



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

September 23, 2018 18th Sunday after Pentecost 10:15am

The Rev. Robert G. Schaefer, Pastor

HOLY COMMUNION

Gathering

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

INTRODUCTION

Today we hear James warn against selfish ambition, while the disciples quarrel over which one of them is the greatest. Jesus tells them the way to be great is to serve. Then, to make it concrete, he puts in front of them an actual flesh-and-blood child. We are called to welcome the particular children God puts in front of us, to make room for them in daily interaction, and to give them a place of honor in the assembly.

CHOIR PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The assembly stands as able. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the \pm holy Trinity, the one who fashions us, the one who heals us, the one who reforms us again and again. **C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Gracious God.

have mercy on us.

We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin.

We are truly sorry and humbly repent.

In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown,

things we have done and things we have failed to do.

Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

P: God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us and to empower our lives in the world.

Our sins are forgiven,

God's love is unconditional.

Therefore, I 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.

C: Amen.



Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000 Music: ABBOT'S LEIGH, Cyril V. Taylor, 1907–1991 Text © 1979 and Music © 1942, ren. 1970 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

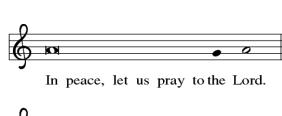
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GREETING

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

C: And also with you.

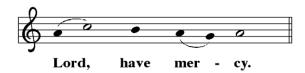
KYRIE





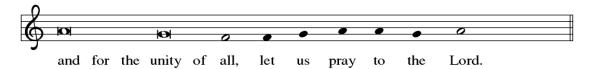


For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord.

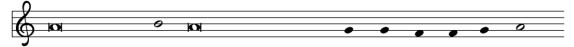




For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

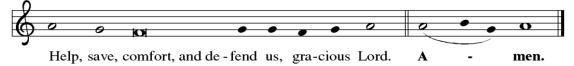






For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,





CANTICLE OF PRAISE "Glory to God"



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

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

P: O God, our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, lesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

The assembly sits.

Word

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

FIRST READING:

Jeremiah 11:18-20

Reading from Isaiah.

¹⁸It was the LORD who made it known to me, and I knew; then you showed me their evil deeds. ¹⁹But I was like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter. And I did not know it was against me that they devised schemes, saying, "Let us destroy the tree with its fruit, let us cut him off from the land of the living, so that his name will no longer be remembered!"

²⁰But you, O LORD of hosts, who judge righteously, who try the heart and the mind, let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 54

¹Save me, O God, by your name; in you might, defend my cause.

²Hear my prayer, O God;

give ear to the words of my mouth.

³For strangers have risen up against me, and the ruthless have sought my life, those who have no regard for God.

⁴Behold, God is my helper;

it is the Lord who sustains my life.

⁵Render evil to those who spy on me; in your faithfulness, destroy them.

⁶I will offer you a freewill sacrifice and praise your name, O LORD, for it is good.

⁷For you have rescued me from every trouble, and my eye looks down on my enemies.

SECOND READING: James 3:13--4:3, 7-8a

A Reading from James.

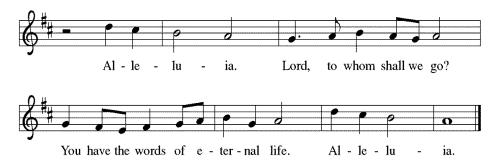
¹³Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. ¹⁴But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. ¹⁵Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. ¹⁶For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. ¹⁷But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. ¹⁸And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace. ⁴: ¹Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? ²You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. ³You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. ⁷Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸aDraw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

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: Mark 9:30-37

P: The Holy Gospel, according to Mark.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁰[Jesus and the disciples went on] and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it;³¹for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." ³²But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

³³Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" ³⁴But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. ³⁵He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." ³⁶Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, ³⁷"Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

Youth and Children 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: Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Music: TWO OAKS, Marty Haugen Text and music © 1994 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. 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: Freed by God in Christ to live and love and serve, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's beloved creation.

After each petition of the prayer is said:

A: Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Into your wide embrace, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your boundless mercy through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer.

C: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

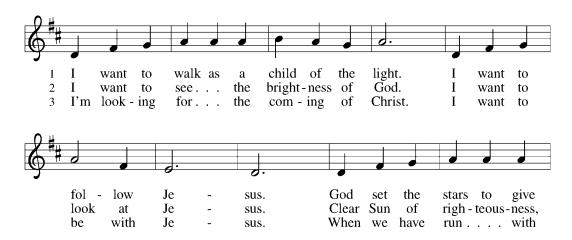
MEAL

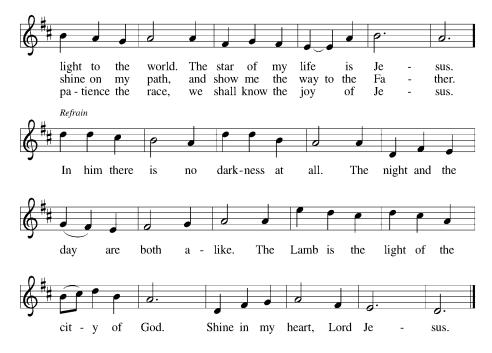
God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING: I want to Walk as a Child of the Light

ELW #815





Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934 Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson Text and music © 1970, 1975 Celebration

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OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

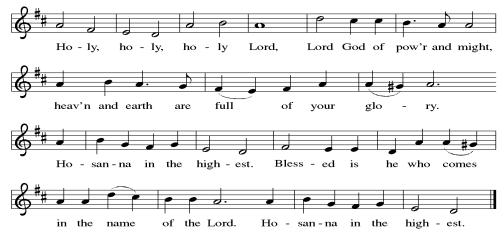
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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:

P: Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign.... ...For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup...to share with us the great and promised feast. **C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, ...and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light. **C: Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Join our prayers with those of your servants ...all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

C: Amen.

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we are bold to pray.

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Communion

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

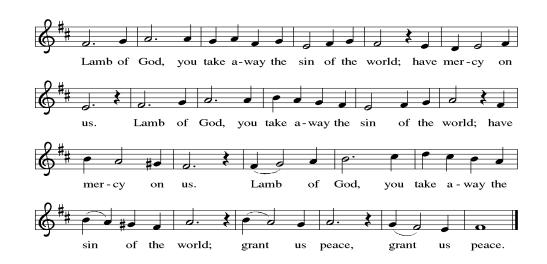
The bread is broken for the communion. The assembly is seated.

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

At St. Stephen we receive Holy Communion by receiving the bread and then either drinking directly from the cup or by intinction: That means that you may **receive the bread in your hand and then dip bread in the wine**.)

Gluten free bread is available on the right side. (please ask) Alcohol free wine is available on the right side. (please ask)

The body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.** The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**



Communion Song:

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

ELW #712



- 1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser vice bore the weight of hu-man need,
- 2 Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun-gry cry for bread;
- 3 As we wor-ship, grant us vi sion, till your love's re veal-ing light
- 4 Called by wor-ship to your ser vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up - on the cross, for - sak - en, worked your mer-cy's per - fect deed: still the cap - tives long for free - dom; still in grief we mourn our dead. in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up - on our quick-ened sight, to the child, the youth, the a - ged, love in liv - ing deeds to show;



we, your ser-vants, bring the wor-ship not of voice a - lone, but heart; As you, Lord, in deep com-pas-sion healed the sick and freed the soul, mak-ing known the needs and bur-dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear, hope and health, good-will and com-fort, coun-sel, aid, and peace we give,



con - se - crat - ing to your pur - pose ev - 'ry gift which you im - part. by your Spir - it send your pow - er to our world to make it whole. stir - ring us to ar - dent ser - vice, your a - bun - dant life to share. that your ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom may your mer - cy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901-1984

Music: BEACH SPRING, The Sacred Harp, Philadelphia, 1844

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Instrumental Music

Cesar Vidaud

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray.

Holy and compassionate God, in bread and wine you give us the gifts that form us to be humble and courageous: the body and blood of your Son. May your words come to life in our serving and in our witness, that we might speak a living voice of healing and justice to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Messiah and Lord.

C: Amen.

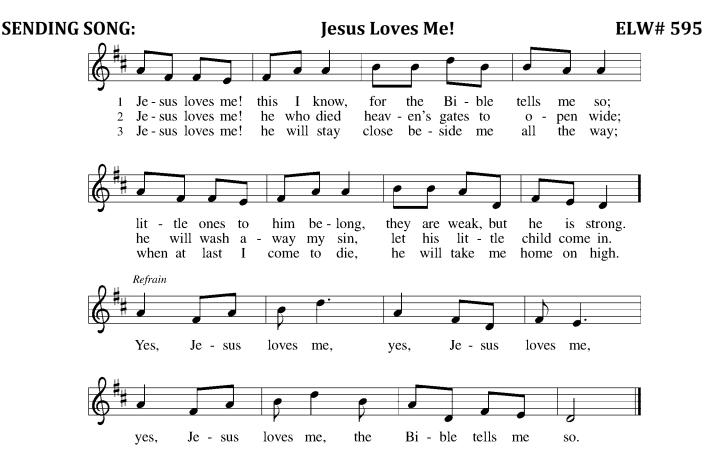
Sending

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

BLESSING

P: The God of all consolation bless you in every way, grant you hope all the days of your life, fill your heart with peace, and lead you to eternal life.

C: Amen.



Text: Anna B. Warner, 1820–1915, alt. Music: JESUS LOVES ME, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Share the good news.

C: Thanks be to God.

IN OUR PRAYERS...

In our prayers today are these members of our homebound and others of our parish family in need of healing: Laurel Blake, Kathy Runk, Jimmy Fennelli, Caroline Smith, Edith Reichenback, Audrey Shumway, Jim Loggins, Diane Adler, Katie Paff, Roy and Barbara Kaptain, Bob & Jane Reinhold, and Shelley Amato.

Prayers for Friends of the Church: (Please renew your request every 3 weeks)

₩ William & Gerry Stewart, Annette, Gene, Joanna, Betty, Peace, Cheryl, Robert, Aiden, Chandler, Becky, Braemen, Jerry, Mary, Craig, Nettie, Jennifer Castaneda and Cristina Rosua № Eric Hecker, Nicholas De Faria, Ryan Schaly, Joanna Betty, Gene, Annette № Sandra, Joanna, Tammy Hulshoff, George Stewart, Aurea Soto, Rosie's Fennelli family, prayers for world peace, friends and family.

In a facility or homebound:

Audrey Shumway - Willow Wick, Janesville, Wisconsin 53545
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

Flowers this month sponsored by:

9/20 Marti, Lynda & Zachary in memory of dad, Harry Danforth.

9/27 Aubrey Shumway

9/30 Lauterberg's family in memory of Wayne Lauterberg.

Parish Announcements

Welcome to worship!

We are thankful you are here! We especially welcome our guests and first time visitors today. 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!

Interested in joining St. Stephen?

We will next welcome new members to the parish on Reformation Sunday, October 28. Please check the box on the registration card in you bulletin if you are interested and Pr. Bob will be in touch. You are invited with all members and friends of St. Stephen to attend Lutheranism 101 which will be held on October 8, 14, and 21 from 9:15 to 10:00am in the church.

Change for Change: Puerto Rican Relief

Puerto Rico's revision of the death toll from last September's horrific Hurricane Maria to 2,975 elevates the storm to one of the greatest catastrophes of recent times in the United Sates. During September and October, we will be collecting money in the Change for Change tower in the Narthex to help with the ongoing relief effort in Puerto Rico through the ELCA Caribbean Synod. Please be generous. The Congregation Council also designated the \$712 that was currently in the tower for this effort.

Annual Blessing of the Animals—Saturday, October 6th from 10am—2pm.

This tradition honors St. Francis, who loved God's creation and whose feast day is October 4. Food and fun in front of the church! All animals, living and stuffed are welcome! Invite all your neighbors and friends in the community. The animals don't need to be Lutheran ©.

Installation of the Rev. Robert Schaefer as Pastor—Sunday, October 14th at 3:30pm.

Bp. Pedro Suarez will preside and preach at this festive liturgy. A reception with finger food and refreshments will follow in the Fellowship Hall. Please use the sign-up sheet in the narthex or check the box on the card in your worship folder and join in the celebration.

Wine & Cheese – Saturday, October 27 at 4:30pm to 7:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. Come enjoy the music while sharing a great time with our church friends. Bring your friends and neighbors, everyone is welcome! A suggested donation of \$15.00 would be collected at the door.

Help Wanted: Do you like electronics?

We are seeking to grow our sound and projection team. These people work the controls in the back of the church for both the sound system and the images we project. Contact Pr. Bob if you would like to know more.

Wellness Expo at the Center for Active Aging

The Center for Active Aging (formerly NE Focal Point Senior Center) at 227 NW 2nd Street in Deerfield Beach, will be holding their 18th annual *Health and Wellness Expo—Fit through the Ages* on October 20 from 9:00am to 12:30pm. The public is invited and there is a flyer on the bulletin board in the narthex with more information.

Assisting at Our Worship Celebrations in September

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

10:15 AM	September 23	September 30
ASSISTING MINISTERS	Carol Jacobson	Sera Butz
ACOLYTE	Katie Paff	Madison Kibler
LECTOR	Catherine Zippay	Tom Peterson
USHERS -Need 4 to Serve	Suzanne Loggins Jeanne Pettit Lynda Smith Zachary Smith (w)	Marsha Kibler (w) Drew Kibler Darin Kibler Erika Flanigan
Head Usher	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli
GREETERS – Need 2 to Serve	Caroline Smith Ruth Wagle	Rose Jones Kelly Jacobson
SOUND	Terry Shumway	Dennis Magarrell
PROJECTION	Dennis Magarrell	Larry Jones

Sept. 23, 2018 (18th Sunday after Pentecost, Year B)

James 4:1, 2 – Those conflicts and disputes among you ... do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts.

James puts his finger on the pulse of human misery. We drive ourselves crazy by craving the things we don't have and envying those who have more than we do! Spiritual maturity and practicing steward/discipleship help bring us sanity.



Sunday Schedule

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

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

St. Stephen Lutheran Church, ELCA 2500 NE 14th Street Causeway, Pompano Beach, Florida, 33062 Tele: 954.942.4473 • Fax: 954.942.4474 www.ststephenlutheran.net www.facebook.com/SSLCPompano ©2013 All rights reserved.



Activity Calendar

Sunday 23

10:15am Sunday Worship

11:45am-12:45pm Confirmation Ministry

Monday 24

9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

Tuesday 25

9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

Wednesday 26

8:00am Quilting

9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

Thursday 27

9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday 28

9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

Saturday 29

Happy and Blessed Saturday!

Sunday 30

10:15am Sunday Worship

11:45am-12:45pm Confirmation Ministry



"Remember when we could count our blessings without a spreadsheet program?"

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