

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.

Christ the King Nov 24, 2024 Lectionary readings for this week:

 Monday: Daniel 7:19-27 Revelation 11:1-14 Psalm 76

 Tuesday: Ezekiel 29:1-12 Revelation 11:15-19 Psalm 76

 Wednesday: Ezekiel 30:20-26 John 16:25-33 Psalm 76

 Thursday: Nehemiah 9:6-15 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 Psalm 25:1-10

 Friday Nehemiah 9:16-25 1 Thessalonians 5:12-22 Psalm 25:1-10

 Saturday: Nehemiah 9:26-31 Luke 21:20-24 Psalm 25:1-10

 Next Sunday's Lessons: Jeremiah 33:14-16 Psalm 25:1-10 (1) 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

 Luke 21:25-36

Join your prayers for healing with God's desires for Karen Arledge, Ed Brown, Kristin Carter, Marcie Clark, Bob Cummings, Pat Fretz, Jack Harris, Sharon Jacobs, Donna Kittelson, Paul Kristiansen, Jim Mayfield, Carole Meyer, and George Vonderheide.

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

Pray for these loved ones of our congregation: Susan, Alyssa Atkinson and family, Charles Baugh, Donald and Carol Baum, , Eleftheria Beck, Tom 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, 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, Coral Pumley, Kurt Recktenwald, , Lou Schuster, Inge Seiter, Pamela Sharp, Monika Stern, Chad Strausbaugh, Michael Sweeney and family, Charley Underdahl, Brenda Webster, Caleb Winig, Elaine Wrich and Warren Wright.

Christ the King

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

Welcome

Centering Music

The King of Glory St. Stephen Ringers

Michael Helman

Confession and Forgiveness (written by the Rev. Mindi and posted on the Rev-o-lution blog.)

Sovereign God, we confess we have given idols power over us, the idols of power and wealth, fame and security. We confess we have fallen into the ways of this world and have forgotten our kindred in Christ. We have lost sight of the reign of God here on earth, and instead have allowed the idols of the world to rule over us.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Forgive us. Call us into Your reign, to declare You the One who has power over us because Your power is love. Call us to love our neighbors as ourselves, and to work for justice, show mercy, and love one another in the name of Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

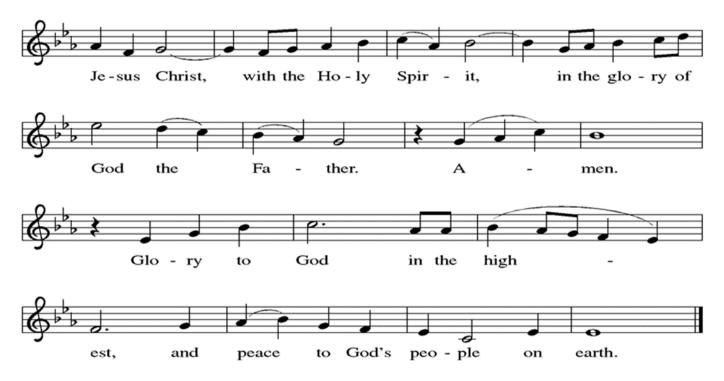
Jesus came to us not to reign as a king over us, but to serve us, and to show us the way of God is the way of love. Jesus said the first would be last and the last would be first. Jesus called us to become humble and serve one another, and that the most important commandment was to love God and to love our neighbor as ourselves.

This is the way of our Sovereign. Go, knowing you are forgiven, and love and serve one another, especially our neighbors in need, as Christ serves us. **Amen.**

Gathering HymnLo! He Comes with Clouds DescendingELW 435Bulletin page11 & 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

Almighty and ever-living God, you anointed your beloved Son to be priest and sovereign forever. Grant that all the people of the earth, now divided by the power of sin, may be united by the glorious and gentle rule of 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

Daniel 12:1-3

To the community for whom this passage was written, it seemed as though the oppression they were experiencing would never end. Daniel's message is: It shall end. The Ancient One, who is judge, will call all nations to account and will give dominion to "one like a human being," the Messiah.

⁹ As I watched, thrones were set in place, and an Ancient One took his throne, his clothing was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames, and its wheels were burning fire. ¹⁰ A stream of fire issued and flowed out from his presence. A thousand thousands served him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him. The court sat in judgment, and the books were opened. ¹³ As I watched in the night visions, I saw one like a human being coming with the clouds of heaven. And he came to the Ancient One and was presented before him. ¹⁴ To him was given dominion and glory and kingship, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away, and his kingship is one that shall never be destroyed.

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



¹The LORD is king, robed in majesty; the LORD is robed in majesty and [|] armed with strength.

The LORD has made the world so sure that it can-¹ not be moved.

- ² Ever since the world began, your throne has [|] been established; you are from [|] everlasting. *Refrain*
- ³ The waters have lifted up, O LORD, the waters have lifted | up their voice; the waters have lifted up their | pounding waves.
- ⁴ Mightier than the sound of many waters, mightier than the breakers [|] of the sea, mightier is the LORD who [|] dwells on high.

⁵Your testimonies are [|] very sure, and holiness befits your house, O LORD, forever and for- [|] evermore. *Refrain*

Second Reading

Revelation 1:4b-8

The book of Revelation begins by celebrating the Almighty God, who spans all of time. Similarly, Jesus is celebrated as the firstborn from the dead who rules over the world's rulers. He is the one whose return we eagerly await.

^{4b} Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶ and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

⁷Look! He is coming with the clouds;

every eye will see him,

even those who pierced him;

and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

⁸ "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

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



Blessed is the one who comes in the name | of the Lord.* Blessed is the coming kingdom of our an- | cestor David. (Mark 11:9)

Gospel

John 18:33-37

In John's gospel, the story of Jesus and Pilate presents two different ways of exercising power: through force or with love.

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

³³ Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" ³⁴ Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" ³⁵ Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" ³⁶ Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." ³⁷ Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

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

Sermon	<i>Jesus is Lord</i> <i>Silence for prayer and reflection.</i>	Pastor Jon Nelson
Hymn of the Day	Before the Ancient One, Christ Stands	ACS 953 Bulletin page 13

Prayers

Each petition concludes, "Merciful God," Response: "receive our prayer."

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

Offering

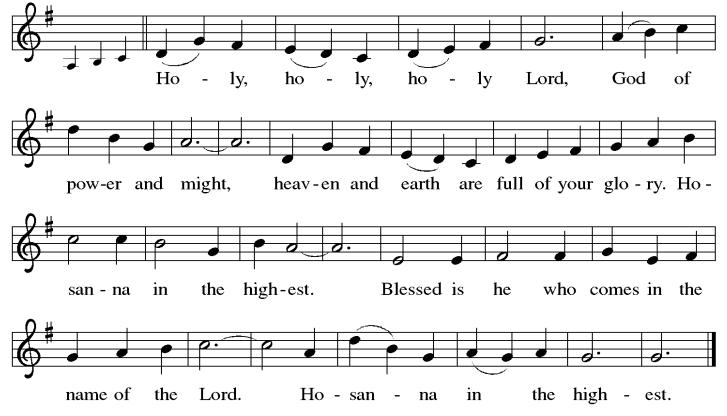
Offerings are gathered for the mission of the church: preaching and teaching the good news of our salvation through the death and resurrection of Christ, and caring for the poor. During the offering, the table is set for the Lord's Supper. 8:30 What Feast of Love 11:00 My Eternal King B. Wentzel J. Marshall

Offertory Prayer

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:



Eucharistic Prayer

We bless you, O God, Sovereign of all things, Might of the ages... We praise your majestic power saying: Blessing and glory to you, O God: **Blessing and glory to you, O God.**

O Christ Jesus, Ruler and Guide, you call us to follow your path... We laud your supreme mercy, saying: Wisdom and thanks to you, O God: **Wisdom and thanks to you, O God.** On the night... We acclaim the reign of Christ our king, saying: Honor to you, O God: **Honor to you, O God.**

O Spirit, our supreme Defender, transform this meal into the banquet of life... We plead for your surpassing grace, saying: Power and might to you, O God: **Power and might to you, O God.**

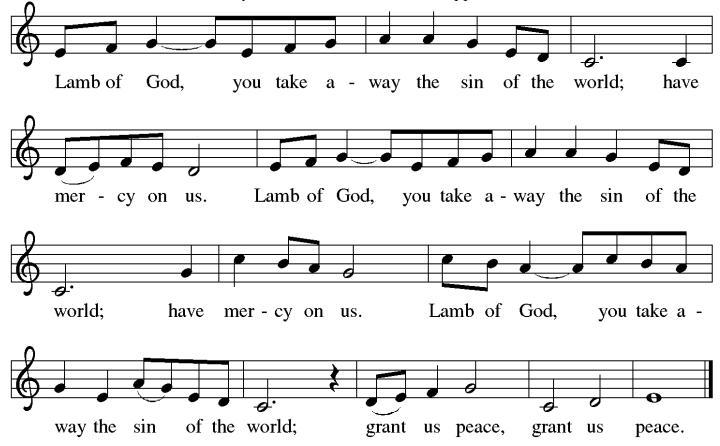
O God the Father, you uphold the universe that you create... We praise you today, tomorrow, and forever. Amen. Amen. Once more: Amen. And once more: Amen.

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	<i>Beautiful Savior</i> Marie Nelson, Cello	Wilbur Held
	<i>The King Shall Come</i> St. Stephen Ringers	John A. Behnke
Table Blessing		
blood of your Son. No made, and among the Lord. Amen.	 nion e spread before us a feast of rich food w send us out to labor with you, in serpeople you have made your home, in J g: God blesses us and sends us in maginal 	rvice to the world you have lesus Christ, our Savior and
Sending Hymn	The King Shall Come	ELW 260 Bulletin page14
<u>Blessing</u> The Ancient One, ent the Crucified One, no	-	

the Indwelling One, poured out, + bless you now and forever. Amen.

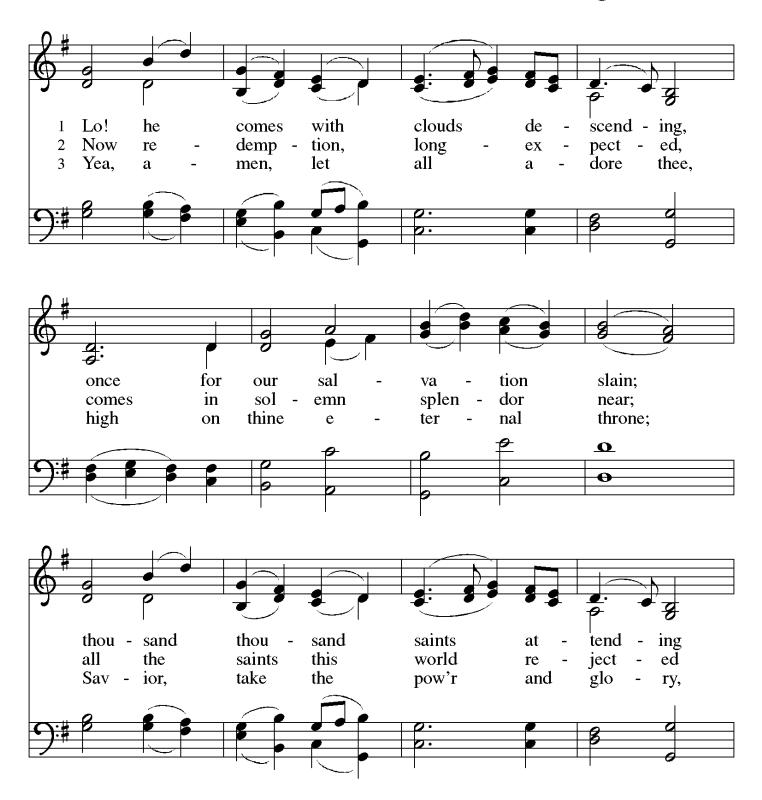
Dismissal

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

Postlude

King Jesus Is A-Listenin' Marie Nelson, Cello Duane Funderburk

Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending





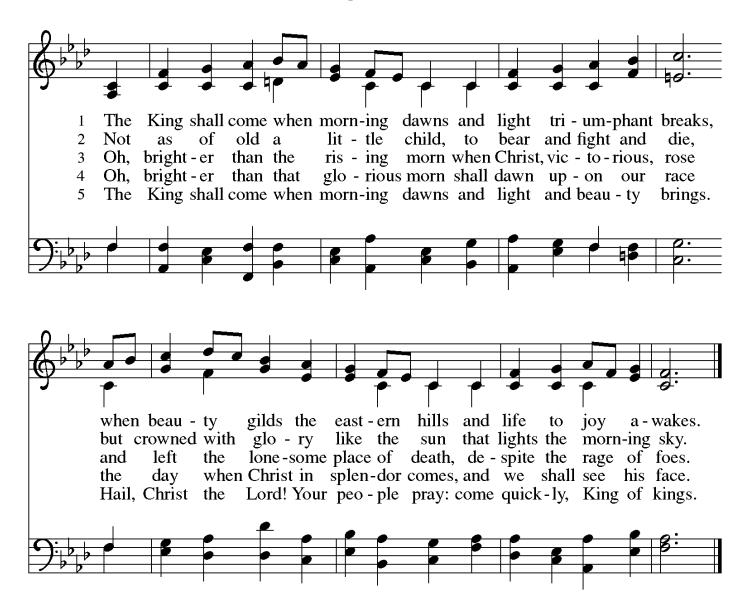
Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt. Music: HELMSLEY, Thomas Olivers, 1725–1799

Before the Ancient One, Christ Stands



Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953 Music: CHRIST CHURCH, MINNEAPOLIS, Robert Buckley Farlee, b. 1950 Text © 1997 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress Music © 2008 Robert Buckley Farlee, admin. Augsburg Fortress

The King Shall Come



Text: John Brownlie, 1859-1925 Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davisson, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816; arr. Theodore A. Beck, 1929-2003 Arr. © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission.

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.

Health Update: 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 today by Nelia Lamoureux in the spirit of giving thanks to God.

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

<u>Poinsettias and Jean Kuhn Memorial Fund</u>. Please let the Office know if you want to order poinsettias for Christmas Eve (\$21.00 each) and/or contribute to the Jean Kuhn Memorial Fund for Christmas. This fund helps with those ministries needing assistance during the year for which we have not budgeted. **Deadline for poinsettias is TOMORROW Monday, November 25.**

Upcoming

New Women's Group Beginning in January. We are kicking off a new monthly Women's Group in January! Momentum from our fall St. Stephen Women's Retreat inspired this path forward. The group's emphasis is to nurture one another on our faith journeys, continuing to explore and learn through spiritual development, study, discussion, and growth. Facilitated by St. Stephen member Sandy Johnson and using a shared leadership model, the group sessions will be on the second Thursday of each month. To best accommodate as many interested folks as possible, we will offer both an afternoon and an evening session. First Session: Thursday, January 9, 2025; Location: St. Stephen library; Choice of Times: 12:30-2:00 PM or 7:00-8:30 PM No registration required. Just come and bring a friend! If you want to join the new group but foresee a barrier to accessibility keeping you from doing so, please let us know and we will do our best to support your participation. Questions? Reach out to Ina Berkey.

<u>Church Office & Preschool Closed.</u> Both the Church Office and Preschool will be closed Nov. 27-29 in observance of Thanksgiving.

<u>Committee chairs, Council officers and staff: Annual Reports for 2024</u> are due to the church office no later than Monday, December 23. Please send your annual reports electronically to Parish Administrator Hollie Jones

<u>**2024 TOY / GIFT DRIVE FOR GREATER WILLIAMSBURG**</u> <u>**AREA CHILDREN**</u> 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). Bring the toys to St. Stephen and leave them in the gathering space or in the box outside the office. If you wish to donate money please make checks



payable to St. Stephen Lutheran Church and in the memo put WHOM toy drive. Cash donations should be in an envelope with the same designation in the offering plate or the locked mail box outside the church. Deadline is Dec 1st. Any questions please reach out to Jim Ivey.

<u>Christmas Baking Traditions.</u> Join us in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, December 8th from 3-4PM to share in one another's Christmas treat traditions. Bring your dough or batter and any special tools and share your traditions with others! The church ovens will also be available for baking. Not a baker? Come for conversation and to try some treats! Rides available, contact Pastor Jon.

St. Stephen Calendar -Nov 17-24, 2024

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

SUNDAY, Nov 24 – Christ The King

- 8:30 AM Worship Holy Communion (live-streamed on our YouTube channel)
- 9:45 AM Matins Choir Rehearsal (Worship Space)
- 9:50 AM Adult Ed: Coffee & Conversation (Fellowship Hall)
- 9:50 AM AOB/HS: Fun! (College Room)
- 9:50 AM Faith Formation: Music (Worship Space)
- 11:00 AM Worship Holy Communion
- 1:30 PM Music Recital (Worship Space)
- 3:00 PM Music Recital (Worship Space)

MONDAY, Nov 25

- 10:00 AM Staff Meeting (Pastor's Office)
- 1:30 PM Bible Study (Library/Conference Room)
- 7:00 PM Pub and Grub (Billsburg Brewery)

TUESDAY, Nov 26

WEDNESDAY, Nov 27

Church office and preschool closed 7:00 PM AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

THURSDAY, Nov 28

Church office and preschool closed **FRIDAY**, Nov 29

Church office and preschool closed

SATURDAY, Nov 30

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

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

SUNDAY, Dec 1 – First Sunday of Advent

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

- 9:45 AM Matins Choir Rehearsal (Worship Space)
- 9:50 AM Adult Ed: Coffee & Conversation (Fellowship Hall)
- 9:50 AM AOB/HS: Fun! (College Room)
- 9:50 AM Faith Formation: Music (Worship Space)

11:00 AM Worship – Holy Communion

6:00 PM LSA Dinner (College Room)

Leading our Worship and Hospitality Today

	(11:00) Alina Dabel
Audio-Visual Team	(8:30) JR & Diana Lyons (11:00) David Nelson
Bread Baker	Paula Agor
	(8:30) Karen Shoberg (11:00)Sandy Croshore
Communion Assistants	
	(11:00) Heidi Flatin and Emily Rossiter
Flower Delivery	Diane McCurry
Greeters/Hosts	(8:30) Paul & Rita Kristiansen (11:00) Alison Carney
Lectors	
Preacher	Pastor Jon Nelson
Tellers	Tom Peterkin, Sandy Peterkin, Sandy Croushore

Dear Lord, Today we give thanks For our many blessings, As we pray for those in need, We give thanks For our family and friends As we pray for those who are lonely. We give thanks for our freedoms As we pray for those who are oppressed. We give thanks for our good health As we pray for those who are ill. We give thanks for our comfort and prosperity As we share our blessings with others. On this day of Thanksgiving, May the love of God enfold us, The peace of God dwell within us And the joy of God uplift us. Amen

Thanksgiving Prayer

St. Stephen Lutheran Church 612 Jamestown Road, Williamsburg, Virginia 23185 www.saintstephenlutheran.net

(757) 229-6688

Love God, Love People, Form Faith.

(St. Stephen Lutheran Church Vision Statement)

All of Us, Called Through Our BaptismsDoing Ministry in the WorldPastor Jon Nelson (320-295-8861)Doing Ministry in the WorldKaren Ives – Director of Music (757-229-6688)MusicDir@saintstephenlutheran.netHollie Jones – Parish Administrator (757-229-6688)MusicDir@saintstephenlutheran.netJessica Kimball -Preschool Director (757-229-6688)Preschool@saintstephenlutheran.netPeninsula Pastoral Counseling Center (757-873-2273; counselors are in Williamsburg
on Thursdays)Doing Ministry in the World

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

Nov 24, 2024

Name:
For guests and members with changes:
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 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

Name:	
Please remove from prayer of	concerns:
Name:	
I/We need a name tag:	
	Poinsettias to decorate St. Stephen (\$21.00 each) settias is Monday, November 25.
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
In Thanks for:	
No Dedication	and Marine States and
**	ne Jean Kuhn Memorial Fund - to help fund
unbudgeted social ministrie	·S.
In Memory of:	
In Honor of:	
In thanks for:	