

St. Stephen Lutheran Church

Love God, Love People, Form Faith.

One of 13,000 Stephen Ministry Congregations Around the World

We believe that community is *beautiful* and *messy* and *fulfilling* and *conflicted* and...the POINT. God calls us together into community for the sake of one another, our neighbors, and creation. We don't always get it right, but we trust that when we center the love and grace that Jesus taught, we will get it right more often than not. *You are welcome here!* We don't expect perfect, put-together people; we don't want you to conform to us and our ways; we want you to show up as who you are and to experience the love and grace of God as we have experienced it. And we hope that once you do, you will join us in sharing it with others too.



Presentation of Our Lord Feb 2, 2025

For Your Prayers – Feb 3-9, 2025

Lectionary readings for this week:

Monday: 1 Kings 17:8-16;1 Corinthians 2:6-16;Psalm 56 *Tuesday*: 2 Kings 5:1-14;1 Corinthians 14:13-25;Psalm 56 *Wednesday*: Jeremiah 1:11-19;Luke 19:41-44;Psalm 56 *Thursday:* Numbers 20:22-29;Acts 9:19b-25;Psalm 138

Friday: Numbers 27:12-23;Acts 9:26-31;Psalm 138 *Saturday*: Judges 3:7-11;Luke 4:42-44;Psalm 138

Next Sunday's Lessons Isaiah 6:1-13; Psalm 138 (2); 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11

<u>Join your prayers for healing</u> with God's desires for Ed Brown, Kristin Carter, Bob & Ginny Cummings, Jack Harris, Sharon Jacobs, Donna Kittelson, Jim Mayfield, Carole Meyer, Helen Nelsen, Paul Reier and George Vonderheide.

<u>Pray for those unable to come to worship</u>: Martin Bleck, Ed Brown, Birdie Burton, York Doerr, Bob and Angie Groom, Pat Janot, Marilyn Johnson, Jeanne Nelson, Darlene Simon, and Kay Wasaff.

Pray for these loved ones of our congregation: Susan, Charles Baugh, Donald and Carol Baum, Sally Blackburn, June Brantley, Linda Bonfiglio, Mary Bloom, Tim Brown, Karin Cavanaugh, Chris Clarke, Amaree Cluff, Joe Conboy, Ruth Ann Coski, Ginny Cummings, Judy Drezek, Becky Drury, Darrin and Rosemary Dunn, Tanya Fritz, David Gade, Joel Gillespie, Greg Gildner, Joan and John Goodhart, Charee Hampton, Mark Harbison, Sue Hassan and family, Andy Havola, Nick Havola, Bradley, Kim, Joan and Laurie Heintzelman, Lisa Hill, Jaxon Ireland, Claudia Jacobik, Brian Johnson, Don Johnson, Connie Kendrick, The Kennedy family, Jenn Kramer, Chantal Lacroix, Judy Leister, Marnah Lund, Trish and Sara and Matthew Macerelli, Keara Mahony, Laura Margolin, Jack Mayfield, Doug MacKenzie, The Keith Meins family, Liz Montalvo, Ed Moninger, Kim Morris, Bob Myers, Jeanette Osborn, Coral Pumley, Kurt Recktenwald, Lou Schuster, Inge Seiter, Pamela Sharp, Kelsey Slay, Chad Strausbaugh, Al Stern, Monika Stern, George and Jewel Thomas, Charley Underdahl, Brenda Webster, Caleb Winig, Elaine Wrich, and Lynda Wright

Presentation of Our Lord

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

Welcome

Centering Music

O Lord, Now Let Your Servant Jeffery Berry, Clarinet **David Cherwien**

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins. Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,

our creator,

our protector,

our wellspring of life. Amen.

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

you speak blessing and compassion into the world.

Forgive us for the ways we act

with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.

We ignore the needs of our neighbors;

we resist your call to oppose injustice;

we give in to scarcity and fear;

we assume the worst about one another.

Cleanse us from our faults

and release us from their grasp.

Show us your lovingkindness.

Restore our hearts and repair your world,

that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.

God proclaims these words of assurance:

"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.

I have called you by name. You are mine."

In + Christ, you are forgiven.

In the Spirit, you are made free.

Refreshed by the waters of mercy,

live anew as beloved children of God. Amen.

Gathering Song

Let All Together Praise Our God

ELW 287

Bulletin Page 12

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





Prayer of the Day

Almighty and ever-living God, your only-begotten Son was presented this day in the temple. May we be presented to you with clean and pure hearts by the same Jesus Christ, our great high priest, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

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

Reading Malachi 3:1-4

This reading concludes a larger section (2:17-3:5) in which the prophet speaks of the coming of the God of justice. Malachi looks for that day when the wondrous power of God will purify the priestly descendants of Levi who minister in the temple at Jerusalem.

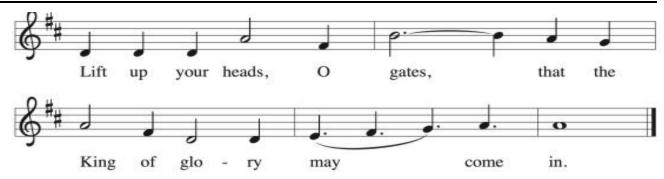
¹ See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. ² But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; ³ he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. ⁴ Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

Reader: "The Word of the Lord." Response: "Thanks be to God."



Psalm 24: 7-10



⁷Lift up your heads, O gates; and be lifted up, O ever- lasting doors, that the King of glory may come in.

⁸ Who is this | King of glory?

The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, might- y in battle! Refrain

- ⁹Lift up your heads, O gates; and be lifted up, O ever- lasting doors, that the King of glory may come in.
- ¹⁰ Who is this | King of glory?

Truly, the LORD of hosts is the King of glory. Refrain

Second Reading Hebrews 2:14-18

Jesus shared human nature fully so that his death might be for all humans a liberation from slavery to death's power. Here the writer uses the image of priestly service in the temple as a way of describing the life and saving death of the Lord Jesus. He is the high priest who offers his life on behalf of his brothers and sisters.

¹⁴ Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, [Jesus] himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. ¹⁶ For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. ¹⁷ Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Reader: "The Word of the Lord." Response: "Thanks be to God."

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel

This story is a study in contrasts: the infant Jesus with the aged prophets; the joy of birth with the ominous words of Simeon to Mary; the faithful fulfilling of the law with the presentation of the one who

will release its hold over us. Through it all, we see the light of God's salvation revealed to the world.

Response after announcement of the Gospel: "Glory to you, O Lord."

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, [Mary and Joseph] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³ (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), ²⁴ and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons." ²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷ Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸ Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

²⁹ "Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; ³⁰ for my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹ which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel." ³³ And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵ so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too." ³⁶ There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her

marriage, ³⁷ then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸ At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. ³⁹ When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰ The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

Response at the conclusion of the Gospel: "Praise to you, O Christ."

Sermon

A Light to the Nations Rev. Jennifer Osheim-Owen Silence for prayer and reflection.

Hymn of the Day

In His Temple Now Behold Him

ELW 417

Bulletin page 13

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 power of 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

Each petition concludes, "God of grace." Response: "hear our prayer."

II. Meal: God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

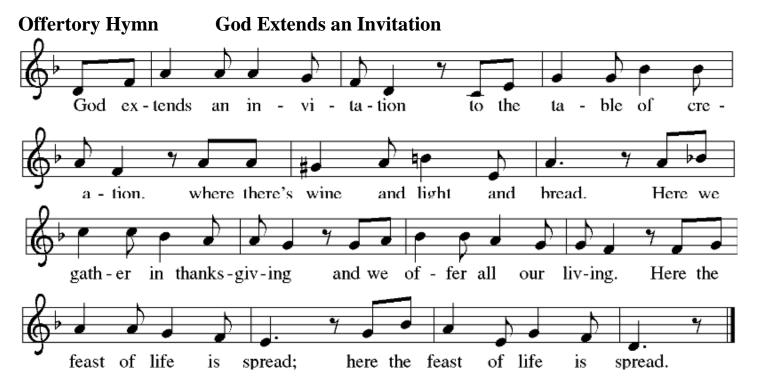
Offering

Offerings are gathered for the mission of the church: preaching and teaching the good news of our salvation through the death and resurrection of Christ, and caring for the poor. During the offering, the table is set for the Lord's Supper.

Offering Music

8:30 How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place 11:00 How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place

R. Powell J. Brahms



Offering Prayer

God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. **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, that we should at all times and ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:





Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Holy Communion

When receiving Communion, either stand or kneel at the Rail. Pastor will distribute the bread and a Communion Assistant will come with a tray of pre-filled cups of wine and grape juice. The juice will be in the middle of the tray. Gluten-free wafers are available as an alternative to bread. St. Stephen is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, so all are welcome to receive Christ's body and blood in the Lord's Supper.

Communion Music

O Lord, Now Let Your Servant

ELW 313 Bulletin page 14

8:30 In Peace and Joy I Now Depart

ELW 440

Bulletin page 15

11:00 Anthem *Hope for Resolution – A Song for Mandela and de Klerk* Zulu Translation: *Nation, do not cry. Jehovah will protect us.*

Caldwell/Ivory

We will attain freedom. Jehovah will protect us

Table Blessing

Prayer after Communion

Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray, **Amen.**

IV. Sending: God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

Sending Hymn

Lord, Dismiss us with your Blessing

ELW 545

Bulletin page 16

Blessing

The Spirit of the triune God \pm bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love. Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Live in hope. Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

Timothy Shaw

ORCHABAND

Violin: Ingrid Brown Saxophone: Erika Cave

Clarinet: Jeffery Berry, Bill Dichtel, Josiah Hallman

Flute: Sonja Cave, Thom Recktenwald

French Horn: Rich Brown

Bassoon: Linda Baumgarten Cello: Marie Nelson

Copyright Information

O Lord, Now Let Your Servant; Contributors: David Cherwien © 1995 Augsburg Fortress

How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place; Contributors: R. Powell Tune: © 1972 Choristers Guild

Hope for Resolution; Contributors: J. Brahms Edition copyright (c) 1998 Earthsongs

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing; Contributors: Timothy Shaw © 2016 Augsburg Fortress

One License Licensing Permission Reprinted/Streamed with permission under One License #A721099,

New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission. Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License # SB164403; Permission granted, St. James Press

Let All Together Praise Our God



- 5 A wonderful exchange you make: you take our flesh and blood, and in return give us to share the shining realm of God, the shining realm of God.
- 6 Unlock the door again today that leads to paradise; the angel bars the way no more. To God let praises rise, to God let praises rise!

In His Temple Now Behold Him

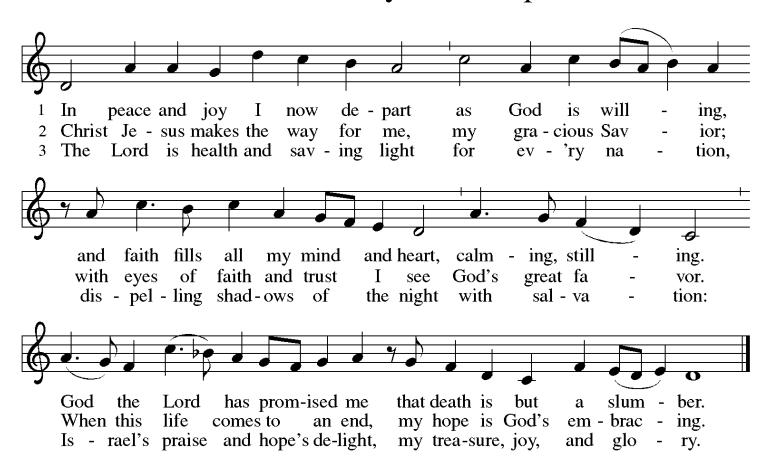


O Lord, Now Let Your Servant



Text: Ernest E. Ryden, 1886–1981, alt.
Music: KUORTANE, Finnish folk tune; arr. hymnal version
Text © 1925 Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America, admin. Augsburg Fortress.
Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

In Peace and Joy I Now Depart



Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546, based on the Nunc dimittis; tr. composite Music: MIT FRIED UND FREUD, Martin Luther

Text © 2000 Augsburg Fortress.

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing



As We Gather

Restrooms & First Aid

- ❖ A gender-neutral, family restroom and a Women's restroom can be found in the hallway behind our Worship Space.
- ❖ Additional Men's and Women's restrooms can be found on the lower level of the church building.
- ❖ A first aid kit and an A.E.D. can be found hanging on the wall in the hallway behind our Worship Space.

Live-streaming

❖ We regularly live-stream our services and cannot guarantee that you will not appear on our YouTube channel. Sitting in the East Wing or the NE section of the Worship Space will minimize your chances of being on screen. We can also bring communion to you if you inform an usher of that desire.

Parents! Thanks for bringing your children to worship.

- ❖ Did you know that intergenerational worship is the single most important activity encouraging children's faith formation? (See vibrantfaith.org)
- ❖ When parents and children need to take a break for a few minutes, there's a play area (aka "prayground") with toys and books in the East wing of the Worship Space.
- ❖ Age-appropriate activity bags are available in the Gathering Space ask an usher for assistance.

Assistance is Available for You:

- ❖ An induction loop is provided for the benefit of hearing aid users. To use, please switch your hearing aid to "T."
- **❖ Large print** worship materials are available ask an usher.

<u>Health Update</u>: We always encourage you to monitor yourself for symptoms of illness and to worship from home if you are experiencing any. We have masks and hand sanitizer available for use in our building should you require.

What's Happening Today

Flowers this morning are given by Jim & Donna Kittelson in celebration of our 58th wedding anniversary!

The Preschool Winter Carnival is today **2PM-4PM**

<u>Giving statements</u> are available in the gathering space. Please pick yours up before leaving.

<u>Guest Preacher.</u> We are excited to welcome **the Rev. Jennifer Osheim-Owen** to St. Stephen's pulpit. Rev. Jennifer currently serves as a Chaplain at the Landing.

Upcoming

St. Stephen Volunteers needed as we partner with the Williamsburg United Methodist Church (WUMC) in this years Community Of Faith Mission(COFM) Homeless Emergency Shelter the week of February 16 – 23. As a Partner, St. Stephen has committed to staff and furnish meals for up to 25 Guests of the shelter for February 17 and 18. For each day, ten shelter staffing volunteers are required to fill varying shifts from 5:30PM until 8AM shifts (see sign-up schedule in the Gathering Space). Additionally, a minimum of two volunteers are needed to serve the dinner meal (5:30PM-8:30PM) and two volunteers are needed to serve the breakfast meal and distribute bag lunches (5:30AM-8AM). Again, the sign- up schedule is posted in the Gathering Space. Please sign up there or contact Hollie Jones at the church office if you are able to volunteer for any date(s) and shift(s), 757-229-6688.

<u>Cooks Needed</u> Since we shall be preparing a hot meal for supper and breakfast and a bagged lunch for the Guests, we need volunteers to cook and prep. Our Jeanne Garrison has graciously volunteered to coordinate food preparation and serving. Contact Jeanne, (423) 505-5397, or Hollie in the church office(757-229-6688) if you can help. More information is available in the Gathering space. All volunteers are required to have current Community of Faith Mission Training.(website, https://cofm.info, under the heading Host Sites & mp; Partners, Login, Password: Faith!)

<u>Book & Movie Study.</u> Starting the week of Feb. 5th Pastor Jon will be leading a 5-week book study on "Killers of the Flower Moon" by David Grann. There will be two options to meet for discussion: **Mondays at 7:00 PM or Tuesdays at 1:30 PM**. Once we have read and discussed the book, we will also host a viewing and discussion of the recent movie adaptation on **March 8th at 2:00 PM** in the Fellowship Hall.

<u>Faith Formation:</u> John Gregoire will be our presenter on the **9th**. He will be sharing information on initiatives of VICPP on housing and the James Rivers Chapter's specific project on Guns to Gardens, as well as other social justice issues they are working on. He would like to provide a short Temple Talk before the 11:00 service as well to talk more about the Affordable Housing Initiative.

<u>Breakfasts.</u> Come to build and deepen relationships – at the Colonial Pancake House, on the corner of Page Street and Penniman Road. Gatherings take place at 8:00 AM. **Tuesday, February 4th - Women** are invited to join together for breakfast **Thursday, February 6th- Men** are invited to join together for breakfast

<u>Kitchen Keepers-</u> will meet **this Monday at 3:00PM**. If you can join please come out and help.

St. Stephen Calendar Feb 2-9, 2025

Our worship service is available on our website <u>www.saintstephenlutheran.net</u>, click on "Worship with Us" and "Services."

SUNDAY, Feb 2

0.00 1 mil mains chon warm up (or orbing space)	8:00 AM	Matins	choir warm	up (Worshi	p Space)
--	---------	--------	------------	------------	----------

8:30 AM Worship – Holy Communion (livestreamed on our YouTube channel)

9:30 AM Matins Choir Rehearsal (Worship Space)

9:50 AM AoB/HS/Adult Ed.: Catechism (Fellowship Hall)

10:00 AM Faith Formation: Lesson (Undercroft/Preschool Room)

10:15 AM Chancel Choir Warm-up (Worship Space)

11:00 AM Worship – Holy Communion (livestreamed on Facebook live)

2:00 PM Preschool Winter Carnival (Fellowship Hall)

MONDAY, Feb 3

10:00 AM Staff Meeting (Pastor's Office)

1:30 PM Bible Study (Library/Conference Room)

3:00 PM Kitchen Cleaners

7:00 PM Book Study "Killers of the Flower Moon" (Library/Conference Room)

TUESDAY, Feb 4

8:00 AM Women's Breakfast (Colonial Pancake House)

1:30 PM Book Study "Killers of the Flower Moon" (Library/Conference Room)

WEDNESDAY, Feb 5

8:55 AM Yoga (Fellowship Hall)

7:00 PM Chancel Rehearsal (Fellowship Hall)

7:00 PM AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

THURSDAY, Feb 6

8:00 AM Men's Breakfast (Colonial Pancake House)

11:00 AM Bulletin Review (Library/Conference room)

5:30 PM St. Stephen Ringers Rehearsal (worship space)

FRIDAY, Feb 7

SATURDAY, Feb 8

5:30 PM AA Meeting (Library/Conference Room)

5:30 PM Al-ANON Family Meeting (Gathering space)

SUNDAY, Feb 9

8:00 AM Matins choir warm up (Worship Space)

8:30 AM Worship – Holy Communion (livestreamed on our YouTube channel)

9:30 AM Matins Choir Rehearsal (Worship Space)

9:50 AM AoB/HS/Adult Ed.: VICPP (Fellowship Hall)

10:00 AM Faith Formation: Lesson (Undercroft/Preschool Room)

10:30 AM Chancel Choir Warm-up (Worship Space)

11:00 AM Worship – Holy Communion (livestreamed on Facebook live)

Leading our Worship and Hospitality Today

	(8:30) Diana Tiller-Dichtel
Altar Guild	(8:30) Amy Bergh
	(11:00) Gerri Bass and Pam Buckley
	(8:30) Steve & Beth Grant (11:00) Mike Morgan
Bread Baker	Jennifer Dabel
Cantors	(8:30) Ellen Bushman (11:00) Sandy Croushore
Communion Assistants	s(8:30) Diana Tiller-Dichtel and Karen Sanderlin
	(11:00) Julie Meeks and Ben Berry
Flower Delivery	Diane McCurry
Greeters/Hosts	(8:30) Rosie Frey (11:00) Susan Kauffman
Preacher	
Presider	
	Jane Gingerich, Ursula Recktenwald and Russ White
	8:30) Tom Witt and JR Lyons (11:00) George Bass and Art Nelsen

St. Stephen Lutheran Church

612 Jamestown Road, Williamsburg, Virginia 23185 <u>www.saintstephenlutheran.net</u> (757) 229-6688

Love God, Love People, Form Faith.

(St. Stephen Lutheran Church Vision Statement)

All of Us, Called Through Our Baptisms

Pastor Jon Nelson (320-295-8861)

Karen Ives – Director of Music (757-229-6688)

Hollie Jones – Parish Administrator (757-229-6688)

Jessica Kimball -Preschool Director (757-229-6688)

Peninsula Pastoral Counseling Center (757-873-2273; counselors are in Williamsburg on Thursdays)

Doing Ministry in the World Pastorjn@saintstephenlutheran.net

Office@saintstephenlutheran.net

Preschool@saintstephenlutheran.net

Welcome to St. Stephen Lutheran Church! Please fill this out and drop it in the offering plate or give it to an usher.

Feb 2, 2025

Name:	
For guests and members with changes:	
Address (Home)	
City/StateZip	
Telephone #	
E-Mail Address	
Guests Only: I belong to	
Church Address	
Please check as many as pertain:	
Member	
First time guest	
Regular guest	
Guest (out of town)	
Student at William & Mary	
Looking for a church home	
Desire to speak with pastor	
Would like more information about Stephen Ministry	
Would like a Stephen Minister to contact me	
Any comments? Please be sure your name is above, so we may respond, if neces	sary.

Prayer Requests

Welcome to St. Stephen Lutheran Church! Please fill this out and drop it in the offering plate or give it to an usher.

Feb 2, 2025

Name:
For guests and members with changes:
Address (Home)
City/StateZip
Telephone #
E-Mail Address
Guests Only: I belong to
Church Address
Please check as many as pertain:
Member
First time guest
Regular guest
Guest (out of town)
Student at William & Mary
Looking for a church home
Desire to speak with pastor
Would like more information about Stephen Ministry
Would like a Stephen Minister to contact me
Any comments? Please be sure your name is above, so we may respond, if necessary.

Prayer Requests

Please add to the prayer list in this month's bulletin and next month. Name:	r's Quill:
Please remove from prayer concerns:	
Name:	