

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.

Reformation Sunday October 27, 2024

For Your Prayers – Oct 28- Nov 3, 2024

Lectionary readings for this week:

Monday: Exodus 4:1-17 1 Peter 2:1-10 Psalm 119:17-24 *Tuesday*: 2 Kings 6:8-23 Acts 9:32-35 Psalm 119:17-24

Wednesday: Jeremiah 33:1-11 Matthew 20:29-34 Psalm 119:17-24

Thursday: Exodus 22:1-15 Hebrews 9:1-12 Psalm 119:1-8 **Friday** Leviticus 19:32-37 Romans 3:21-31 Psalm 119:1-8 **Saturday**: Numbers 9:9-14 Luke 10:25-37 Psalm 119:1-8

Next Sunday's Lessons Isaiah 25:6-9 Psalm 24 (5) Revelation 21:1-6a John 11:32-44

<u>Join your prayers for healing</u> with God's desires for Karen Bailey, Ed Brown, Kristin Carter, Marcie Clark, Bob Cummings, Jack Harris, Sharon Jacobs, Jim Mayfield, Carole 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, George Vonderheide and Kay Wasaff.

Pray for these loved ones of our congregation: Charles Baugh, Donald and Carol Baum, Eleftheria Beck, Sally Blackburn, June Brantley, Sharon Brown, Linda Bonfiglio, Mary Bloom, Amy Carl, Karin Cavanaugh, Amaree Cluff, Ruth Ann Coski, Judy Craun, Judy Drezek, Becky Drury, Darrin and Rosemary Dunn, David Gade, Joel Gillespie, Greg Gildner, Joan and John Goodhart, Sue Hassan and family, Andy Havola, Nick Havola, Bradley Kim Joan and Laurie Heintzelman, Char Henry, Lisa Hill, Jaxon Ireland, Claudia Jacobik, Brian Johnson, Don Johnson, Connie Kendrick, The Kennedy family, Chantal Lacroix, Marnah Lund, Trish and Sara and Matthew Macerelli, Keara Mahony, Laura Margolin, Jack Mayfield, Doug MacKenzie, The Keith Meins family, Liz Montalvo, Ed Moninger, Mya Moore, Kim Morris, Bob Myers, Silvana Oderisi, Coral Pumley, Kurt Recktenwald, Kurtis Schultz, Lou Schuster, Inge Seiter, Chad Strausbaugh, Charley Underdahl, Brenda Webster, Caleb Winig and Elaine Wrich.

Reformation Sunday

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

Welcome

Centering Music Procession Albert Zabel

St. Stephen Ringers

Reformation Sunday Litany

(From Reformation Sunday: Send Down Your Fire, Lord. Copyright Lisa Frenz, 2000. All Rights Reserved. Used with permission.)

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt - a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord.

Come Holy Spirit and lead us.

Lead us in the Way. The Way Christ walked:

The Way of change and testing, the Way of the desert and the wilderness.

But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

Come Holy Spirit and make us your own.

Lead us in the Way. The Way Christ walked: The Way of new learning and questioning, the Way of the River Jordan and the Upper Room.

No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more. (Jeremiah 31:31-34)

Come Holy Spirit and shape us anew.

Lead us in the Way. The Way Christ walked:

The Way of joy in life and sacrifice, the Way of the Creation and the Cross. Amen.

Gathering Hymn

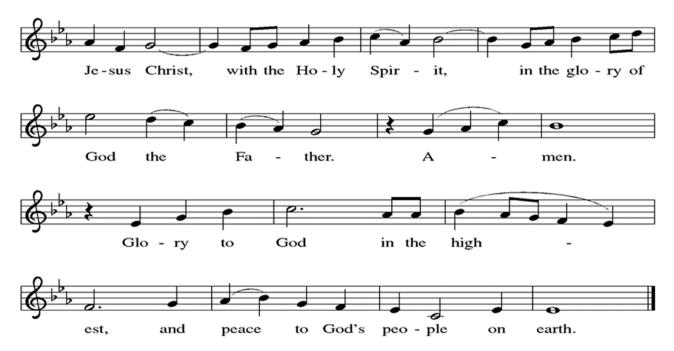
A Mighty Fortress Is Our God
Choir sings stanza 3

LBW 229

Bulletin page 11

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.**





Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, 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

First Reading Jeremiah 31:31-34

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the Lord means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the Lord will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

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

Psalm Psalm 46

(tune: ELW #855 Crown Him with Many Crowns)

1. God is our hope and Strength,

In need his help is near;

Though earth should shake and mountains break,

We will not ever fear.

Though waters rage and foam,

Seas rise and mountains cower,

The Lord of hosts is with us still,

And Jacob's God our tower.

2. Streams from the throne of God

Make glad his temple grounds;

God dwells in her to help her soon,

She shall not be cast down.

Though kingdoms, nations quake,

The earth melts at God's power,

The lord of hosts is with us still,

And Jacob's God our tower

3. Come, see what God has done:

He makes all conflict cease,

He breaks the bow, snaps spears, burn shields,

And gives the nations peace.

Know, then, that I am God,

Exalted in this hour;

The Lord of hosts is with us still,

And Jacob's God our tower.

Second Reading Romans 3:19-28

Paul's words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ's death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For "no human being will be justified in his sight" by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin. ²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine

forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus. ²⁷Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

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

Gospel Acclamation



If you continue in my word, you are truly | my disciples,* and you will know the truth, and the truth will | make you free (John 8:31-32)

Gospel John 8:31-36

Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

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

³¹Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." ³³They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?"

³⁴Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

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

Sermon Freedom's just another word... Pastor Jon Nelson

Silence for prayer and reflection.

Hymn of the Day Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word ELW 517 Bulletin page 12

Prayers

Each petition concludes, "God of grace," 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

Built on the Rock
Stanza 3 choir and congregation sing

Hal Hopson Bulletin page 13

Offertory Prayer

Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

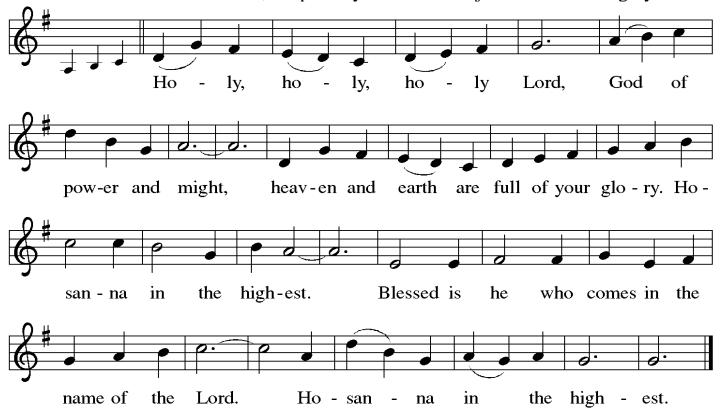
The Great Thanksgiving

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, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



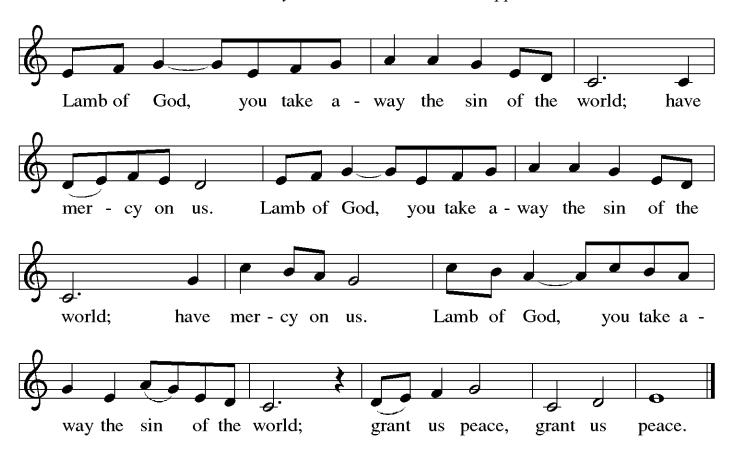
Words of Institution

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 Anthem

God Is My Strong Salvation

Austin Lovelace

Communion Hymn

That Priceless Grace

ELW 591 Bulletin Page 14

Table Blessing

Prayer after Communion

Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

Sending Hymn

Founded on Faith

ACS 1048 Bulletin page 15

Blessing

God all mighty,
God most merciful

→ bless you, keep you,
and give you peace. Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Follow Jesus. Thanks be to God.

Postlude

O Lord, We Praise You St. Stephen Ringers Jacob B. Weber

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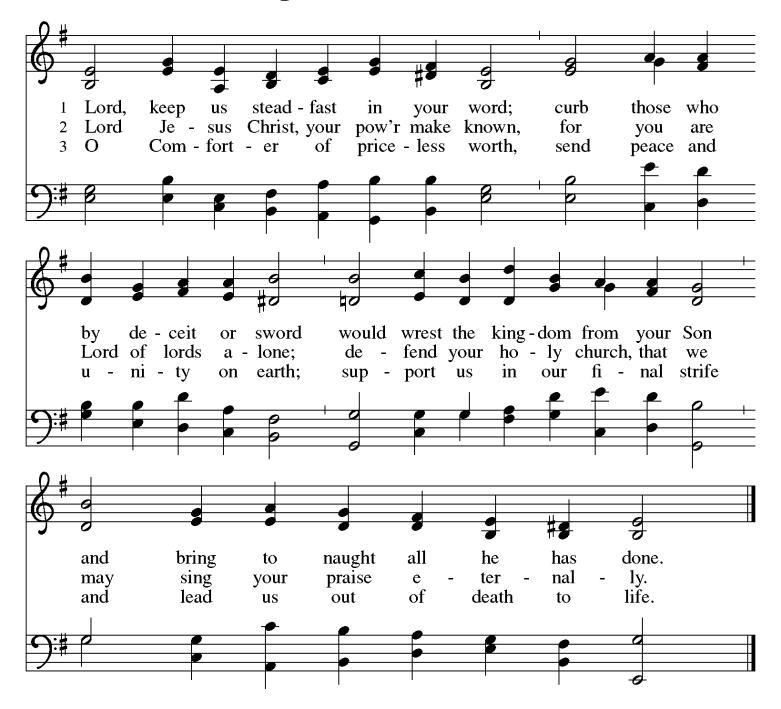
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A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word



Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt. Music: ERHALT UNS, HERR, J. Klug, Geistliche Lieder, 1543

Built on the Rock

Nicolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872 Tr. Carol Doving, 1867–1937, adapt. KIRKEN DEN ER ET GAMMELT HUS Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–87 Setting by Hal H. Hopson

Stanza 1 (Choir):

Built on the Rock the Church shall stand Even when steeples are falling.

Jubilate Deo!

Crumbled have spires in every land; Bells still are chiming and calling,

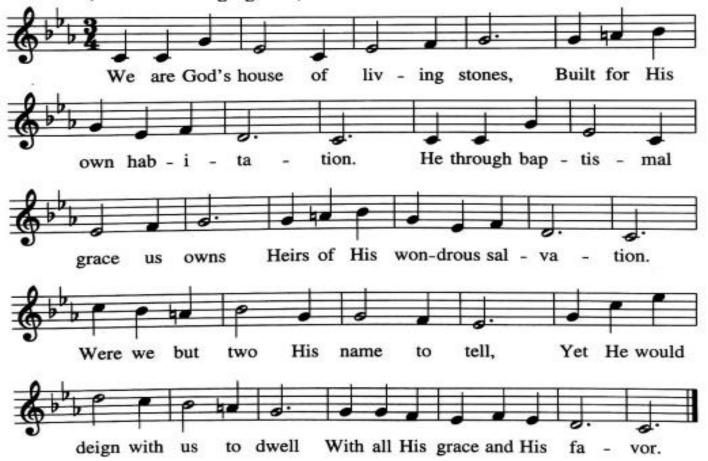
Jubilate Deo!

Calling the young and old to rest, But above all the souls distressed, Longing for rest everlasting. Jubilate Deo!

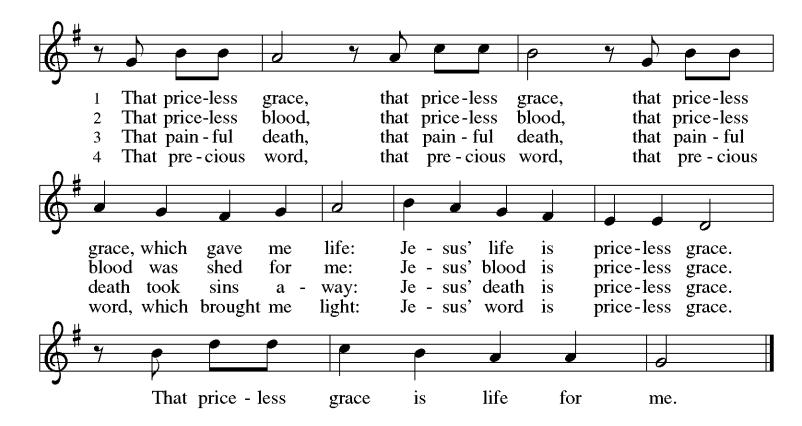
Stanza 2 (Choir):

Surely in temples made with hands, God, the Most High, is not dwelling; High above earth His temple stands, All earthly temples excelling. Yet He who dwells in heav'n above Chooses to live with us in love, Making our bodies His temple.

Stanza 3 (Choir and congregation):



That Priceless Grace



Text: Emmanuel F. Y. Grantson, b. 1949

Music: THAT PRICELESS GRACE, Ghanaian traditional Text © 1999 Augsburg Fortress.

Founded on Faith



Text: Paul D. Weber, b. 1949

Music: FOUNDED ON FAITH, Paul D. Weber

Text and music © 2017 Paul D. Weber, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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

<u>Flowers this morning</u> are given by Tom & Ina Berkey in honor of their wedding anniversary.

Upcoming

<u>Pub & Grub.</u> Join us on **Monday, October 28th, 7:00 PM at Billsburg Brewery** for some food, drinks and conversation!

<u>Rise Against Hunger.</u> Williamsburg Presbyterian is once again hosting a Rise Against Hunger food packing event on **Saturday, November 2, 2024, 11AM - 3:30PM**. For more details and to sign up co to: www.mywpc.org/rah/

<u>Driveway Repairs:</u> The exit end of the driveway will be fixed on Friday Nov 1 You will not be able to exit the drive way From 3PM-9:00PM.

<u>Church Office & Preschool Closed.</u> Since our Preschool follows the JCC/Williamsburg school calendar **both the Preschool and Church Office will be closed on November 4-5**. You can reach Pastor Jon via cell phone should you need.

For all the Saints... All Saints' Sunday is **November 3**. During worship we will name loved ones who have died during the past year. Please write the names of those you wish to remember on the sheet in the Gathering Space or send names to **Hollie Jones** (office@saintstephenlutheran.net).

<u>Kitchen Keepers Wanted:</u> the 1st Tuesday and 3rd Thursday of each month at 2:30 PM starting Nov 5th. We are asking for help in the kitchen- to clean out the fridge, mop the floors, wipe down surface areas and just tidy up. We give the coffee makers in the Gathering Space and Library a wipe down as well. We organize the drawers and cabinets and make the shopping list of needed supplies for the Costco run. If you are able to help please contact Chris Punchard at christinepunchard@gmail.com

<u>HeadStart Families in need.</u> We have been asked to help 20 families in need for thanksgiving. We will need **20** of each: turkeys, cans of green beans, cans of yams and boxed stuffing. Please plan for a family of 4-6. This will need to be at the church by **November 20**th.

ELCA FACT Survey. Our congregation has the unique opportunity to participate in a national study of worship attenders. The study is being conducted by Faith Communities

Today (FACT), a research partner of the ELCA. Since 2000, FACT has conducted research that provides religious leaders of all traditions with critical information about the changing nature of congregational life and how to respond effectively. Anyone 18 or older who is a regular participant at St. Stephen can complete the survey. It should take between 12 to 15 minutes.

To take the survey, please scan this QR Code:

Please complete the survey by Friday, Nov. 22.

<u>Volunteers for FISH, Inc.</u> November is the month SSLC volunteers at FISH. Once again, they have asked us to size clothing. The dates are each Tuesday, **Nov. 5, 12, 19, & 26**, from 10:00AM to Noon. We need four persons each Tuesday. Thank you for signing up on the poster in the Gathering Space

BECAUSE OF GOD'S GREAT MERCY



a stewardship program for our congregation

Today is Financial Response Sunday for our "Because of God's Great Mercy" stewardship program.

Many of us have brought the Estimate of Giving card to worship today.

Others have picked up a card from an usher this morning.

All are invited to place your commitment in the offering plate as it passes you during worship.

St. Stephen Calendar -Oct 27-Nov 03, 2024

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

SUNDAY, October 27 ~ Reformation Sunday

8:30 AM	Worship - Ho	ly Communion	(live-streamed	on our Yo	ouTube channel)
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9:45 AM Matins Choir Rehearsal (Worship Space)

9:50 AM Adult Education: Coffee & Conversation (Fellowship Hall)

9:50 AM Youth & Young Adults: Hang Out (College Room)

9:50 AM Faith Formation: Music (Preschool Room)

11:00 AM Worship – Holy Communion

6:00 PM LSA Dinner (College Room)

MONDAY, October 28

10:00 AM Staff Meeting (Office)

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

7:00 PM Pub and Grub (Billsburg)

TUESDAY, October 29

12:30-2PM Parent teacher meetings (Library/Conference Room)

7:00 PM Worship and Music Committee (Library/Conference Room)

WEDNESDAY, October 30

9:30 AM Preschool Halloween trick-or treat

6:00 PM OrchaBand rehearsal (Worship Space)

7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Worship Space)

7:00 PM AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

THURSDAY, October 31

9:30 AM Preschool Halloween trick-or treat

12:00 PM Bulletin Review (Library/Conference Room)

5:30 PM Handbell Rehearsal (Worship Space)

FRIDAY, Nov 1

3:00 PM Driveway Repair (Driveway Exit will be closed until 9:00 PM)

SATURDAY, Nov 2

9:00AM-Noon Choral Guild (Fellowship Hall)

11:30AM OrchaBand Rehearsal (Worship Space)

5:30 PM AA Meeting (Fellowship hall)

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

SUNDAY, Nov 3 ~ All Saints Sunday

8:30 AM Worship – Holy Communion (live-streamed on our YouTube channel)

9:45 AM Matins Choir Rehearsal (Worship Space)

9:50 AM AOB & Adult Education: Catechism (Fellowship Hall)

9:50 AM Faith Formation: Lesson (Preschool Room)

11:00 AM Worship – Holy Communion

6:00 PM LSA Dinner (College Room)

Leading our Worship and Hospitality Today

Acolyte/Crucifer	(8:30) Theo Berg
	(8:30) Rita Kristiansen and Diane McCurry
	(11:00) Karen Arledge
	(8:30) Nancy Carter and Tim Judy (11:00) Liam Janke
Bread Baker	Paul Kristiansen
Communion Assistants	
	(11:00) Margaret Steel and Heidi Flatin
Flower Delivery	
Greeters/Hosts	(8:30) JR & Diana Lyons (11:00) Alison Carney
Lectors	(8:30) George Martin (11:00) Marj Gottschalk-Trone
Preacher	
Tellers	Tom Peterkin, Sandy Peterkin, Sandy Croushore
Ushers	(8:30) Brian Agor and Tom Witt (11:00) Glenn Joppa

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

MusicDir@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.

Oct 27, 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)
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's Quil	<i>l</i> :
Name:	
Please remove from prayer concerns:	
Name:	