

# 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.

25<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost Nov 10, 2024

## For Your Prayers –Nov 11-17, 2024

#### **Lectionary readings for this week:**

Monday: Ruth 1:1-22 1 Timothy 5:1-8 Psalm 94

Tuesday: Ruth 3:14—4:6 1 Timothy 5:9-16 Psalm 94

Wednesday: Ruth 4:7-22 Luke 4:16-30 Psalm 94

Thursday: Daniel 4:4-18 1 Timothy 6:11-21 Psalm 16

*Friday* Daniel 4:19-27 Colossians 2:6-15 Psalm 16 *Saturday*: Daniel 4:28-37 Mark 12:1-12 Psalm 16

Next Sunday's Lessons Daniel 12:1-3 Psalm 16 (9) Hebrews 10:11-14 [15-18] 19-25

Mark 13:1-8

<u>Join your prayers for healing</u> with God's desires for Karen Arledge, 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: Susan, Charles Baugh, Donald and Carol Baum, , Eleftheria Beck, Sally Blackburn, June Brantley, Sharon Brown, Linda Bonfiglio, Mary Bloom, Amy Carl, Karin Cavanaugh, Chris Clarke, Amaree Cluff, Ruth Ann Coski, Judy Craun, Judy Drezek, Becky Drury, Darrin and Rosemary Dunn, Time Ebel, David Gade, Joel Gillespie, Greg Gildner, Joan and John Goodhart, 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, 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, Pamela Sharp, Chad Strausbaugh, Charley Underdahl, Brenda Webster, Caleb Winig, Elaine Wrich and Warren Wright.

## 25th Sunday after Pentecost

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

#### Welcome

**Centering Music** 

Day by Day

Rachel Trelstad Porter

#### **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,  $\pm$  one God, our refuge, our delight, our beginning and our end. **Amen.** 

Let us come in truth before the one who loves us and has freed us from our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Eternal One, robed in majesty and mercy, we confess that sin has taken hold of us and we are complicit in its power.

We are disturbed in spirit and our hearts cannot rest. Unbind us and set us free.

Lead us again to the waters of rebirth, that we may live just and generous lives for the good of your world and the care of our neighbors, following in the servant way of Jesus. Amen.

These words are trustworthy and true: Christ bore our sins once, for all, on the cross, swallowing up death forever. For his sake, you are + forgiven and God remembers your sin no more. Let your heart be glad again, and rejoice in your salvation. **Amen.** 

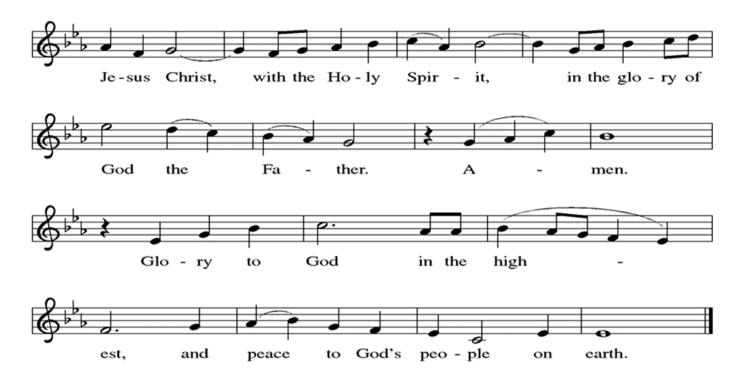
**Gathering Hymn** As Saints of Old

ELW 695

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

O God, you show forth your almighty power chiefly by reaching out to us in mercy. Grant us the fullness of your grace, strengthen our trust in your promises, and bring all the world to share in the treasures that come through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.** 

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

First Reading Jeremiah 31:31-34

This chapter begins the story of Elijah. God sends a drought on Israel because of the sins of King Ahab. This passage depicts God's saving acts not only on behalf of Elijah, but also on behalf of those who are associated with the prophet, even a foreigner, the widow of Zarephath.

<sup>8</sup> The word of the LORD came to [Elijah,] saying, <sup>9</sup> "Go now to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and live there; for I have commanded a widow there to feed you." <sup>10</sup> So he set out and went to Zarephath. When he came to the gate of the town, a widow was there gathering sticks; he called to her and said, "Bring me a little water in a vessel, so that I may drink." <sup>11</sup> As she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, "Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand." <sup>12</sup> But she said, "As the LORD your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of meal in a jar, and a little oil in a jug; I am now gathering a couple of sticks, so that I may go home and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die." <sup>13</sup> Elijah said to her, "Do not be afraid; go and do as you have said; but first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterwards make something for yourself and your son. <sup>14</sup> For thus says the LORD the God of Israel: The jar of meal will not be emptied and the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the LORD sends rain on the earth." <sup>15</sup> She went and did as Elijah said, so that she as well as he and her household ate for many days. <sup>16</sup> The jar of meal was not emptied, neither did the jug of oil fail, according to the word of the LORD that he spoke by Elijah.

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

Psalm Psalm 146



<sup>1</sup> Hal- | lelujah!

Praise the LORD, O my soul!

<sup>2</sup> I will praise the LORD as long | as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

<sup>3</sup> Put not your | trust in rulers, in mortals in whom there | is no help.

- <sup>4</sup> When they breathe their last, they re- | turn to earth, and in that day | their thoughts perish. R
- <sup>5</sup> Happy are they who have the God of Jacob | for their help, whose hope is in the | LORD their God;
- <sup>6</sup> who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that <sup>1</sup> is in them; who keeps promis- <sup>1</sup> es forever;
- <sup>7</sup> who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to | those who hunger. The LORD sets the | captive free.
- <sup>8</sup> The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who | are bowed down;

the LORD | loves the righteous. R

<sup>9</sup> The LORD cares | for the stranger;

the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way | of the wicked.

<sup>10</sup> The LORD shall | reign forever,

your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. | Hallelujah! R

Second Reading Hebrews 9:24-28

The letter to the Hebrews describes Christ as a high priest who offers himself as a sacrifice for our sin. Christ does not die again and again each year. He died once, is alive with God, and will reveal himself on the last day.

<sup>24</sup> Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. <sup>25</sup> Nor was it to offer himself again and again, as the high priest enters the Holy Place year after year with blood that is not his own; <sup>26</sup> for then he would have had to suffer again and again since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the age to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself. <sup>27</sup> And just as it is appointed for mortals to die once, and after that the judgment, <sup>28</sup> so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

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

**Gospel Acclamation** 



(1 Sam. 2:8)

The Lord raises up the poor | from the dust,\* to make them inherit a | seat of honor

**Gospel** Mark 12:38-44

After engaging in a series of public arguments with religious leaders in the temple, Jesus contrasts the proud and oppressive ways of those leaders with the sacrificial humility and poverty of the widow.

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

<sup>38</sup> As [Jesus] taught, he said, "Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, <sup>39</sup> and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! <sup>40</sup> They devour widows' houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation."

<sup>41</sup> He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. <sup>42</sup> A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. <sup>43</sup> Then he called his disciples and said to them, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. <sup>44</sup> For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."

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

Sermon

Broken Systems
Silence for prayer and reflection.

Pastor Jon Nelson

Hymn of the Day

Day by Day

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ELW 790

**Prayers** 

Each petition concludes, "Merciful God," Response: "receive 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

For Everyone Born Christina Nelson, Soprano; Marie Nelson, Cello Brian Mann

#### **Offertory Prayer**

Lord Jesus, our portion and our cup, you offered yourself in love for the world, and in this meal you nourish us with your life. Fill us with your abundance, that we may feed the hungry and welcome the stranger, trusting in your name. **Amen.** 

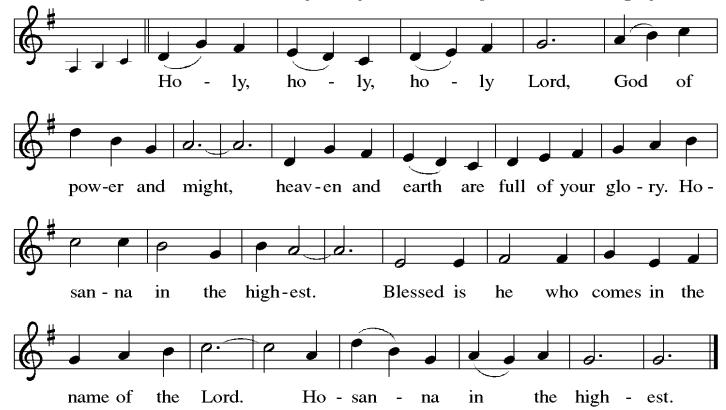
#### The Great Thanksgiving

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:



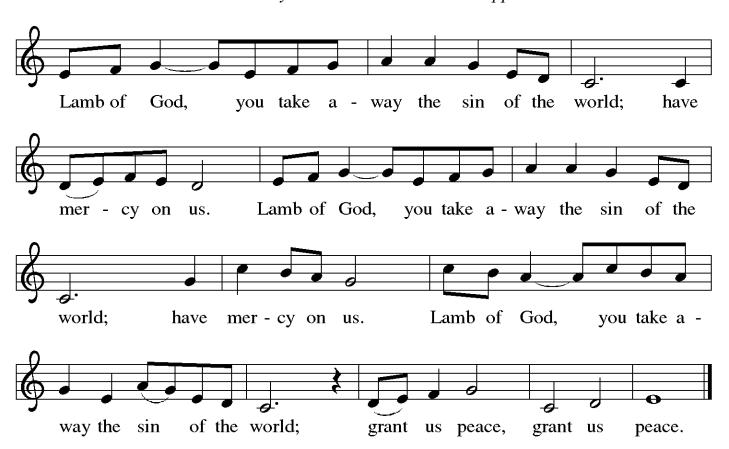
#### **Words of Institution**

#### 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 Hymn** 

When the Poor Ones

ELW 725 Bulletin Page 13

We Are An Offering

ELW 692 Bulletin Page 14

**Table Blessing** 

#### **Prayer after Communion**

Faithful God, you have spread before us a feast of rich food and drink in the body and blood of your Son. Now send us out to labor with you, in service to the world you have made, and among the people you have made your home, in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.** 

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

**Sending Hymn** 

Soon and Very Soon

ELW 439

Bulletin page 15

#### **Blessing**

The Ancient One, enthroned, the Crucified One, now risen, the Indwelling One, poured out, 

→ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

#### **Dismissal**

Go in peace. Encourage one another in Christ. Thanks be to God.

Postlude Soon and Very Soon Jack Schrader

## **Copyright Information**

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Soon and Very Soon; Contributors: Jack Schrader Text and music © 2006 Hope Publishing Company

For Everyone Born; Contributors: arr. Tom Trenney, Brian Mann
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## As Saints of Old



Text: Frank von Christierson, 1900–1996, alt.

Music: FOREST GREEN, English folk tune; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

Text © 1961, ren. 1989 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.

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Outside USA: Arr. from The English Hymnal, © Oxford University Press 1906.

## Day by Day



Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Robert Leaf, 1936–2005 Music: BLOTT EN DAG, Öskar Ahnfelt, 1813–1882 Text © 1992 Augsburg Fortress.

#### When the Poor Ones

## Cuando el pobre



2 Cuando alguno sufre y logra su consuelo, cuando espera y no se cansa de esperar, cuando amamos, aunque el odio nos rodee: Estribillo

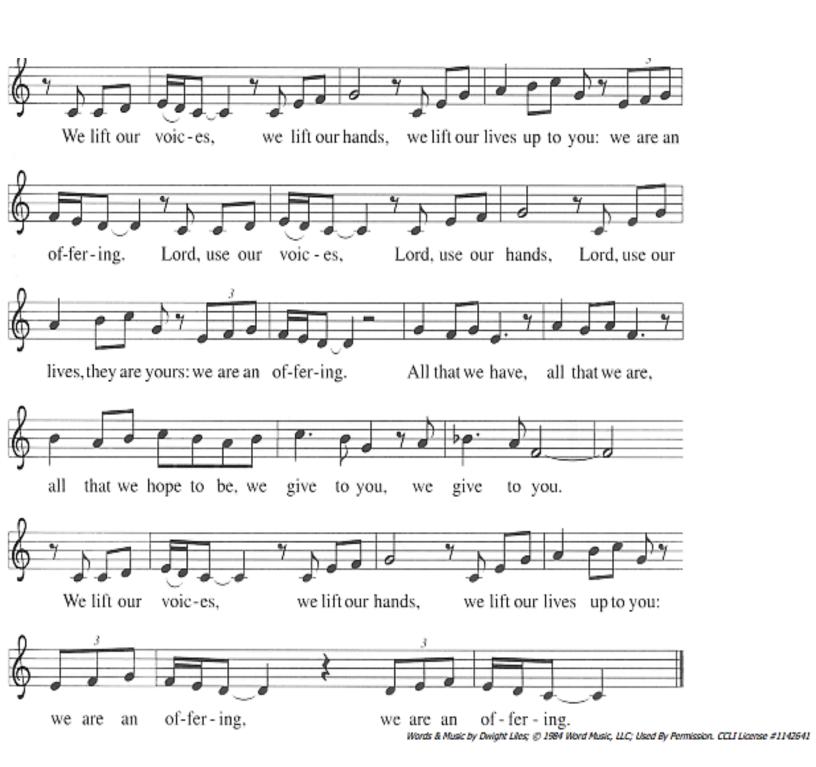
we see God, here

3 Cuando crece la alegría y nos inunda, cuando dicen nuestros labios la verdad. cuando amamos el sentir de los sencillos: Estribillo

by our side, walk-ing our way.

4 Cuando abunda el bien y llena los hogares, cuando alguien donde hay guerra pone paz, cuando "hermano" le llamamos al extraño: Estribillo

## We are an Offering



## Soon and Very Soon



Text: Andraé Crouch, b. 1945

Music: VERY SOON, Andraé Crouch

Text and music @ 1976 Bud John Songs, Inc./Crouch Music, admin. EMI Christian Music Publishing

## **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 to the glory of God.

New members lunch in the fellowship hall following the 11:00 AM service.

<u>Adult Faith Formation</u> Betsy Liljeberg from the VA Synod World Hunger Team will be here between services to talk about Hunger Ministries in the Preschool.

## **Upcoming**

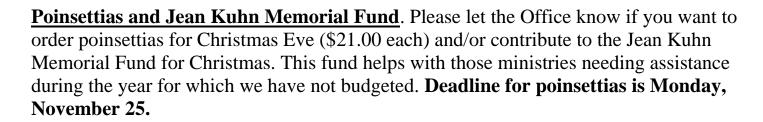
<u>Kitchen Keepers Wanted:</u> the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month at 2:30 PM starting Nov 5<sup>th</sup>. We are asking for help in the kitchen- to clean out the fridge, mop the floors, wipe down surface areas and just tidy up. We give the coffee makers in the Gathering 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

<u>ELCA FACT Survey.</u> 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>Preschool Spirit Night @ Blaze Pizza.</u> Order from <u>Blaze Pizza</u> on <u>Tuesday</u>, <u>Nov. 19</u> from 4:00PM-9:00PM and mention St. Stephen Preschool and we will receive 20% of your total bill from dine-in, take-out, or delivery. All funds raised will go towards our scholarship fund.

<u>HART Multifaith Thanksgiving Service</u> 7pm Sunday November 24<sup>th</sup> at Walsingham Academy. All are welcome.



St. Stephen is again blessed to be able to assist the Williamsburg House of Mercy (WHOM) and the Grove Christian Outreach Center help between 700 and 800 children in our community enjoy Christmas morning this year! Gifts are for the children of Greater Williamsburg Area families, age's birth to eighteen years. How can you help?

**Buy a gift.** It can be of your own choosing, any gift, safe, new, and not gift wrapped. It should be age-appropriate, including toys and small electronics (no

gift cards).



Where do I buy them? Anywhere you choose. You can also shop by scanning the

referenced WHOM Wish List **QR Code** to place the order directly from Amazon, and the gift(s) will be shipped directly to the WHOM.

May I donate cash? Donate money, and WHOM will shop for you. Make checks payable to St. Stephen Lutheran Church, noted For: WHOM Toys. Cash donations should be in an envelope with the same designation in the offering plate or the locked mail box outside the church.

What are the deadlines? Gifts need to be delivered to the church no later than Sunday, December 1. Cash donations need to be made no later than Sunday, November 24.

#### Where do I take the gifts?

There is a box in the **Gathering Area for WHOM Christmas "Toy/Gift Drive."** If the box is full or not big enough, please drop them off at church, downstairs near **Hollie's office.** You can also deliver your gift(s) directly to the **WHOM warehouse** who are receiving the gifts anytime **Monday – Friday from 10 am – 2 pm.** The address is:

309 McLaws Circle, Suite G, Williamsburg. Please be sure to tell them they are from you and St. Stephen's.

## Who do I call if I have questions?

Call, text, or email Jim Ivey

#### St. Stephen Calendar -Nov 10-17, 2024

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

#### SUNDAY, Nov 10

8:30 AM	Worship – Holy Communion (live-streamed on our YouTube channel)
9:45 AM	Matins Choir Rehearsal (Worship Space)

9:50 AM Adult Education: Ministry Highlight – Hunger Ministries (Preschool Room) 9:50 AM Faith Formation: Ministry Highlight – Hunger Ministries (Preschool Room)

11:00 AM Worship – Holy Communion

12:30 PM New Member lunch (Fellowship Hall)

6:00 PM LSA Dinner (College Room)

#### MONDAY, Nov 11

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

3:00 PM Finance committee (Library/Conference Room)

#### **TUESDAY, Nov 12**

12:30-2:00PM Preschool parent teacher conferences (Library/conference room)

7:00 PM Council meeting (fellowship hall)

#### WEDNESDAY, Nov 13

7:30AM-2:00PM Preschool parent teacher conference (Library/conference room)

7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Worship Space)

7:00 PM AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

#### **THURSDAY, Nov 14**

7:30AM-2:00PM Preschool parent teacher conference (Library/conference room)

12:00 PM Bulletin Review (Office)

5:30 PM Handbell Rehearsal (Worship Space)

#### FRIDAY, Nov 15

7:30AM-9:00AM Preschool parent teacher conference (Library/conference room)

## SATURDAY, Nov 16

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

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

#### SUNDAY, Nov 17

8:30 AM	Worship – Holy	Communion	(live-streamed	l on our	YouTube channel	)
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9:45 AM Matins Choir Rehearsal (Worship Space)

9:50 AM Adult Ed: Native Nations: Standing Together for Civil Rights (Fellowship Hall)

9:50 AM AOB/HS: Spiritual Practice (College Room)

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) Amy Bergh
	(8:30) Sandi Witt and Diane McCurry
	(11:00) Nancy Egloff
	(8:30) JR & Diana Lyons (11:00) Charles Osborn
Bread Baker	Carol Wiers
	(8:30) & (11:00) Christina Nelson
Communion Assistants	(8:30) Amy Bergh & Brian Bergh
	(11:00) Julie Meeks & Ben Berry
Flower Delivery	Karen Nester
Greeters/Hosts	(8:30) JR & Diana Lyons (11:00) Ned Neidlinger
Lectors	(8:30) Reed Nester (11:00) Nancy Egloff
Preacher	
Tellers	Jane deSolms, Susan Britcher, Jim Larsen
Ushers	(8:30) Tom and Sandy Peterkin (11:00)

## 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)

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

Nov 10, 2024

Name:		
For guests and members with ch	nanges:	
Address (Home)		
City/State	Zip	
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 informatio	on about Stephen Ministry	y
Would like a Stephen Minis	ter to contact me	
A	. 1	

Any comments? Please be sure your name is above, so we may respond, if necessary.

# **Prayer Requests**

Please <b>add</b> to the prayer list in this month's bulletin and next month's <i>Quill</i> :	
Name:	
Please <b>remove</b> from prayer concerns:	
Name:	
I/We need a name tag:	
I/We wish to order # Poinsettias to decorate St. Stephen (\$2	1.00
each).	
Deadline for ordering poinsettias is Monday, November 25.	
In Memory of:	•
In Honor of: In Thanks for:	-
No Dedication	_
I/We wish to support the Jean Kuhn Memorial Fund - to help fur	ıd
unbudgeted social ministries.	
In Memory of:	
In Memory of:	•
In Honor of:	
	dh
In thanks for:	
No Dedication	
Please make checks payable to St. Stephen and designate Poinsettias or Jean Kuhn Memorial Fund in the memo line	

Plants will be available for you to take home after the 10:00 PM service on Christmas Eve or by arrangement (office: 757-229-6688)