

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.

8th Sunday after Pentecost July 14, 2024

For Your Prayers -July 15 -21, 2024

Lectionary readings for this week:

Monday: Amos 5:1-9 Acts 21:27-39 Psalm 142 *Tuesday*: Amos 9:1-4 Acts 23:12-35 Psalm 142

Wednesday: Amos 9:11-15 Luke 7:31-35 Psalm 142

Thursday: Jeremiah 10:1-16 Colossians 1:15-23 Psalm 23

Friday Jeremiah 10:17-25 Acts 17:16-31 Psalm 23 *Saturday*: Jeremiah 12:1-13 Luke 18:35-43 Psalm 23

Next Sunday's Lessons Jeremiah 23:1-6 Psalm 23 (1) Ephesians 2:11-22

Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

<u>Join your prayers for healing</u> with God's desires for Trudi Arnold, Karen Bailey, Ed Brown, Steve Bushman, Kristin Carter, Jack Harris, Sharon Jacobs, Jim Mayfield, Carol Meyer and Helen Nelsen

<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.

<u>We hold Pastor Jon and our Lutheran Youth</u> (Ben, Brett, Jeffery, and Liam) in our prayers for safe travels and a powerful faith formation experience at the ELCA Lutheran Youth Organization (LYO) Gathering in New Orleans, LA this week.

Pray for these loved ones of our congregation: Bob Alt, Donald and Carol Baum, Rose Baumgarten, John Black, Sally Blackburn, Linda Bonfiglio, Mary Bloom, Amy Carl, Karin Cavanaugh, Ruth Ann Coski, Judy Craun, Sophia Czajkowski, Judy Drezek, Ginny Mauney Fox, David Gade, Joanne Gaskins and family, Joel Gillespie, Karyn Grinstead, Joan and Frank Goodhart, Deanna Harbison, Sue Hassan and family, Nick Havola, Bradley Kim Joan and Laurie Heintzelman, Char Henry, Lisa Hill, Jaxon Ireland, The Jacobs Family, Brian Johnson, Don Johnson, Connie Kendrick, The Kennedy family, Marnah Lund, Trish and Matthew Macerelli, Laura Margolin, Jack Mayfield, The Keith Meins family, Liz Montalvo, Brian Moore, Becky Murphy, Ed Moninger, Bob Myers, Silvana Oderisi, Denise Ogborn, Lori Ogborn, Paula Rega, Kathy Reynolds, Clarice Rohling, Marci Ries, Sharon Rogers, Betty Roth, Kurtis Schultz, Lou Schuster, Inge Seiter, Kelsey Slay, Vasili Soultoukis, Chad Strausbaugh, Charley Underdahl, and Caleb Winig.

7th Sunday after Pentecost

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

Welcome

Centering Music Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence Setting, Wilbur Held Marie Nelson, Cello

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,

the God of manna,

the God of miracles,

the God of mercy. Amen.

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin. Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our provider,

help us.

It is hard to believe there is enough to share.
We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live.
We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you.
We take offense at your teachings and your ways.
Turn us again to you.
Where else can we turn?

Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

Beloved people of God:

in Jesus, the manna from heaven,

you are fed and nourished.

By Jesus, the worker of miracles,

there is always more than enough.

Through Jesus, + the bread of life,

you are shown God's mercy:

you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn O Holy Spirit, Enter In

ELW 786 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

O God, from you come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments; and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

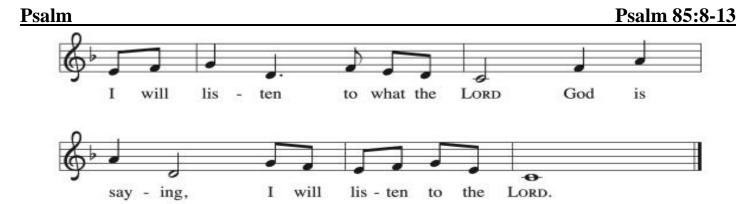
II. Word: God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song

First Reading Amos 7:7-15

Amos is not the kind of prophet attached to temples or royal courts. Rather, he is an ordinary farmer from Judah (the southern kingdom) called by God to speak to Israel (the northern kingdom). God's word of judgment through Amos conflicts with the king's court prophet Amaziah, whom Amos encounters at Bethel.

⁷ This is what [the Lord GOD] showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. 8 And the LORD said to me, "Amos, what do you see?" And I said, "A plumb line." Then the Lord said, "See, I am setting a plumb line in the midst of my people Israel; I will never again pass them by; ⁹ the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate, and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste, and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword." ¹⁰ Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, "Amos has conspired against you in the very center of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. 11 For thus Amos has said, 'Jeroboam shall die by the sword, and Israel must go into exile away from his land." And Amaziah said to Amos, "O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there; ¹³ but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king's sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom." ¹⁴ Then Amos answered Amaziah, "I am no prophet, nor a prophet's son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees, ¹⁵ and the LORD took me from following the flock, and the LORD said to me, 'Go, prophesy to my people Israel.'"

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



- ⁸ I will listen to what the LORD | God is saying; for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their | hearts to you.
 - ⁹ Truly, your salvation is very near to | those who fear you, that your glory may dwell | in our land. *Refrain*
 - ¹⁰ Steadfast love and faithfulness have | met together; righteousness and peace have | kissed each other.
 - ¹¹ Faithfulness shall spring up | from the earth, and righteousness shall look | down from heaven.
 - ¹² The LORD will indeed | grant prosperity, and our land will | yield its increase.
 - 13 Righteousness shall go be- | fore the LORD and shall prepare for | God a pathway. Refrain

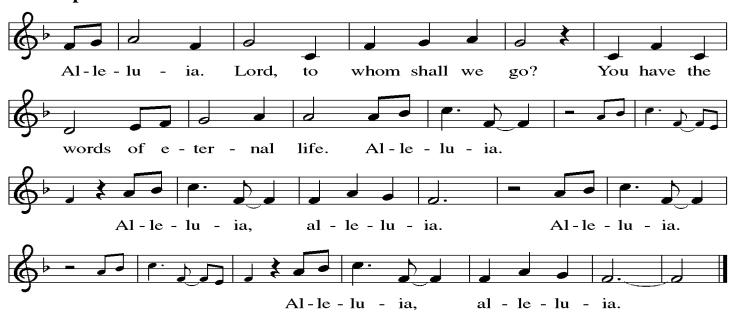
Second Reading Ephesians 1:3-14

In Jesus, all of God's plans and purposes have been made known as heaven and earth are united in Christ. Through Jesus, we have been chosen as God's children and have been promised eternal salvation..

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴ just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵ He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace 8 that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight 9 he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰ as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹ In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹² so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. 13 In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴ this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

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

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel Mark 6:14-29

At home and abroad, Jesus and his disciples encounter resistance as they seek to proclaim God's word and relieve affliction.

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

¹⁴ King Herod heard of [the disciples' preaching,] for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him." ¹⁵ But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." ¹⁶ But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised." For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. ¹⁸ For John had been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." ¹⁹ And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, ²⁰ for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. ²¹ But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. ²² When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it." ²³ And he solemnly swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom." ²⁴ She went out and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?" She replied, "The head of John the baptizer." ²⁵ Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." ²⁶ The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. ²⁷ Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, ²⁸ brought his head on a platter, and

gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. ²⁹ When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

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

Sermon

Pastor Harvey Nelson

Silence for prayer and reflection.

Hymn of the Day

Sometimes Our Only Song Is Weeping

ACS 1050

Bulletin page 13

Prayers

Each petition concludes, "In your mercy," Response: "hear our prayer."

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

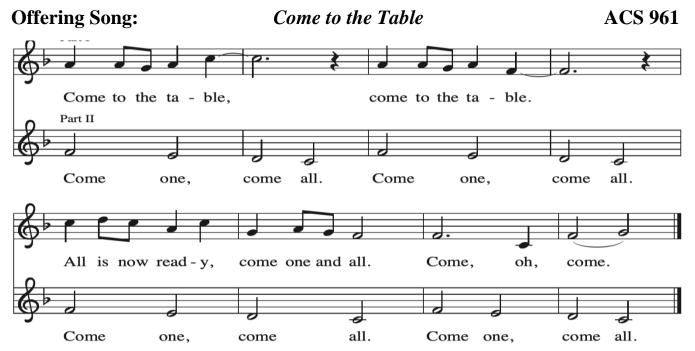
Offering

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 of Music

Deep River
Marie Nelson , Cello

Duane Funderburk Sherry



Offertory Prayer

Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. **Amen.**

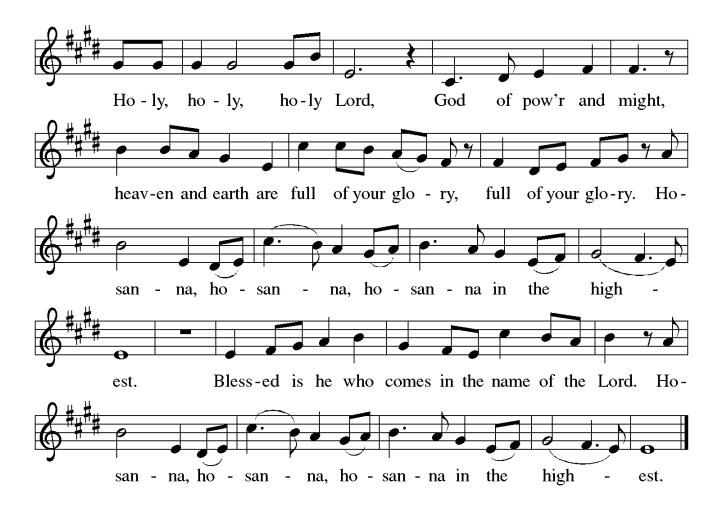
The Great Thanksgiving

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 in all places give thanks and praise...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



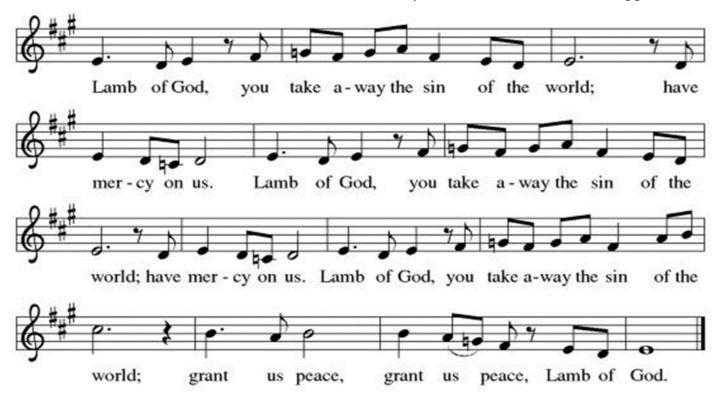
Words of Institution

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

Sabbath Marie Nelson , Cello Lee Afdahl

Communion Hymn

Just a Closer Walk with Thee

ELW 697 Bulletin Page 14

Table Blessing

Prayer after Communion

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

Sending Hymn Lead On, O King Eternal!

ELW 805

Bulletin page 15

Blessing

The blessing of God,

who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,

+ be upon you now and forever. Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ. Thanks be to God.

Postlude

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name Marie Nelson, Cello

Wilbur Held

A special thank you to **Marie Nelson** for sharing her talents with us!

ሰፊፊፊፊፊፊፊፊፊ

Copyright Information

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence; Contributors: Wilbur Held © 2021 Birnamwood Publications (ASCAP), a division of MorningStar Music Publishers.

Deep River from Two Spirituals for Cello and Piano; Contributors: Duane Funderburk © 2021 Birnamwood Publications (ASCAP), a division of MorningStar Music Publishers.

Sabbath; Contributors: Lee J Afdahl © 2009 Augsburg Fortress

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name; Contributors: Wilbur Held © 2021 Birnamwood Publications (ASCAP), a division of MorningStar Music Publishers

One License Licensing Permission Reprinted/Streamed with permission under One License #A721099; Permission granted, St. James Press

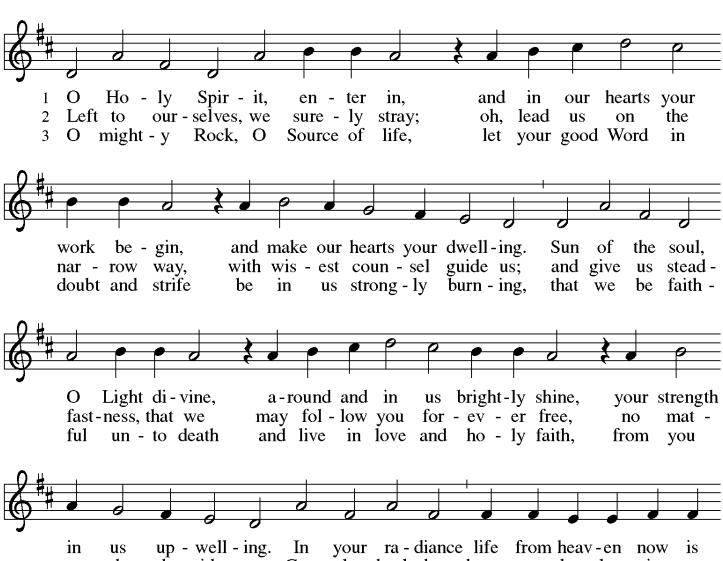
New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.

Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License # SB164403

 ተቀተቀቀቀቀቀቀቀቀቀ

O Holy Spirit, Enter In



in us up - well - ing. In your ra - diance life from heav - en now is ter who de - rides us. Gent - ly heal those hearts now bro - ken; give some true wis - dom learn - ing. Lord, your mer - cy on us show - er; by your



giv - en o - ver - flow - ing, gift of gifts be - yond all know - ing. to - ken you are near us, whom we trust to light and cheer us. pow - er Christ con - fess - ing, we will cher - ish all your bless - ing.

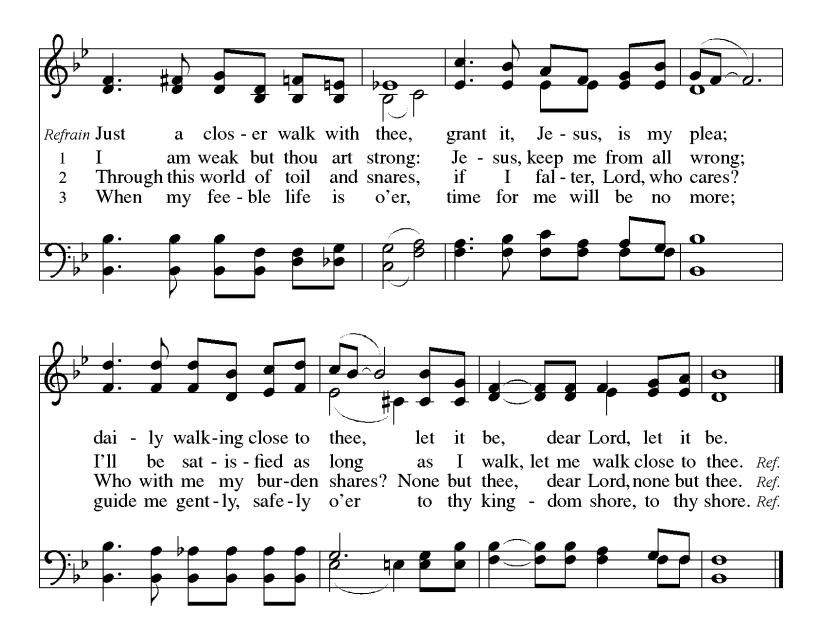
Sometimes Our Only Song Is Weeping



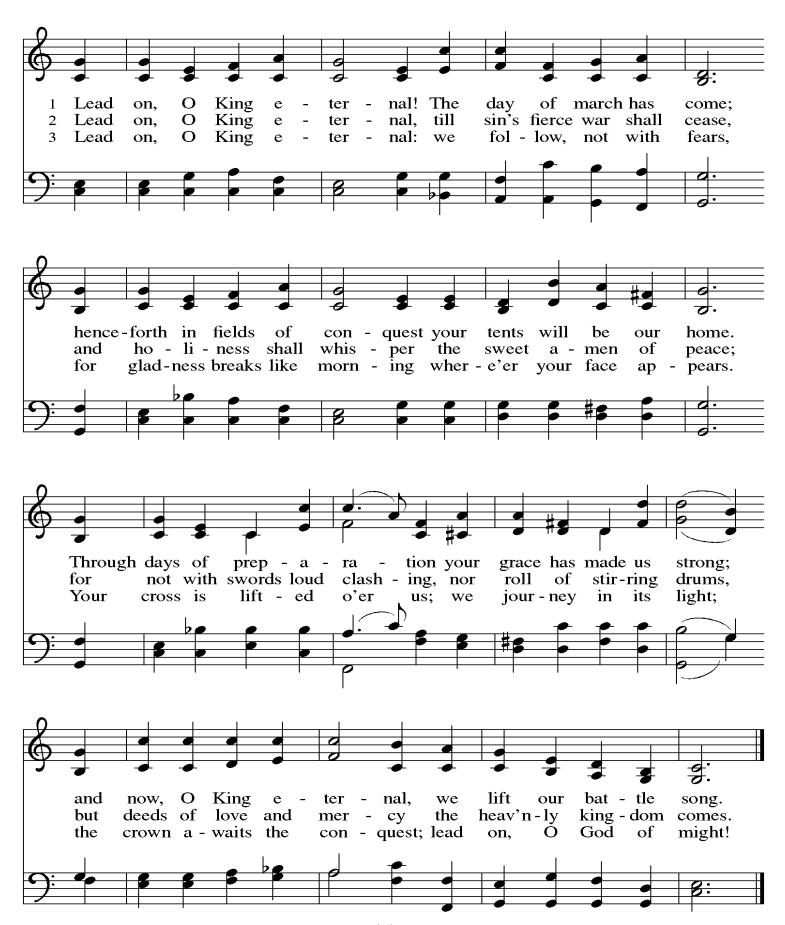
Text: Adam M. L. Tice, b. 1979

Music: WAYFARING STRANGER, North American traditional Text © 2015 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

Just a Closer Walk with Thee



Lead On, O King Eternal!



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 Tom & Sandi Witt to the Glory of God!

Thank you to Pastor Harvey Nelson for Preaching while Pastor Jon is at the LYO gathering in Louisianna.

Upcoming.

2024 SUPER SCHOOL SNEAKERS for GROVE!

This is the 19th year that St. Stephen members have the purpose-filled opportunity to provide sneakers for Grove community students so they can start school this fall in style! If you like to shop, please buy GIRLS sneakers in any size from 6 to 11 or BOYS sneakers any size from 6 to 12, including half sizes for both—these are the most needed sizes but any size will do! Deliver them to the Gathering Space by Sunday, July 28th. If you would prefer to make a monetary donation, please make the check out to St. Stephen Lutheran Church with SHOES FOR GROVE on the memo line. Cash is also accepted in an envelope marked SHOES FOR GROVE. Put envelopes with checks or cash in the offering plate or in the black lockable mailbox outside the church by July 28.

<u>From His Hands and Meals on Wheels "Summer Meals for Kids 2024"</u> needs our help each Tuesday this Summer from June 18th through August 20th to help prepare lunches for local children.

SCAN ME

New Dining Group Sign-ups Are Now Open! Joining a dining group is an easy and fun way to meet new people at St. Stephen, share a meal together, and build community. All are welcome! Each group will have about eight people, who will decide what works best for them for time and place. Brunch, potluck, dinner, picnic . . . the group chooses what to do. The new groups will be organized in late July, and are asked to meet three times before the end of January 2025. Sign up now on the bulletin insert or call the church office.

St. Stephen Fall 2024 Women's Retreat: "Walking the Spiritual Journey"

Friday evening social, Sept. 27 * Saturday retreat program, led by our own Christina Nelson, Sept. 28 * Sunday sermon, by Kristen Berkey-Abbott, Sept. 29 Plan to come (and bring a friend!) for part or all of the retreat weekend! A light continental breakfast and box lunch are provided on Saturday. Venue: St. Stephen Lutheran Church

Outreach project: School kits for Lutheran World Relief Registration forms will be available the end

St. Stephen Calendar – July 14th– 21st , 2024

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

SUNDAY, July 14 ~ 8th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00AM Coffee and Fellowship (Gathering Space)

9:45 AM Worship – Holy Communion (livestreamed on our YouTube channel)

MONDAY, July 15

TUESDAY, July 16

WEDNESDAY, July 17

9:00 AM YOGA (Fellowship Hall)

7:00 PM AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

THURSDAY, July 18

12:30 PM Staff Bulletin Review (Library/Conference Room)

FRIDAY, July 19

SATURDAY, July 20

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

SUNDAY, July 21 ~ 9th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00AM Coffee and Fellowship (Gathering Space)

9:45 AM Worship – Holy Communion (livestreamed on our YouTube channel)

Leading our Worship and Hospitality Today

Alina Dabel
Rita Kristiansen and Diana Tiller-Dichtel
Tobias Janke and Liam Janke
Jennifer Dabel
Ellen Bushman
Margaret Krull Steel and Karen Shoberg
Carol Wiers
Diana Tiller-Dichtel
Harlan Schone and Hans Tiefel
Harvey Nelson
Jane deSolms, Susan Britcher, Jim Larsen
Art Nelsen and Jim Weilmuenster

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)

Pastorjn@saintstephenlutheran.net

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

MusicDir@saintstephenlutheran.net

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

Office@saintstephenlutheran.net

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

Preschool@saintstephenlutheran.net

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

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

July 14, 2024

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)
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 remove from prayer concerns: Name:	
Name:	
I/We need a name tag:	
Yes I want to sign up to be in a dining group!	la and
Yes I want to sign up to be in a dining group! I'm willing to be the point person for my group (send group email coordinate meeting dates/locations)	ls and