

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.**

October 27, 2019

Reformation Sunday

10:15am

The Rev. Robert G. Schaefer, Pastor

FESTIVAL HOLY COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION

INTRODUCTION to Reformation Sunday

On this day we celebrate the heart of our faith: the gospel of Christ—the good news—that makes us free! We pray that the Holy Spirit would continue to unite the church today in its proclamation and witness to the world. In the waters of baptism, we are made one body; we pray for the day that all Christians will also be one at the Lord's table. The vestments and paraments are red today, symbolizing the Holy Spirit. Today we use some elements of the liturgy that reflect the classical Lutheran adaptation of the historic western Mass, including hymn paraphrases of some parts of the liturgy.



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 begins.

In the name of the Father, and of the ✚ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart, and confess our sins to God our Father, imploring him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.

I said, I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.

And you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Almighty God, merciful Father:

I, a troubled and penitent sinner,

**confess to you all my sins and iniquities with which I have offended you
and for which I justly deserve your punishment.**

**But I am sorry for them, and repent of them,
and pray for your boundless mercy.**

For the sake of the suffering and death of your Son, Jesus Christ,

be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being;

**forgive my sins, give me your Holy Spirit for the amendment of my sinful life,
and bring me to life everlasting. Amen**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. 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 remains standing to sing, turning to the altar as the cross passes by.

GATHERING SONG:

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

ELW# 504



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -
4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who



to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
your us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,



has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

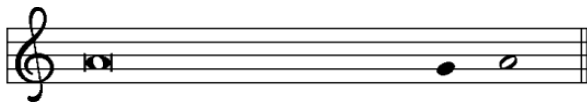
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GREETING

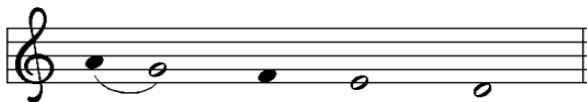
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



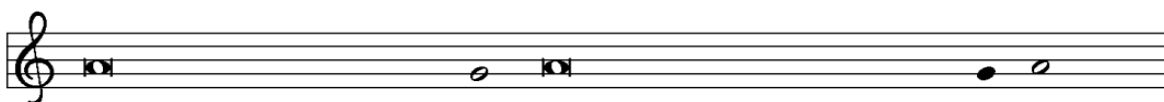
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



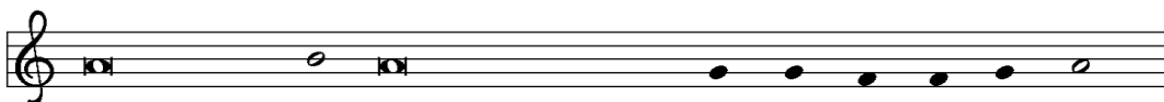
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE "Glory to God"



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and



peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you



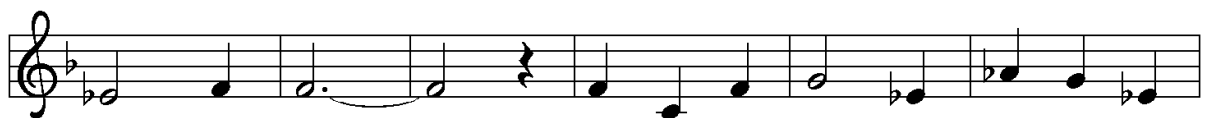
for your glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high -



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



2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

Refrain

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and
 peace to God's peo - ple on earth. 3 For you a -
 lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
 you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the
 Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.
 A - men. A - men. A - men.

Final refrain

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

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

P: Gracious Father, we pray for your holy catholic church. Fill it with all truth and peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in anything it is amiss, reform it; where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in need, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**



FIRST READING:

Jeremiah 31:31-34

A reading from Jeremiah.

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 46

¹God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

²**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**

³though its waters rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

⁴**There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken; God shall help it at the break of day.

⁶**The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake; God speaks, and the earth melts away.**

⁷The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

⁸**Come now, regard the works of the LORD,
what desolations God has brought up- on the earth;**

⁹behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

¹⁰**“Be still, then, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”**

¹¹The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

SECOND READING: Romans 3:19-28

A reading from Romans.

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin. ²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption

that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus. ²⁷Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION AND PROCESSION



GOSPEL: John 8:31-36

P: The Holy Gospel, according to John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." ³³They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?"

³⁴Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

Youth and Children message


SERMON

Bishop Pedro M. Suarez

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

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

Refrain
Leader All



Ne - no, ne - no la - ke Mu - ngu la - ku - i - ta we - we,
Lis - ten, lis - ten, God is call - ing, through the Word in - vit - ing,

1 2




ne - no la wo - ko - vu, te - na je - ma. ma.
of - fer - ing for - give - ness, com - fort, and joy. joy.

Leader All



Ye - su a - li - se - ma, Mka - hu - bi - ri.
1 Je - sus gave his man - date: share the good news
2 Let none be for - got - ten through - out the world.
3 Help us to be faith - ful, stand - ing stead - fast,

Leader All *Refrain*



Ne - no la - ke Mu - ngu la wo - ko - vu.
that he came to save us and set us free.
In the tri - une name of God go and bap - tize.
walk - ing in your pre - cepts, led by your Word.

Text: Tanzanian traditional; tr. Howard S. Olson, b. 1922

Music: NENO LAKE MUNGU, Tanzanian tune

Text © 1968 Lutheran Theological College, Makumira, Tanzania, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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Affirmation of Baptism: Confirmation

The Holy Spirit upholds us in the gifts and promises of Baptism

PRESENTATION

Those making affirmation may gather with the ministers at the font. They may be joined by others from the assembly. The bishop addresses the assembly with these or similar words.

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for these people, one with us in the body of Christ, who are making public affirmation of their baptism.

Those making affirmation are presented to the bishop by the pastor.

I present Zachary Smith and Jake VanZile, who desire to make public affirmation of *their* baptism.

The bishop continues with prayer.

Let us pray. Merciful God, we thank you for *these brothers*, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called *them* to yourself, enlightened *them* with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished *them* in the community of faith. Uphold your *servants* in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ. **Amen.**

PROFESSION OF FAITH

The bishop addresses those making public affirmation of baptism.

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

Response:

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

Response:

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Response:

I renounce them.

The presiding minister addresses the candidates and the assembly.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**



AFFIRMATION

The bishop addresses those making public affirmation of baptism.

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

- to live among God's faithful people,
- to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
- to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
- to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
- and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

Each person responds:

I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

The bishop addresses the assembly.

People of God, do you promise to support *these brothers* and pray for *them* in their life in Christ?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

A Hymn is sung as those making affirmation and the ministers go to the altar. Those making affirmation kneel.

HYMN

Spirit of Gentleness (Verses 3 & 4 Only)

ELW# 396


Refrain



Spir - it, Spir - it of gen - tle - ness, blow through the wil - der - ness



call - ing and free; Spir - it, Spir - it of rest - less - ness,



stir me from plac - id - ness, wind, wind on the sea.



- 1 You moved on the wa - ters, you called to the deep,
- 2 You swept through the des - ert, you stung with the sand,
- 3 You sang in a sta - ble, you cried from a hill,
- 4 You call from to - mor - row, you break an - cient schemes.



then you coaxed up the moun - tains from the val - leys of sleep;
and you goad - ed your peo - ple with a law and a land;
then you whis - pered in si - lence when the whole world was still;
From the bond - age of sor - row all the cap - tives dream dreams;



and o - ver the e - ons you called to each thing:
and when they were blind - ed with i - dols and lies,
and down in the cit - y you called once a - gain,
our wom - en see vi - sions, our men clear their eyes.



“A - wake from your slum - bers and rise on your wings.”
then you spoke through your proph - ets to o - pen their eyes.
when you blew through your peo - ple on the rush of the wind.
With . . . bold new de - ci - sions your peo - ple a - rise.

Text: James K. Manley, b. 1940
Music: SPIRIT, James K. Manley
Text and music © 1978 James K. Manley, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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The bishop prays for God's blessing.

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

The following blessing is repeated for each person. The bishop may lay both hands on the head of the candidate, anoint them with sacred chrism and say:

Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, stir up in name the gift of your Holy Spirit; confirm *his* faith, guide *his* life, empower *him* in *his* serving, give *him* patience in suffering, and bring *him* to everlasting life.

Amen.

Those making public affirmation stand and face the assembly. A representative of the congregation addresses the assembly.

Let us rejoice with these sisters and brothers in Christ.

We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.

**Together we will give thanks and praise to God
and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: Knowing the one in whom we trust, and with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all in need.

After each petition of the prayer is said:

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

B: Trusting and delighting in you, we commend all our lives into your loving hands. We offer these prayers in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

PEACE

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



MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING/Anthem

OFFERING SONG:

Praise, Praise! You Are My Rock (verses 1, 2, and 4 only)

ELW# 862



- 1 Praise, praise! You are my rock. The wind, the waves are high. You hold me
 2 Praise, praise! You are my rock. My des - ert sand is dry. You break the
 3 Praise, praise! You are my rock. You calm the fear and pain. One word of
 4 Praise, praise! You are my rock. You host the ta - ble set. We break the



when the waves are strong. You hold me lest I die, I die.
 rock, a riv - er flows. You hear me when I cry, I cry.
 faith and I am well, I rise to praise and walk a - gain.
 bread, we drink the cup; we know whom we have met, have met.



Praise, praise! O God, you are my rock.

- 5 Praise, praise! You are my rock. The Easter grave is sealed;
 you roll the stone—you, God, alone—
 then sin and death are healed, are healed.
 Praise, praise! O God, you are my rock.
- 6 Praise, praise! You are my rock.
 You stood high on a hill.
 A holy cloud: you are on high.
 Be still, my heart, be still, be still.
 Praise, praise! O God, you are my rock.

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926
 Music: ZACHARY WOODS ROCK, Rusty Edwards, b. 1955
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OFFERING PRAYER

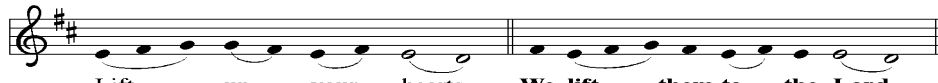
After the table is set, the assisting minister leads this prayer.

Let us pray. Blessed are you, O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our 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.

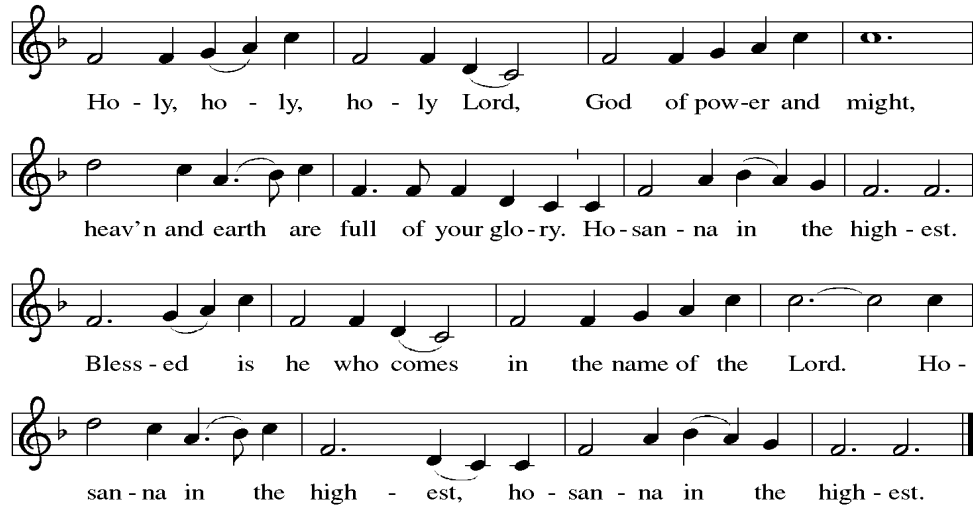


Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



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, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The bishop continues to give thanks:

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God...

...we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

... Remembering, therefore, his salutary command....

...be all honor and glory in you holy church, now and forever.

C: Amen.

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

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come,

thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses

as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Communion

The bread is broken for the communion. The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

P: This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Speak to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread, and make us one with you.

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.*

Lamb of God



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
 2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
 3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

Communion Song:

Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness

ELW# 488



1 Soul, a - dorn your - self with glad - ness, leave the gloom - y
 2 Has - ten as a bride to meet him, ea - ger - ly and
 3 Now in faith I hum - bly pon - der o - ver this sur -
 4 Je - sus, source of last - ing plea - sure, tru - est friend, and



haunts of sad - ness, come in - to the day - light's splen - dor,
 glad - ly greet him. There he stands al - read - y knock - ing;
 pass - ing won - der that the bread of life is bound - less
 dear - est trea - sure, peace be - yond all un - der - stand - ing,



there with joy your prais - es ren - der. Bless the one whose grace un -
 quick - ly, now, your gate un - lock - ing, o - pen wide the fast - closed
 though the souls it feeds are count - less; with the choic - est wine of
 joy in - to all life ex - pand - ing: hum - bly now, I bow be -



bound - ed this a - maz - ing ban - quet found - ed; Christ, though heav'n - ly,
 por - tal, say - ing to the Lord im - mor - tal: "Come, and leave your
 heav - en Christ's own blood to us is giv - en. Oh, most glo - rious
 fore you, love in - car - nate, I a - dore you; wor - thi - ly let



high, and ho - ly, deigns to dwell with you most low - ly.
 loved one nev - er; dwell with - in my heart for - ev - er."
 con - so - la - tion, pledge and seal of my sal - va - tion.
 me re - ceive you, and, so fa - vored, nev - er leave you.

Text: Johann Franck, 1618–1677; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
 Music: SCHMÜCKE DICH, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662
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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.



Sending

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

Announcements

SENDING SONG: **The Church of Christ, in Every Age** **ELW# 729**

A procession forms and during the singing moves to the entrance of the Luther Room. The assembly turns to toward the cross as it passes by. The assembly faces the entrance.



1 The church of Christ, in ev - 'ry age be - set by
2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the vic - tims
3 Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a car - ing
4 For he a - lone, whose blood was shed, can cure the
5 We have no mis - sion but to serve in full o -



change, but Spir - it - led, must claim and test its
of in - jus - tice cry for shel - ter and for
church that longs to be a part - ner in Christ's
fe - ver in our blood, and teach us how to
be - dience to our Lord; to care for all, with -



her - i - tage and keep on ris - ing from the dead.
bread to eat, and nev - er live be - fore they die.
sac - ri - fice, and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.
share our bread and feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.
out re - serve, and spread his lib - er - at - ing word.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: WAREHAM, William Knapp, 1698–1768

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DEDICATION OF THE LUTHER ROOM

BLESSING

The bishop blesses the assembly, first saying:

Blessed be the name of the Lord.

Now and forever.

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

Who made heaven and earth.

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

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace; the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the ✝ Son, and the Holy Spirit be with you, now and forever.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Share the good news.

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.

Assisting at Worship in today

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

10:15 AM	<u>October 27</u> <u>Reformation Sunday</u>
ASSISTING MINISTERS	Sera Butz, Pr. Schaefer
TORCH BEARERS	Eric Castaneda Lynda Smith
ACOLYTE	Natalie Prego
CRUCIFIX	Sera Butz
BOOK BEARER	Pat Belanger
LECTOR	Tom Peterson
USHERS –Need 4 to Serve	Marsha Kibler (w) Drew Kibler Darin Kibler Suzanne Loggins
Head Usher	Rosie Fennelli
GREETERS – Need 2 to Serve	Kelly Jacobson Rose Jones
SOUND	Larry Jones
PROJECTION	Chris Belanger

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 Reichenback, 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)

✝ Jo Jo, Richard, Jane, Eric, Robert, Linda, Guillermo, Carole, Cindy, Dean, Doris, and Jon's mom ✝ Mary, Joanna, Pat Jean, Pat Ruth, Glen, George, Jill & Jordan, Mariah & Milton, and Eric ✝ Eric, Craig, Cheryl, Chandler, Braemen, Aiden, Jerry, Becky, Nettie, Melissa, Donnie, Carlos, Gene and family, Carol, Annette and family, Betty & Chuck, John, Greg, Carol, Lisa, Ann, Valerie, Susie, Blanca, Milena, Jorge and Emma.

Flowers this week sponsored by: *Caroline Smith in honor of her grandson's Zachary confirmation today.*

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to worship! 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!



Welcome Bishop Suarez!

Bishop Pedro Suarez, bishop of the Florida-Bahamas Synod will preside and preach at the Festival Eucharist today. He will confirm Zachary Smith and Jake VanZile in the faith and bless the Luther Room. A special reception for the confirmands and the bishop will follow the Liturgy in the Narthex and Luther Room!

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!



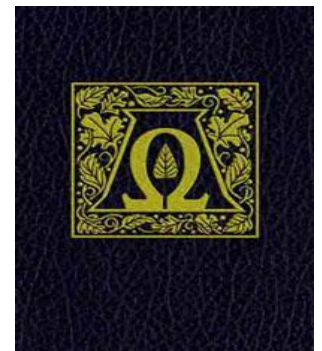
God's work. Our hands.

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.

All Saints Sunday is next week!

On this feast day, dating to the early centuries of the church, we remember and give thanks for all the saints—both those who are known to the whole church for their heroic faith and lives, as well as those known only to us. There is a Book of the Names of the Dead in the back of the church for you to enroll those deceased loved ones you would like to remember in prayer on All Saints Sunday. Please write as many names as you like. The Book will be out all month and will be displayed in front of the altar throughout November. *Rest eternal grant them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine on them.*



Inviting New Members on All Saints, Next Sunday!

If you have been worshipping for a while or are just interested in the St. Stephen community, we would love to welcome you into a relationship with the congregation through membership. We will receive new members next on All Saints Sunday, November 3. Check the box on the attendance card today or speak with Pr. Bob and get more details.



First Holy Communion on Christ the King Sunday (November 24)



We invite all baptized children of members and friends of St. Stephen to prepare to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion. In the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America the age of First Communion is determined by the parents and pastor and is traditionally when children can have some appreciation of what is happening in this sacrament. Pastor Bob and Sera Butz will lead a class on Sundays, November 3, 10 and 17 from 11:30 to 12:15 in the Luther Room.

The Book of Genesis: Each Tuesday 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. The stage for the whole biblical narrative is set in Genesis. Genesis 1-11 portrays the beginning of the world, the fall into sin, and the flood with its aftermath. Genesis 12-50 tells the story of Israel's ancestors and is especially concerned to speak of God's promises to this family. 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!!



Holy Grill needs:



Breakfast is served Wednesday at 9am and dinner on Wednesday at 5pm in the same location near the front church entrance. Please check one of 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. WE ARE VERY SHORT ON MEN'S ITEMS RIGHT NOW.**

A big Oktoberfest THANK YOU!!!!

Yesterday was our Flea Market and Oktoberfest. It was a great day made possible by the Socializing Commission headed by Carol Jacobson and many great St. Stephen volunteers! Thanks one and all!



STEWARDSHIP CORNER:

Last Sunday Attendance: 60

Last Sunday Income (all sources): \$ 2,402

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



Sunday Schedule

10:15 a.m. Worship
Holy Communion is celebrated weekly

11:45 a.m. Confirmation Ministry

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

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 27—Reformation Sunday/Bishop’s Visitation

9:00am Confirmation Rehearsal
10:15am Worship with Confirmation

Monday 28—SS. SIMON AND JUDE, APOSTLES

9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

Tuesday 29

9:30am-12:30pm Office Open
7:00pm Bible Study

Wednesday 30

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 31—REFORMATION DAY

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

Friday 1—ALL SAINTS DAY

9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

Saturday 2

Happy and Blessed Saturday!

Sunday 3—All Saints Sunday

10:15am Worship
11:30 am First Communion Class (Luther Room)

OCTOBER HOLY GRILL VOLUNTEERS

WEDNESDAY 9AM

10/30 Suzanne Loggins – Karen Breslin

WEDNESDAY 5PM

Joe Leone



Online Giving

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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