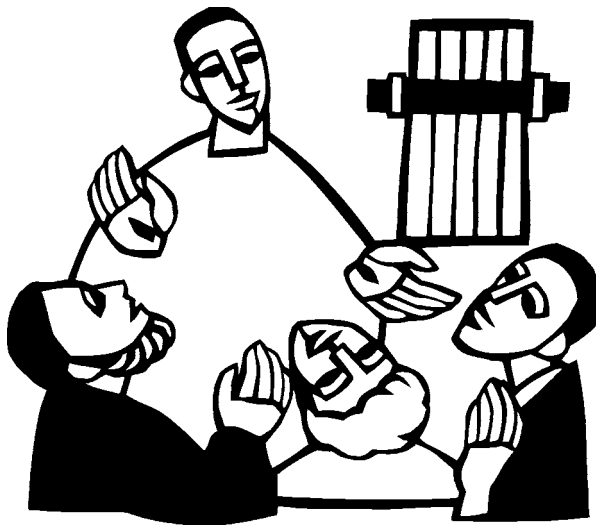


St. Stephen's Lutheran Church

+ Second Sunday of Easter
April 12, 2026



You are welcome here! As a Reconciling in Christ congregation of the ELCA, we believe that the gospel is God's gift to all people, shared unconditionally and without regard to race, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, socio-economic or family status, age, physical or mental abilities, outward appearance, or religious affiliation. We seek racial equality and justice. In this way, we live into the truth (Ephesians 2:14)—that Christ breaks down the dividing walls between us and makes us one.

Gathering

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

Prelude

**** Welcome**

**** Thanksgiving for Baptism**

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

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne
and to the Lamb! **Amen.**

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection,
and called to live the baptized life,
let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Water may be poured before or during the thanksgiving.

Merciful God,
you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.
You lead us beside still waters.

We thank you for the waters of creation:
morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.

We thank you for the waters that nourish us.
Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness
who accompanies us on our journeys.
We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.
We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.
Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

**** Please stand as you are able. Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.**

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.
Break down barriers that divide us.
Fill us with the breath of peace.
Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism,
and for making us a new creation.

We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise,
now and forever. **Amen.**

** Please stand as you are able. **Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.**

**** Gathering Hymn**

Christ Is Living

ACS 934



1 ¡Cris - to vi - ve, fue - ra_ el llan - to, los la - men - tos y_ el pe - sar!

1 Christ is liv - ing! Gone with sor - row! Tears and ter - ror, be no more.

2 For if Christ is not a - ris - en there is noth - ing to be - lieve.

3 Death is swal - lowed up in vic - t'ry; sin has lost its poi - son sting.



Ni la muer - te ni_ el se - pul - cro lo_ han po - di - do su - je - tar.

Death and grave, you now are noth - ing; Christ is free of ev - 'ry pow'r.

Je - sus' prom - ise is ac - comp - lished: "Since I live, you too shall live."

Life will blos - som from the grain sown, Christ the first fruits of the spring.



No bus - quéis en - tre los muer - tos al que siem - pre_ ha de vi - vir.

Why then seek the liv - ing Sav - ior in the haunts of death and fear?

Dust we are, to dust re - turn - ing, but in Christ we are re - stored.

For the sure - ness of sal - va - tion let us sing, "Thanks be to God!"



**** Please stand as you are able. Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.**

¡Cris - to vi - ve! es - tas nue - vas por do - quier de - jad o - ir.
 Christ is ris - en! Shout the good news so that all the world may hear.
 Doubt dis - pel - ling, claim the tri - umph: Je - sus is the liv - ing Lord!
 Christ is ris - en! We are liv - ing! Spread the word of grace a - broad.

2 *Que si Cristo no viviera,
 vana fuera nuestra fe;
 mas se cumple su promesa:
 "Porque vivo, viveréis."
 Si en Adán entró la muerte,
 por Jesús la vida entró;
 no temáis, el triunfo es vuestro:
 ¡El Señor resucitó!*

3 *Si es verdad que de la muerte
 el pecado es aguijón,
 no temáis pues Jesucristo
 nos da vida y salvación.
 Gracias demos al Dios Padre
 que nos da seguridad,
 que quien cree en Jesucristo
 vive por la eternidad.*

Text: Nicolás Martínez, 1917–1972; tr. Martin A. Seltz, b. 1951
 Music: CENTRAL, Pablo D. Sosa, 1933–2020; arr. Robert Buckley Farlee, b. 1950
 Spanish text © 1962 Blanca Staude de Martínez
 Tune © 1962 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.
 English text and arr. © 1999 Augsburg Fortress

** Greeting

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

Christ is Risen indeed! Alleluia!

The grace of our Risen Savior, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

** Please stand as you are able. **Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.**

Have

Have mer - cy on us Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer We

5
come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair. Have

9
mer - cy on us Lord, and wash a - way our sin. Pour out your grace and

14
make us whole that new life may be - gin. Have mer - cy on us Lord, make

** Please stand as you are able. Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.

19

sin and shame de - part. Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r, cre -

23

- ate in us new hearts.

** Please stand as you are able. **Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.**

** Hymn of Praise

Dr. Claudio Espejo

Glo - ry be to God in hea - ven; peace, good - will to

The first system of the musical score is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Glo - ry be to God in hea - ven; peace, good - will to".

5 all the earth. Migh - ty God of all cre -

The second system begins at measure 5. It contains two measures in 6/8 time and three measures in 4/4 time. The lyrics are: "all the earth. Migh - ty God of all cre -".

8 - a - tion Fa - ther of sur - pa - ssing worth - we ex - alt

The third system begins at measure 8. It contains three measures in 6/8 time and three measures in 4/4 time. The lyrics are: "- a - tion Fa - ther of sur - pa - ssing worth - we ex - alt".

12 you, we a - dore you we lift high our thanks and

The fourth system begins at measure 12. It contains five measures in 4/4 time. The lyrics are: "you, we a - dore you we lift high our thanks and".

17

praise Saints and an - gels bow be -

21

- fore you; here on earth our song we raise...

**** Prayer of the Day**

The Risen Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**** Please stand as you are able. Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.**

Word

God speaks to us in scripture, preaching and song.

First Reading

Word of God, Word of Life.

Exodus 15:1-11, 19-21

Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 111

¹ Praise the LORD!

I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

² **Great are the works of the LORD,
studied by all who delight in them.**

³ Full of honor and majesty is his work,
and his righteousness endures forever.

⁴ **He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds;
the LORD is gracious and merciful.**

⁵ He provides food for those who fear him;
he is ever mindful of his covenant.

⁶ **He has shown his people the power of his works,
in giving them the heritage of the nations.**

⁷ The works of his hands are faithful and just;
all his precepts are trustworthy.

⁸ **They are established forever and ever,
to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.**

⁹ He sent redemption to his people;
he has commanded his covenant forever.
Holy and awesome is his name.

¹⁰ **The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;
all those who practice it have a good understanding.
His praise endures forever.**

** Please stand as you are able. Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.

Second Reading

1 Peter 1:3-9

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

**** Gospel Acclamation**

Dr. Claudio Espejo

All - e - lu - ia Lord, to whom shall we go? you have the words of e -

- ter - nal life. A - lle - lu - ia, a - lle - lu -

- ia a - lle - lu - ia, a - lle - lu - ia a - lle - lu - ia

**** Gospel**

John 20:19-31

The Holy Gospel according to John.
The Gospel of the Lord.

Glory to you O Lord.
Praise to you O Christ.

**** Gospel Acclamation**

Please see gospel acclamation above.

Sermon

The Rev. Susan Loney

** Please stand as you are able. **Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.**

**** Hymn of the Day**

The Risen Christ

ELW 390

**** Nicene Creed**

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

** Please stand as you are able. Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.

**** Holy, Holy, Holy**

Dr. Claudio Espejo

The musical score is written for piano and voice. It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly ho - ly Lord, God of po - wer and Might, hea - ven and earth are filled with your Glo - - ry Ho - sa - nna in the high - est Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - sa - nna". The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords in the right hand. There are some performance markings like 'p.' and '7' at the bottom of the piano part.

Ho - ly, ho - ly ho - ly Lord, God of po - wer and Might,

5 hea - ven and earth are filled with your Glo - - ry

8 Ho - sa - nna in the high - est Blessed is he who

12 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - sa - nna

**** Please stand as you are able. Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.**

16

Ho - sa - nna Ho - sa - nna in the high - est.

**** Thanksgiving at the Table**

**** 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.

**** Invitation to Communion**

**** Please stand as you are able. Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.**

Lamb of God

Dr. Claudio Espejo

The musical score is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). It consists of five systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; Grant us peace, Grant us peace".

7
Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a -

14
- way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of

21
God, you take a - way the sin of the world; Grant us

27
peace, Grant us peace

** Please stand as you are able. Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.

Communion

Holy Communion is a free gift of God's grace and love. Everyone is welcome to share in this meal. If you wish to receive words of blessing, simply tell the minister.

Communion Hymn

Christ is Risen! Shout Hosanna!

ELW 383



- 1 Christ is ris-en! Shout Ho - san-na! Cel - e-brate this day of days!
- 2 Christ is ris-en! Raise your spir-its from the cav-erns of de - spair.
- 3 Christ is ris-en! Earth and heav-en nev - er-more shall be the same.



Christ is ris - en! Hush in won-der: all cre - a - tion is a - mazed.
Walk with glad-ness in the morn-ing. See what love can do and dare.
Break the bread of new cre - a - tion where the world is still in pain.



In the des - ert all-sur-round-ing, see, a spread-ing tree has grown.
Drink the wine of res - ur - rec - tion, not a ser - vant, but a friend.
Tell its grim, de - mon-ic chor - us: "Christ is ris - en! Get you gone!"



Heal-ing leaves of grace a - bound-ing bring a taste of love un - known.
Je - sus is our strong com-pan - ion. Joy and peace shall nev - er end.
God the First and Last is with us. Sing Ho - san - na, ev - 'ry - one!

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: TURNBULL, Thomas Pavlechko, b. 1962

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Music © 2006 Thomas Pavlechko, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

** Communion Blessing

** Please stand as you are able. **Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.**

**** Post Communion Prayer**

Together, let us pray.

Holy One,
through this meal you have made your home among us
and are making all things new.
Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts,
to love our enemies,
and to bring your healing to the nations.
In the name of Jesus,
Amen.

Announcements

Sending

We are sent into the world to serve.

**** Blessing**

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,
and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,
✚ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

**** Sending Hymn**

Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing

ELW 389

**** Dismissal**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
Go in peace.
Praise the Lord!

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
To Love, To Invite, To Serve.
Alleluia!

Postlude

Chancel flowers are given by Carol Landry in honor of Cheryl's birthday

**** Please stand as you are able. Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.**

Participants in Today's Service

Pastor:

The Rev. Susan Loney

Music Director:

Dr. Claudio Espejo

Assisting Minister/Lector:

Michael Farthing

Altar Guild:

Karleen Strayer

Ministers:

The people of St. Stephen's

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Text the word "welcome" to 855-965-5200 to receive our weekly e-newsletter.

May God go with you today and every day.

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