellowship Hall we will be gathering to celebrate our traditional Thanksgiving Eve Soup Supper. Bring your favorite soup to share with our friends. A simple service of evening prayer will

follow. Come and join us! Friends and neighbors welcome!

Congregation Meeting on December 1, The First Sunday in Advent.

This is to serve official notice that there will be a Meeting of St. Stephen Congregation on Sunday, December 1, 2019, immediately following the 10:15 Liturgy of Holy Communion in the church, for the sole purpose of electing three persons to the congregation council to fill expiring terms. No other business will be transacted at this meeting. Voting members are those who have communed and made a contribution of record during the current or preceding calendar year.



We are taking a poll to see if there is interest in a quiet Thursday Advent Evening Prayer service at 7pm on December 5, 12, and 19. This beautiful 30-minute devotion is a great way to prepare during this busy season for the real reason for the season—our Lord Jesus Christ. If there is interest, the Pastor will gladly offer these services. Check the box on the attendance card.

Sign up today: Annual Wine and Cheese Fundraiser

This fun and helpful annual event will be held on Saturday, December 7 from 4:30—7:30pm. As always there will be wine, cheese, soft drinks, gift cards, and a raffle, as well as a 50/50. There will be a sign up sheet soon to bring food. This wonderful St. Stephen holiday event is a \$15 donation at the door. Don't miss the fun. Invite your neighbors and friends now!

Holy Grill needs:



Thanks to all who were part of the clothes sorting party this past Wednesday. Great job organizing the clothing we give away each week. 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.

NOVEMBER HOLY GRILL VOLUNTEERS

WEDNESDAY 9AM

11/20 Suzanne Loggins -- Juliet Crawford 11/27Carol & Kelly Jacobson -- Karen Breslin

WEDNESDAY 5PM

Jake Waldecki Joe Leone

STEWARDSHIP CORNER:

Last Sunday Income (all sources): \$ 2,643.64 Last Sunday Attendance: 81 WORSHIP EVERY SUNDAY! THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!!!!





Sunday Schedule

10:15 a.m. Liturgy of Holy Communion

Tuesday Bible Study 7:00pm (Luther Room)

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

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 17 – 23rd - Sunday After Pentecost 9:30am Nominating Committee (Pastor's Office)

10:15am Worship 11:30am First Communion Instruction (Luther Room) 11:45am Socializing Commission

Monday18—St. Elizabeth of Hungry (Transferred), 1231AD 9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

Tuesday 19

9:30am-12:30pm Office Open 7:00pm Genesis Bible Study (Luther Room)

Wednesday 20

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 21

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

Friday 22

9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

Saturday 23—St. Clement, Bishop of Rome, c. 100AD 10am-4pm Synod Vitality Workshop (St. John, Hollywood)

Sunday 25—Christ the King - First Communion 10:15am Worship 11:45am Worshipping Commission



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.

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