

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.

20th Sunday after Pentecost October 6, 2024

For Your Prayers - Oct 7-13, 2024

Lectionary readings for this week:

Monday: Deuteronomy 22:13-30 1 Corinthians 7:1-9 Psalm 112

Tuesday: Deuteronomy 24:1-5 1 Corinthians 7:10-16 Psalm 112

Wednesday: Jeremiah 3:6-14 Matthew 5:27-36 Psalm 112

Thursday: Deuteronomy 5:1-21 Hebrews 3:7-19 Psalm 90:12-17

Friday Deuteronomy 5:22-33 Hebrews 4:1-11 Psalm 90:12-17

Saturday: Amos 3:13—4:5 Matthew 15:1-9 Psalm 90:12-17

Next Sunday's Lessons Amos 5:6-7, 10-15 Psalm 90:12-17 (12) Hebrews 4:12-16

Mark 10:17-31

<u>Join your prayers for healing</u> with God's desires for Karen Bailey, Ed Brown, Kristin Carter, 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.

We hold in Prayer all those affected by the recent hurricane.

Pray for these loved ones of our congregation: Bob Alt, Charles Baugh, Donald and Carol Baum, Rose Baumgarten, 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, Darrin and Rosemary Dunn, Mark Flatin, Tanya Friz, 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, The Jacobs Family, 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, Denise Ogborn, Lori Ogborn, Coral Pumley, Kurt Recktenwald, Kurtis Schultz, Lou Schuster, Inge Seiter, Sue Sena, Chad Strausbaugh, Charley Underdahl, Brenda Webster, Caleb Winig and Elaine Wrich.

20th Sunday after Pentecost

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

Welcome

Centering Music

Our Father, by Whose Name

R. Vaughan Williams

Confession & Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God, have mercy on us.

We confess that we have honored you with our lips, but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues.

The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes.

In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves.

We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last.

In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in time of need,

and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven.

Amen.

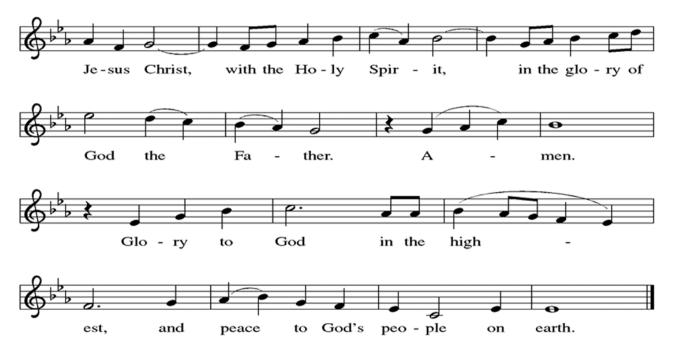
Gathering Hymn All Are Welcome

ELW 641

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.**





Prayer of the Day

Sovereign God, you have created us to live in loving community with one another. Form us for life that is faithful and steadfast, and teach us to trust like little children, that we may reflect the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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

First Reading Genesis 2:18-24

Genesis 2 stresses that people are not meant to live in isolation but in relationship. Out of love for humanity, God creates them male and female, to provide companionship for each other and to become with each other "one flesh." The Hebrew words used here are ish (man) and ishshah (woman).

¹⁸The LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." ¹⁹So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. ²⁰The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. ²¹So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. ²²And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. ²³Then the man said,

"This at last is bone of my bones

and flesh of my flesh;

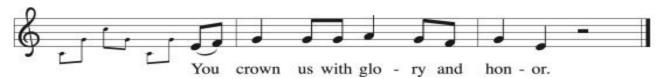
this one shall be called Woman,

for out of Man this one was taken."

²⁴Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

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

Psalm Psalm 8



¹O | LORD our Lord,

how majestic is your name in | all the earth!—

²you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of in- | fants and children;

you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe | and avenger.

³When I consider your heavens, the work | of your fingers,

the moon and the stars you have set | in their courses,

⁴what are mere mortals that you should be mind- | ful of them, human beings that you should | care for them? *Refrain*

⁵Yet you have made them little less | than divine; with glory and hon- | or you crown them.

⁶You have made them rule over the works | of your hands; you have put all things un- | der their feet:

⁷all | flocks and cattle,

even the wild beasts | of the field,

8the birds of the air, the fish | of the sea, and whatever passes along the paths | of the sea.

⁹O | LORD our Lord,

how majestic is your name in | all the earth! Refrain

Second Reading

Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12

Quoting from the psalms, this passage from Hebrews emphasizes that Jesus, the one through whom God created everything and who sits at God's right hand, is also the one who experienced human suffering and death in order to blaze the path of salvation for us.

¹Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.^{2:5}Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. ⁶But someone has testified somewhere, "What are human beings that you are mindful of them, or mortals, that you care for them? ⁷You have made them for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned them with glory and honor, ⁸subjecting all things under their feet." Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, ⁹but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

¹⁰It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. ¹¹For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, ¹²saying, "I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you."

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

Gospel Acclamation



If we love one another, God | lives in us* and God's love is perfect- | ed in us (1 John 4:12)

Gospel Mark 10:2-16

Jesus announced and enacted in history the new reality of God's surprising activity. These two stories demonstrate this new reality: Women and children are accepted and valued, not dismissed as inferior to adult men.

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

²Some Pharisees came, and to test [Jesus] they asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" ³He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" ⁴They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her." ⁵But Jesus said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. ⁶But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' ⁷'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, ⁸and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh. ⁹Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate." ¹⁰Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. ¹¹He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; ¹²and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery." ¹³People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. ¹⁴But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. ¹⁵Truly I tell you,

whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." ¹⁶And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

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

Sermon Receivers of the Kingdom Pastor Jon Nelson

Silence for prayer and reflection.

Hymn of the Day God, When Human Bonds Are Broken ELW 603

Bulletin page 13

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 8:30 Now Thank We All Our God Michael Rosewall

11:00 Let the Children Come Joseph M. Martin

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.**

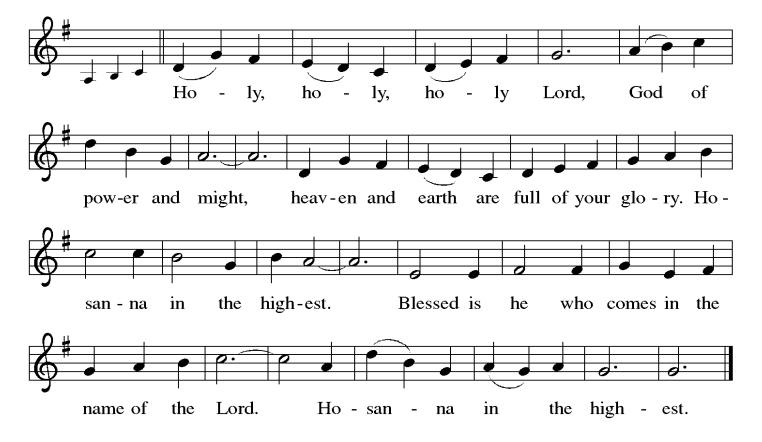
The Great Thanksgiving

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:



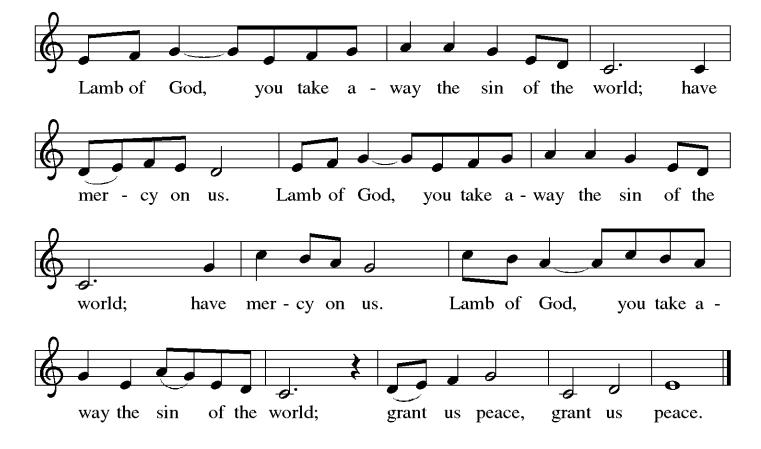
Words of Institution

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 Hymn

Our Father, by Whose Name

ELW 640 Bulletin Page 14

Table Blessing

Prayer after Communion

Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. **Amen.**

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

Sending Hymn

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

ELW 656 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 7

Trumpet Finale – Tommaso Albinoni

S. Drummond Wolff

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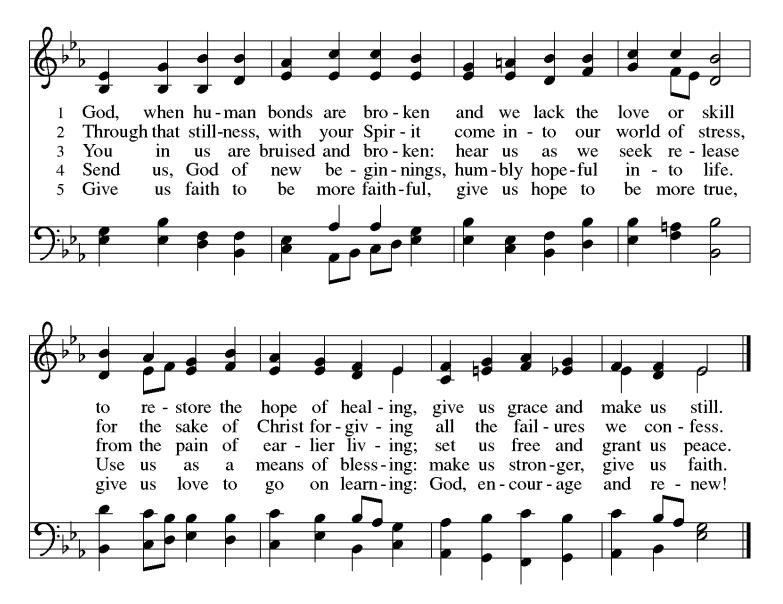
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All Are Welcome



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God, When Human Bonds Are Broken



Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

Music: MERTON, William H. Monk, 1823-1889

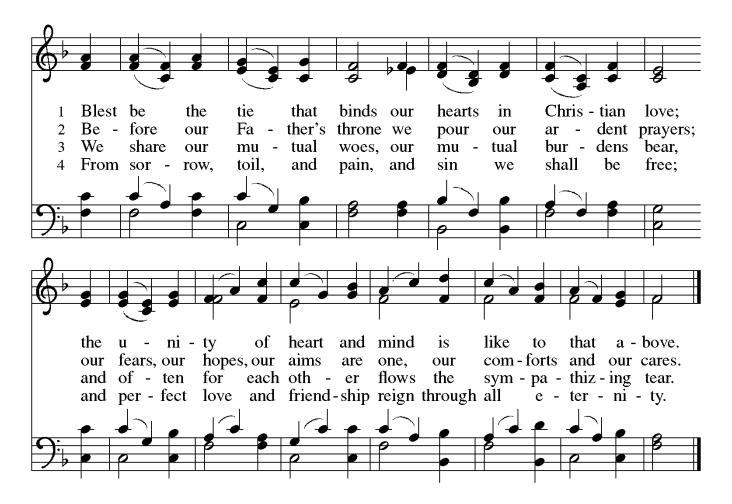
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Our Father, by Whose Name



Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895–1984, alt.
Music: RHOSYMEDRE, John D. Edwards, 1806–1885
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Blest Be the Tie That Binds



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 JR and Diana Lyons in honor of our 40th wedding anniversary.

<u>Crockpot Ministries</u> Are you ever hungry? So are some of our neighbors but we can help alleviate theirs through the Crockpot Ministry. Thanks goes out to the generous members of the Congregation for their food and time contributions. If you haven't helped with God's work through this endeavor, you have another chance. Ingredients are needed from the list on the trifold in the Gathering Space for helping six families on Thursday, October 24. Please return your contributions to the Church by no later than Tuesday morning October 21. Refrigerated items can be labeled and placed in the kitchen refrigerator. Questions? Contact Jane Gingerich or Susan Neidlinger.

Upcoming

<u>The Williamsburg Fire Department</u> will be Visiting our Preschoolers on <u>Thursday</u> October 10th and <u>Friday October 11th from 10:00 Am to 11:00 Am</u> the Driveway will be blocked during this time.

<u>LSA Sunday Dinners</u>. Want to get to know our LSA members? Host a meal for them! Sign up to host a Sunday evening meal for LSA on the chart in the Gathering Space. If you haven't hosted before, instructions are available.

<u>New Member Welcome.</u> We have welcomed several new members over the last months, but have not yet had an official welcome for them! We are looking to have a new member class and an official welcome lunch sometime in October or November. If you have been considering joining St. Stephen and would like more information about that process, please contact Pastor Jon.

ST. STEPHEN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT FISH Volunteer

Opportunities...November is the month we volunteers at FISH. Once again, they have asked us to size clothing. The dates are each Tuesday, Nov. 5, 12, 19, & 26, from 10AM to Noon. We need four persons each Tuesday. Thank you for signing up on the poster in the Gathering Space.

OrchaBand- The OrchaBand is back and currently seeking new and old members. Dust off those instruments and join us on Sunday, November 3 to accompany the congregational song for our All-Saints' Sunday Festival worship. Rehearsals will be 6-6:50 pm Wednesday, October 30 and Saturday, November 2, 11:30-noon. Come see Karen to pick up music for violin, viola, cello, euphonium, trombone, French horn, trumpet, flute, saxophone, clarinet or any instrument that you do not see named.

<u>Hurricane Relief-</u> While we hope to put a trip together to help with clean up and recovery, that cannot happen until they are ready for groups. In the meantime, the VA Synod is collecting "Flood buckets" to help with the eventual clean up. There are instructions on how to put one together in the additional insert in your bulletin. We are also staring a sign up for those that may be interested in the upcoming year in participating in a trip to North Carolina for a service trip. If interested please sign up on the insert sheet. More information to follow as it becomes available.

BECAUSE OF GOD'S GREAT MERCY a stewardship program for our congregation

"But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people" – I Peter 2:9

God's mercy comes to us in countless ways. Our Lord Jesus is chief among these. It is through the love and forgiveness that is ours in our Lord Jesus that we can boldly claim to be God's own people – not because of what we have done, but because of what God has done for us through his only Son.

God's mercy also comes to us in many other ways. Among these are the material possessions we enjoy. They are gifts from God, but more than this, they are entrusted to each of us by God. The Bible teaches us that everything belongs to God. To be a steward is to be entrusted to care for some of what God owns in this world. That steward is you, and it is me, entrusted to care for all that God has placed in our hands.

Because of God's great mercy, we marvel at all we have received. Because of God's great mercy, we think about how we will respond.

St. Stephen Calendar -Oct 06-13, 2024

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

SUNDAY, October 6 ~ 20th Sunday after Pentecost

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

9:45 AM Matins Choir Rehearsal (Worship Space)

9:50 AM Catechism Course (Fellowship Hall)

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

11:00 AM Worship – Holy Communion

6:00 PM LSA Dinner (College Room)

MONDAY, October 7

10:00 AM Staff Meeting (Office)

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

TUESDAY, October 8

WEDNESDAY, October 9

8:55 AM Yoga (Fellowship Hall)

7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Worship Space)

7:00 PM AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

THURSDAY, October 10

10:00-11:00 AM Fire Dept Visits Preschool(Driveway will be blocked)

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

5:30 PM Handbell Rehearsal (Worship Space)

FRIDAY, October 11

10:00-11:00 AM Fire Dept Visits Preschool(Driveway will be blocked)

SATURDAY, October 12

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

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

SUNDAY, October 13 ~ 21st Sunday after Pentecost

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

9:45 AM Matins Choir Rehearsal (Worship Space)

9:50 AM Catechism Discussion (Fellowship Hall)

9:50 AM Faith Formation: Ministry Highlight (Preschool Room)

11:00 AM Worship – Holy Communion

6:00 PM LSA Dinner (College Room)

6:00 PM Walk & Talk (Meet at the Forecourt)

Leading our Worship and Hospitality Today

Acolyte/Crucifer	(8:30) Bill Dichtel
	(11:00) Alina Dabel
	(8:30) Rosalie Frey and Rita Kristiansen
	(11:00) Nancy Egloff and Susan Neidlinger
	(8:30) Nancy Carter and Tim Judy (11:00) Liam Janke
Bread Baker	Ursula Recktenwald
Cantors	(8:30)Ellen Bushman (11:00) Erika Cave
Communion Assistants	(8:30) Diana Tiller-Dichtel and Rosalie Frey
	(11:00) Jennifer Dabel and Alina Dabel
Flower Delivery	Karen Nester
	(8:30) (11:00)
Lectors	(8:30) Thom Recktenwald (11:00) Russ Dabel
Preacher	
Tellers	Jane Gingerich, Ursula Recktenwald, & Russ White
Ushers(8:30) Reed and K	aren Nester (11:00) Glenn Joppa 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)

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.

October 6, 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 necessar	у.

Prayer Requests

Please add to the prayer list in this month's bulletin and next month's Quill:		
Name:		
Please remove from prayer concerns:		
Name:		
I/We need a name tag:		
I/We are interested in doing a service trip in early 2025 to North Carolin	ıa	