



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

September 22, 2019 15th Sunday after Pentecost

10:15am

The Rev. Robert G. Schaefer, Pastor

Holy Communion

INTRODUCTION to the 15th Sunday After Pentecost

As we are invited today to consider what it means to be managers (rather than owners) of all that we have, it is crucial to recall that we are bought with a price. "Christ Jesus, himself human, . . . gave himself a ransom for all." Apart from the generosity of God we have nothing—we are nothing. By God's gracious favor we have everything we need.



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.

Blessed be God: Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. 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 are called to be faithful stewards knowing that Christ Jesus gave himself as a ransom for all. 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, you bid us not to trample on the needy or bring to ruin the poor of the land. Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, you take up the weak out of the dust and lift up the poor from the ashes. Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, you desire everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

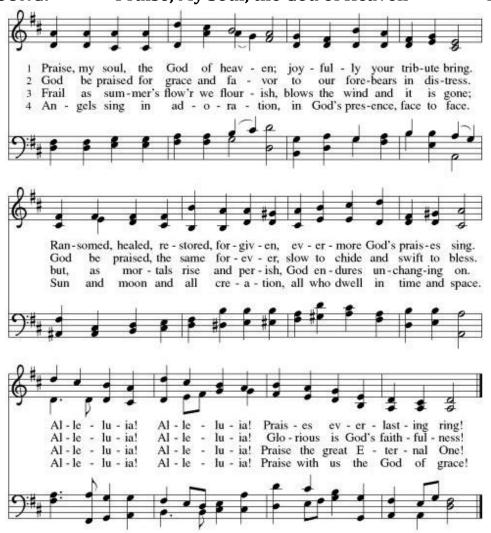
The presiding minister announces God's forgiveness.

By God's gracious favor we have everything we need. For the sake of Jesus Christ, your sins + are forgiven. Let the name of the LORD be blessed, from this time forth forevermore. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG:

Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven





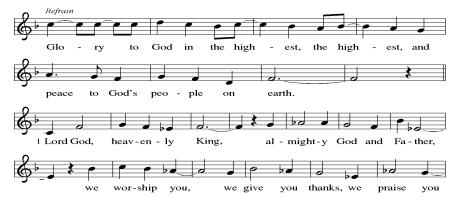
Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793-1847; alt. Walter R. Bouman, 1927-2005 Music: PRAISE, MY SOUL, John Goss, 1800-1880

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.

God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The assembly sits.

Word



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

FIRST READING: Amos 8:4-7

A reading from Amos.

⁴Hear this, you that trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land, ⁵saying, "When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain; and the sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale? We will make the ephah small and the shekel great, and practice deceit with false balances, ⁶buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals, and selling the sweepings of the wheat." ⁷The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 113

¹Hallelujah! Give praise, you servants of the LORD; praise the name of the LORD.

²Let the name of the LORD be blessed, from this time forth forevermore.

³From the rising of the sun to its going down let the name of the LORD be praised.

⁴The LORD is high above all nations; God's glory above the heavens.

⁵Who is like the LORD our God, who sits enthroned on high,

6but stoops to behold the heavens and the earth?

⁷The LORD takes up the weak out of the dust and lifts up the poor from the ashes,

⁸enthroning them with the rulers, with the rulers of the people.

⁹The LORD makes the woman of a childless house to be a joyful mother of children. Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: 1 Timothy 2:1-7

A reading from 1 Timothy.

¹First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, ²for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. ³This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, ⁶who gave himself a ransom for all —this was attested at the right time. ⁷For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

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 16:1-13

P: The Holy Gospel, according to Luke.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ²So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.' ³Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' ⁵So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' ⁶He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' ¬Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' ®And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. ®And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

¹⁰"Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. ¹¹If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹²And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? ¹³No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

Children and Youth Message

SERMON

The Rev. Robert G. Schaefer

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



Text: Gesangbuch, Nürnberg, 1676; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt. Music: ALLES IST AN GOTTES SEGEN, Johann Löhner, 1645–1705, adapt.

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.



MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING/Offering Music

The assembly stands.

OFFERING SONG:

We Give Thee but Thine Own

ELW# 686



- 2 May we thy boun ties thus as stew ards true re ceive, 3 The cap - tive to re - lease, to God the lost to bring,
- 4 And we be lieve thy word, though dim our faith may be:



Text: William W. How, 1823-1897, alt.

Music: HEATH, L. Mason and G. Webb, Cantica Lauda, 1850

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.

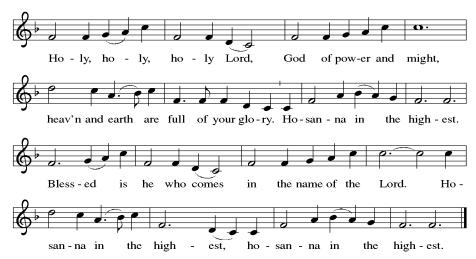
Lift up your hearts.

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 O 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.

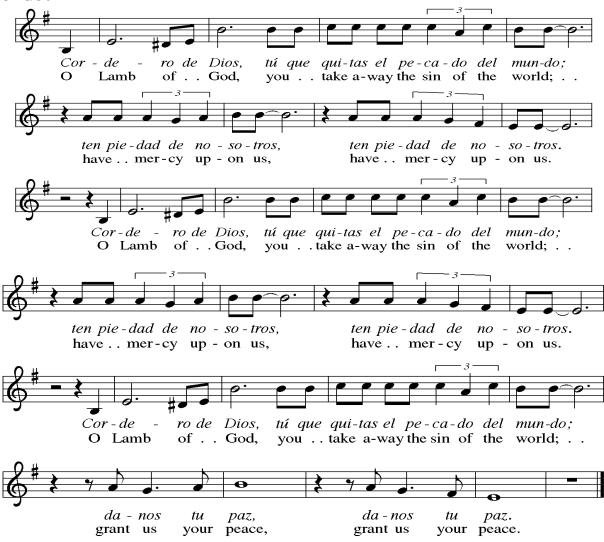
The assembly is seated.

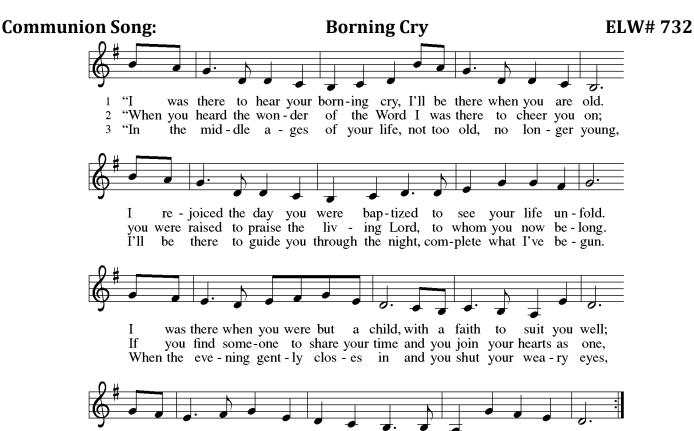
All baptized Christians are invited to participate in the celebration of holy communion. If you desire baptism, the pastor would love to speak with you! Those who are not baptized and children not yet communing may come forward for a blessing, please cross your arms on your chest if you desire a blessing.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







of light you wan-dered off to find where de-mons dwell." a blaze I'll be there to make your vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing I'll be there as Ι have al - ways been, with just one more sur - prise."



4 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.



I re-joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold."

Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937 Music: WATERLIFE, John C. Ylvisaker Text and music © 1985 John Ylvisaker.

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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.



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.**

The assembly turns toward the cross as it passes by.



Text: David Haas, b. 1957
Music: WE ARE CALLED, David Haas
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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)

¥ Jacy Rosa, Buffi, JoJo, and for the Bahamas ¥ Donie, Lorraine, Miguel, Joselyn, family of Victor, Robert Sherwin, Gregory Brown, Carol Patterson, and Lisa Mattson ★ Pat Jean, Pat Ruth, Glen, Greg, Lisa & family, Carol, Chandler, Braemen, Cheryl, Craig, Aiden, Jerry, Robert, Becky, Nettie, Miguel, Donnie, Barbara's family, Alex, Josephine, Joe, Natalie, Buffi, Lem.

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: Rita Filbert in memory of "my mom, Linda Ainola".

Assisting at Worship in September

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

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

DARISH 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!



New Name Badges are available today on the gathering area welcome table!

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!

September Change for Change: Faith Farms

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."





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.

And the winner is: The Book of Genesis:

Tuesdays at 7pm in the Luther Room starting October 1.

While a number of great topics were suggested, the Book of Genesis was the choice for our next bible study. 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!!

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.



Saturday, October 26-Yard Sale and Octoberfest!!!!!!!!!!!!!

The community is invited to a yard sale/flea market from 8am-3pm on October 26. Outside space rental is \$20 with 11x18 space. Inside rental with table is \$20. In addition, the Octoberfest will include Brats, sauerkraut, chips, and soft drinks. There will even be an organ grinder! See Carol Jacobson for a table and more info (954-942-8935).

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 today



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.



Worship Gifts Available

There are a several items remaining that we are seeking to enrich our worship life. They include some chalice veils that go on the altar in the color of the day or season (It would be a blessing to receive the available white set for this Christmas season!); 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 is walking 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.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER:

Last Sunday Attendance: 68 Last Sunday Income (all sources): \$ 2,368.75 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 22-15th Sunday After Pentecost

10:15am Worship

11:30 am Worshipping Commission

11:45am Confirmation Ministry

Monday 23

9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

Tuesday 24

9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

Wednesday 25

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 26

9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

Friday 27

9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

Saturday 28

Fellowship Hall rented 4:00pm Dawn Schramm celebration of life (Ft. Laud)

Sunday 29-16th Sunday After Pentecost

10:15am Worship

11:45am Confirmation Ministry

Reformation Sunday—October 27: Bishop's Visitation

SEPTEMBER HOLY GRILL VOLUNTEERS

WEDNESDAY 9AM

9/25 Karen Breslin- Suzanne Loggins

WEDNESDAY 5PM

Jake Waldecki



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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