



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

September 15, 2019 14th Sunday after Pentecost

10:15am

The Rev. Robert G. Schaefer, Pastor

Holy Communion

INTRODUCTION to the 14th Sunday After Pentecost

The grumbling of the Pharisees and the scribes in today's gospel is actually our holy hope: This Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. That our God wills to seek and to save the lost is not only a holy hope, it is our only hope. As Paul's first letter to Timothy reminds us, "The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." Thanks be to God.



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

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The assembly stands and faces the baptismal font. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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

The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

My brothers and sisters, today we hear that Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. That our God wills to seek and to save the lost is our hope. To prepare ourselves to meet the risen Christ in word and sacrament, let us call to mind our sins.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Lord Jesus, create in us clean hearts, and renew a right spirit within us. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Christ Jesus, you leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until you find it. Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you tell us there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents. Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

The presiding minister announces God's forgiveness.

There is rejoicing in heaven when sinners repent. For the sake of Jesus Christ, your sins + are forgiven. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. **Amen.**

The assembly continues standing to sing, turning to the cross as it passes by. **GATHERING SONG:** Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

ELW# 834



Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824–1908, alt. Music: ST. DENIO, Welsh traditional

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.**

Glory to God CANTICLE OF PRAISE Refrain Glo God in ry to the high est, the high _ est, and _ to God's ple earth. on peace peo -00 1 Lord God, heav-en - ly al - might-y God and Fa-ther, King, 20 20 we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you 3



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

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

O God, overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**



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

FIRST READING: Exodus 32:7-14

A reading from Exodus.

⁷The LORD said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; ⁸they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!' " ⁹The LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. ¹⁰Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation."

¹¹But Moses implored the LORD his God, and said, "O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? ¹²Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. ¹³Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.' "¹⁴And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

L: The word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 51:1-10

¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;

in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

²Wash me through and through from my wickedness, and cleanse me from my sin.

³For I know my offenses, and my sin is ever before me.

⁴Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight;

so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.

⁵Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness, a sinner from my mother's womb.

⁶Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me,

and would have me know wisdom deep within.

⁷Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

⁸Let me hear joy and gladness; that the body you have broken may rejoice.

⁹Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my wickedness.

¹⁰Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

SECOND READING: 1 Timothy 1:12-17

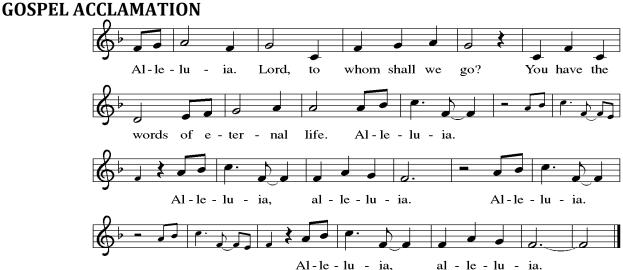
A reading from 1 Timothy.

¹²I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, ¹³even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a

man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, ¹⁴and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. ¹⁶But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. ¹⁷To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

L: The word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

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



GOSPEL: Luke 15:1-10 P: The Holy Gospel, according to Luke.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] ²And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

³So he told them this parable: ⁴"Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? ⁵When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. ⁶And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' 7 Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

⁸"Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' ¹⁰Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

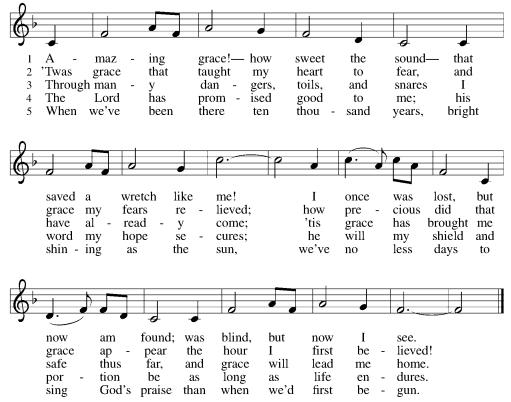
Children and Youth Message

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

HYMN OF THE DAY

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

ELW #779



Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5 Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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

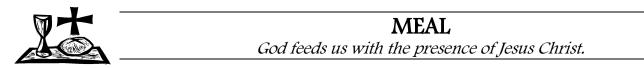
A: Sustained and nurtured by our generous God, we gather as one to pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation.

After each petition of the prayer is said: A: Lord, in your mercy. **C: Hear our prayer.**

- P: Assured by your promise to hear us, O God, we lay our prayers before your throne of grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C: Amen.

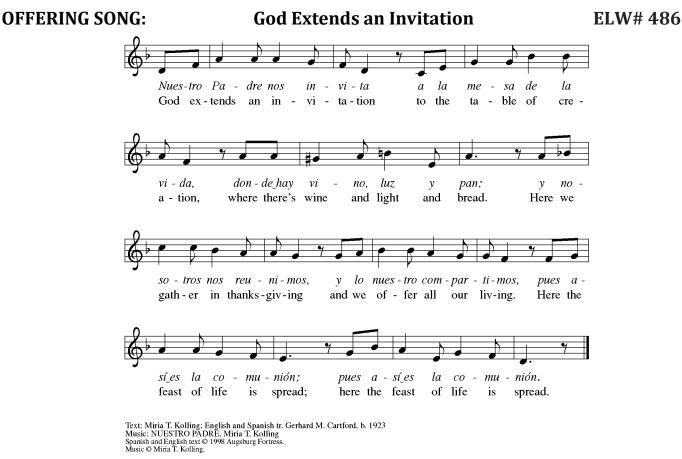
PEACE P: The peace of Christ be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

After all have greeted each other the assembly is seated.



OFFERING/Offering Music

The assembly stands.



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OFFERING PRAYER

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

Let us pray. God of life, you give us these gifts of the earth, these resources of our life and our labor. Take them, offered in great thanksgiving, and use them to set a table that will heal the whole creation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Light.

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.

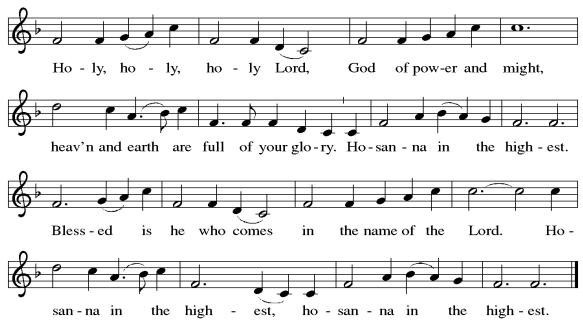
Lift up your hearts.

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: You are indeed holy 0 God...

...Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

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

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

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 minster addresses the assembly. This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come, take your place at the feast.

The assembly is seated.

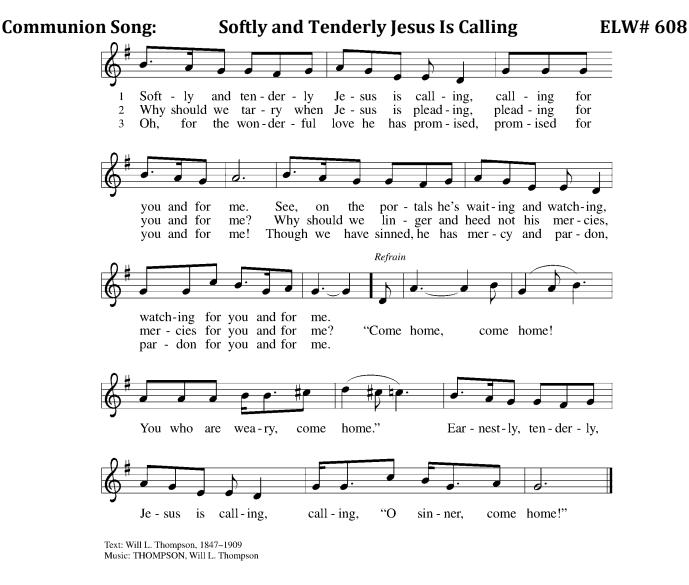
All baptized Christians are invited to participate in the celebration of holy communion. If you desire baptism, the pastor would love to speak with you! Those who are not baptized and children not yet communing may come forward for a blessing, please cross your arms on your chest if you desire a blessing.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



Lamb of God



Additional Communion songs are sung as needed

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

An assisting minister leads the prayer.

Let us pray.

God of blessing, at this table we have seen you face to face, and in the gift of Christ's body and blood, our hearts have been refreshed. Send us now to shine with your goodness and bear witness to the one we have received: Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

 Sending

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

BLESSING

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

Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you with grace, mercy, and peace, now and forever. **Amen.**



DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Live in love as Christ loved us. **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, 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)

✤ Craig, Cheryl, Chandler, Braemen, Aiden, Robert, Nettie, Becky, Jerry, Kitt, Al, Rosie, Josephine, Lucy, William, Joe, Natalie ✤ Jacy Rosa, Buffi, JoJo, and for the Bahamas ✤ Donie, Lorraine, Miguel, Joselyn, family of Victor, Robert Sherwin, Gregory Brown, Carol Patterson, and Lisa Mattson.

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 on September

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

10:15 AM	<u>September 15</u>	September 22	September 29
ASSISTING MINISTER	Carol Jacobson	Eric Castaneda	Sera Butz
ACOLYTE	Sera Butz	Pat Belanger	Carol Jacobson
LECTOR	Pat Belanger	Tom Peterson	Rita Sharkey
USHERS –Need 4 to Serve	Suzanne Loggins Pat Engle Jimmy Fennelli Rosie Fennelli (w)	Lisa Castaneda Jeanne pettit Lynda Smith Zachary Smith (w)	Marsha Kibler (w) Drew Kibler Darin Kibler Catherine Zippay
Head Usher	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli
GREETERS – Need 2 to Serve	Caroline Smith Ruth Wagle	Rose Jones Kelly Jacobson	Caroline Smith Ruth Wagle
SOUND	Jake VanZile	Dennis Magarrell	Jake VanZile
PROJECTION	Eric Castaneda	Larry Jones	Eric Castaneda

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!

Funeral Liturgy today for Kathy Runk

A simple Funeral liturgy will be offered for Kathy Runk this afternoon, September 15 at 3:00pm in the church. A reception will follow the service. All members and friends of St. Stephen are invited to attend. *Rest eternal grant Kathy, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine on her.*

Address for Terry Shumway

Terry and Audrey Shumway were members of St. Stephen for many years and Terry's mom died in Christ a little over a week ago. If you would like to send a card or message of condolence, Terry's address is: 885 Arthur Drive Apt 2, Milton, WI. 53563.

Change for Change: Faith Farms



During September, we will use our change for change tower to support Faith Farm Ministries. This local program offers a faith based recovery program that includes residential drug and alcohol addiction transformation along the road to recovery. *"Faith Farm is a Christian Ministry Whose Purpose Is To Restore And Transform Lives Through The Gospel Of Jesus Christ."* Campuses are located in Fort Lauderdale, Boynton Beach, and Okeechobee.

Fellowship Hall Clean Up Day! Next Saturday

We need a few people who will help clean out a number of items from the storage room in the entrance of the fellowship hall. We are meeting at 9:00am next Saturday morning. We need that space to store items for the Holy Grill ministry and two AA groups that will be coming to St. Stephen shortly. Please see Carol Jacobson today if you are willing to be part of that crew!





Fall Bible Study starts October 1!

In October we begin a new adult study every Tuesday evening at 7:00pm in the Luther Room. This is your last chance to vote on what you would like to learn about next. Another book of the bible, like Genesis (beginnings) or the Gospel of John (the latest and most theologically

reflective gospel) or one of Paul's letters? Maybe something theological like the Small Catechism or the Augsburg Confession (primary document that defines Lutheran understanding of the gospel and the church)? Maybe you have another idea...There will be a line on the weekly attendance card for your suggestions. In any case, Christian formation is a life-long process. Why not decide today to join us when we resume in the fall. We have some great conversations.

Holy Grill needs:

Breakfast continues to be served Wednesday at 9am and dinner on Wednesday at 5pm in the same location in our east lot. 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.**





Blessing of the Animals--Saturday, October 5

Join us and invite family and friends to the annual Blessing of the Animals in honor of St. Francis on the front porch of the church from 10am—2pm on October 5. There will be venders from PetSmart and Atlantic Animal Hospital, a reptile encounter, hotdogs, popcorn snow cones and more!

A very special October Breakfast Bunch: "To Forgive and Be Forgiven"

Join us on Saturday, October 12 at 9:00 am. For a complimentary breakfast and an inspirational talk by the Rev. Kevin Goodrich, O.P. Father Kevin is a traveling preacher, spirituality teacher and pastor. He served briefly here at St. Stephen as Interim Pastor. Fr. Kevin is known for his sense of humor, engaging preaching style, and ability to relate spiritual concepts to the challenges of everyday life. Fr. Goodrich is a member of the Anglican Order of Preachers (Dominicans). The topic will be, "To Forgive and Be Forgiven."



No life is immune to the pain of hurt and resentment. Forgiveness is a pathway to freedom and healing. Explore how to forgive and how to be forgiven with God's help.



Worship Gifts Available

There are a number of items that we are seeking to enrich our worship life. They include chalice veils that go on the altar in the color of the day or season; an ambry, which is a carved wooden box near the altar that the consecrated elements are kept in for the next communion and to distribute to the sick; and a paschal candle, which is the large candle symbolizing the resurrection, for



Easter 2020. There is a sheet with these gifts and costs available on the welcome table in the gathering area. They may be given in memory or honor of someone, or simply to God's glory.

Hurricane Dorian Relief for the Bahamas

Please pray for those in affected areas. The Florida-Bahamas Synod will walk with the people of Freeport and Our Savior's Church using your donations. You may write a check to St. Stephen and we will send the money on to the Synod House. Ear mark the check, "FBS Disaster Response." This will be directed toward relief and recovery work.



Calling New Members!

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 nest on All Saints Sunday, November 3. Check the box on the attendance card or speak with Pr. Bob and

get more details. An orientation and Lutheranism 101 for those who would like to attend will be held in October.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER:

Last Sunday Attendance: 70 Last Sunday Income (all sources): \$ 5,387.28 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 15—14th Sunday after Pentecost 10:15am Worship 11:45am Confirmation Ministry 3:00pm Kathy Runk Funeral Eucharist

Monday 16—St. Cyprian, Bishop & Martyr, 258AD 9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

Tuesday 17—St. Hildegard, Abbess, 1179AD 9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

Wednesday 18—Dag Hammarskjold, Renewer, 1961AD 9:00-10:00am Holy Grill Feeding Ministry 9:00-12pm Threads of Love 9:30am-12:30pm Office Open 5:00-6:00pm Holy Grill Feeding Ministry

Thursday 19

9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

Friday 20 9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

Saturday 21—ST. MATTHEW, APOSTLE & EVANGELIST 9:00am Fellowship Hall Storage Clean Out Fellowship Hall rented

Sunday 22—15th Sunday After Pentecost 10:15am Worship

11:30 am Worshipping Commission 11:45am Confirmation Ministry

Reformation Sunday—October 27: Bishop's Visitation

SEPTEMBER HOLY GRILL VOLUNTEERS

WEDNESDAY 9AM

WEDNESDAY 5PM

9/18 Joe Leone – Juliet Crawford 9/25 Karen Breslin- Suzanne Loggins Erika Flanigan Jake Waldecki



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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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