



St. Stephen's Lutheran Church

HOLY COMMUNION

Transfiguration of Our Lord
February 19, 2023 • 9:30 am

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 written in Ephesians (2:14)—that Christ breaks down the dividing walls between us and makes us one.

Masks are not required for those who are fully vaccinated and boosted. If you are wearing a mask, you may lower it to receive communion.

Theme of the Day

The glory of the Lord is revealed in mighty signs and in the weakness of the cross.

Gathering

Prelude

"O Morning Star"

J. Bender

Welcome

Joys & Concerns

** Confession & 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, ☩ one God,
who makes all things new,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One, source of our renewal,

we confess that we are wrapped up in sin, and cannot free ourselves.

We have not practiced your righteousness. Our hearts have turned away from you. For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Thus says our God... We are forgiven in the name of ✠ Christ our Savior.

Amen.

**** Gathering Hymn**

O Morning Star, How Fair and How Bright! (verses 1, 4, 6)

ELW 308



1 O Morn - ing Star, how fair and bright! You shine with
2 Come, pre - cious dia - mond, light di - vine, and deep with -
3 Lord, when you look on us in love, at once there
4 Al - might - y Fa - ther, in your Son you loved us,



God's own truth and light, a - glow with grace and mer - cy!
in our hearts now shine; there light a flame un - dy - ing!
falls from God a - bove a ray of pur - est plea - sure.
when not yet be - gun was this old earth's foun - da - tion!



Of Ja - cob's line, King Da - vid's son, our Lord and Sav - ior,
In your one bod - y let us be as liv - ing branch - es
Your word and Spir - it, flesh and blood re - fresh our souls with
Your Son has ran - somed us in love to live in him here

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



you have won our hearts to serve you on - ly! Low - ly,
of a tree, your life our lives sup - ply - ing. Now, though
heav'n - ly food. You are our dear - est trea - sure! Let your
and a - bove: this is your great sal - va - tion. Al - le -



ho - ly! Great and glo - rious, all vic - to - rious, rich
dai - ly earth's deep sad - ness may per - plex us and
mer - cy warm and cheer us! Oh, draw near us! For
lu - ia! Christ the liv - ing, to us giv - ing life



in bless - ing! Rule and might o'er all pos - sess - ing!
dis - tress us, yet with heav'n - ly joy you bless us.
you teach us God's own love through you has reached us.
for - ev - er, keeps us yours and fails us nev - er!

- 5 Oh, let the harps break forth in sound!
Our joy be all with music crowned,
our voices gaily blending!
For Christ goes with us all the way—
today, tomorrow, ev'ry day!
His love is never ending!
Sing out! Ring out!
Jubilation!
Exultation!
Tell the story!
Praise to Christ, who reigns in glory!
- 6 What joy to know, when life is past,
the Lord we love is first and last,
the end and the beginning!
He will one day, oh, glorious grace,
transport us to that happy place
beyond all tears and sinning!
Amen! Amen!
Come, Lord Jesus!
Crown of gladness!
We are yearning
for the day of your returning.

** 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.

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

**** Kyrie**

Daniel D. Howe

(organ) *Women* Ky-ri-e e lei - son. *Women* Ky-ri-
Men Ky-ri-e e lei-son. *Men* Ky-ri-e e lei-son.

e e lei - son. *All* Chris - te e lei - son. e lei -

son. *Women* Ky-ri-e e lei - son *Women* Ky-ri-
Men Ky-ri-e e lei - son *Men* Ky-ri-e e lei-son

e e lei - son *All* Ky - ri - e e lei - son

© 1995 by Howe/Lipson

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

**** Hymn of Praise**

Daniel Howe

A - rise and shine for your light has come,

(Women) (Men)

A - rise and shine for

(All) the glo - ry of the Lord is ri - sen up on you!

FINE A - A - A -

your light has come;

rise your light has come! The Spir - it's call o - bey; show
 rise, your light has come! Fling wide the pri - son doors; pro -
 rise, your light has come! All you in sor - row born; bind
 rise, your light has come! The moun - tains burst in song! Rise

forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to day.
 claim the cap - tive's lib - er - ty, good ti - dings to the poor. A -
 up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
 up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

To the beginning

D.C. al Fine

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

**** Prayer of the Day**

Assisting Minister leads the prayer of the day and the assembly responds: Amen.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Word

God speaks to us in scripture, preaching and song.

First Reading

Exodus 24:12-18 (p. 69-70)

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 2

¹Why are the nations in an uproar?

Why do the peoples mutter empty threats?

²**Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt, and the princes plot together, against the LORD and against the LORD's anointed?**

³"Let us break their yoke," they say;
"let us cast off their bonds from us."

⁴**God whose throne is in heaven is laughing;
the LORD holds them in derision.**

⁵Then in wrath God speaks to them,
and in rage fills them with terror.

⁶**"As for me, I have anointed my king
upon Zion, my holy mountain."**

⁷Let me announce the decree of the LORD,
who said to me, "You are my son; this day have I begotten you.

⁸**Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for your inheritance
and the ends of the earth for your possession.**

⁹You shall crush them with an iron rod
and shatter them like a piece of pottery."

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

¹⁰And now, you kings, be wise;
be warned, you rulers of the earth.

¹¹Submit to the LORD with fear,
and with trembling bow in worship;

¹²lest the LORD be angry, and you perish in a sudden blaze of wrath.
Happy are all who take refuge in God!

Second Reading

2 Peter 1:16-21 (p. 1107-1108)

Word of God. Word of Life.
Thanks be to God.

** Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia.

4
ia. My word will ne - ver come back to me emp - ty,

7
but will ac - com - plish my will says the Lord - and the word be - came

10
flesh and dwelt a - mong us. Al - le - lu - ia,

13
Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia.

** Gospel

Matthew 17:1-9 (p. 894)

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

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

** Gospel Acclamation *Please see above.*

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

** Hymn of the Day

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.

*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.*

**** Apostles' Creed**

Let us love one another, that with one mind we may confess the Holy Trinity, one in essence and undivided.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried;
 he descended to the dead.***

**On the third day he rose again;
 he ascended into heaven,
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
 the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**** Prayers of the People**

Each portion of the prayer ends with:

Response:	Merciful God,	receive our prayer.
	God, in your mercy,	hear our prayer.

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

Meal

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Offering

Each week we give thanks to God for things that God has given us: our selves, our time, and our possessions. A financial donation to the church is never a requirement, but is freely given to support the work of the congregation in the community. For your convenience, St. Stephen's offers the opportunity to give on-line through text message. Type "Funds" to 302-257-6155 to make any donations.

** Offering Song

To God Our Thanks We Give

ELW 682

Re - a - mo le - bo - ga, re - a - mo le - bo - ga,
To God our thanks we give, to God our thanks we give,

re - a - mo le - bo - ga mo - di - mo wa ro - na.
to God our thanks we give, our thanks to God we give.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of two systems. The first system has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The second system also has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature is one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 7/8. There are fermatas and slurs with a '2' above them in the piano accompaniment.

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

**** Offering Prayer**

Assisting Minister leads the offering prayer and the assembly responds: Amen.

**** Dialogue and Preface**

1
4 **P** The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with
7 you. **P** Lift up your hearts, _____
10 **C** We lift them to the Lord, **P** Let us give thanks to the Lord
13 our God; **C** It is right to give God - thanks and praise.
P It is indeed right and salutary.....un- end - ing hymn: --

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

** Holy, Holy, Holy

Daniel D. Howe

1
Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - - - - - ly,

3
Lord God of pow - er and might, _____

5
Heav - en and earth are full of your

7
glo - ry, Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the

9
high - est. Blest is the one who

11
comes in the name of the Lord! Ho - san - na, Ho -

13
san - na, Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na!

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff in 4/4 time with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). It consists of 13 measures. Measures 1-2 contain the first line of lyrics. Measures 3-4 contain the second line. Measures 5-6 contain the third line. Measures 7-8 contain the fourth line. Measures 9-10 contain the fifth line. Measures 11-12 contain the sixth line. Measure 13 contains the seventh line. The score ends with a double bar line.

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** Thanksgiving at the Table: Time after Epiphany

Blessed are you, O Holy God: you are the Life and Light of allboth now and for-
ever.

Amen.

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

** Lord's Prayer

As we pray the Lord's Prayer together, we invite you to choose which version and language in which to pray. Several versions are printed on the laminated card for you.

Invitation to Communion

Lamb of God

1 Howe/Lispon

Women Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the

5 *Men* Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world.

world. *Women* Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

Men Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world.

9

All world. Have mer - cy on us, Have mer - cy on us.

13

Have mer - cy on us. *Women* Lamb of

Men Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world.

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

17
 God, you take a - way the sin of the world. *Women* Lamb of
Men Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world.

21
 God, you take a - way the sin of the world. *All* Grant us peace. A - men.

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Communion

As Lutheran Christians we believe the words of Jesus, "This is my body, this is my blood given for you for the forgiveness of sin." If you desire to receive this gift, you are welcome to commune here. All who do not commune may come for a blessing. The ushers will invite the assembly from the front row to the back row to come to the chancel to receive communion from the pastor via the center aisle. Once you receive your communion, please use the side aisles to return to your pew. Please be sure to discard your cups in the trash bin on your way out of the church - please do not leave used communion cups in the pews or pew racks. If you prefer juice, please let the assisting minister know.

Communion Hymn

How Beautiful on the Mountains

Isaiah 52:7 for Clarence & Janet Morrill Daniel D. Howe

1
 How beau-ti-ful on the moun - tains are the feet of those who

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

8
 bring good news. How beauti-ful on the moun-tains are the feet of

15
 those who bring good news. Who pro-claim sal-va-tion, who

22
 preach the gos-pel of peace. How beauti-ful on the moun-

29
 tains are the feet of those who bring good news.

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

Communion Blessing

Post Communion Prayer

Together, let us pray.

**Holy One,
we thank you for the healing
that springs forth abundantly from this table.
Renew our strength to do justice,
love kindness,
and journey humbly with you.**

Amen.

Announcements

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

Sending

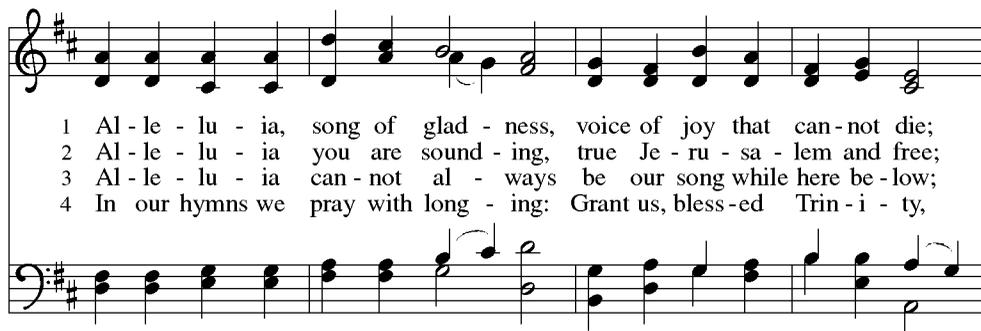
We are sent into the world to serve.

** Blessing

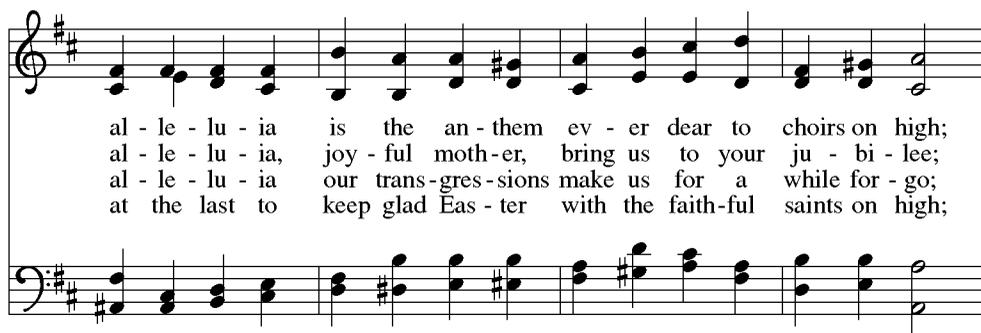
** Sending Hymn

Alleluia, Song of Gladness

ELW 318



1 Al - le - lu - ia, song of glad - ness, voice of joy that can - not die;
2 Al - le - lu - ia you are sound - ing, true Je - ru - sa - lem and free;
3 Al - le - lu - ia can - not al - ways be our song while here be - low;
4 In our hymns we pray with long - ing: Grant us, bless - ed Trin - i - ty,



al - le - lu - ia is the an - them ev - er dear to choirs on high;
al - le - lu - ia, joy - ful moth - er, bring us to your ju - bi - lee;
al - le - lu - ia our trans - gres - sions make us for a while for - go;
at the last to keep glad Eas - ter with the faith - ful saints on high;



in the house of God a - bid - ing thus they sing e - ter - nal - ly.
here by Bab - y - lon's sad wa - ters mourn - ing ex - iles still are we.
for the sol - emn time is com - ing when our tears for sin shall flow.
there to you for - ev - er sing - ing al - le - lu - ia joy - ful - ly.

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

**** Dismissal**

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

“Praise My Soul”

P. Manz

*Chancel flowers are given by the Potter and Cook families
in memory of Dorise Cook-Ragsdale*

Enjoy today's service? Visit our Facebook page and invite a friend, comment, or leave a review. Please text the word “welcome” to 855-965-5200 to be added to our email list. May God go with you today and everyday.

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

Participants in Today's Service

Pastor:

The Rev. Mark Walters

Musician:

Steve Schmidt

Assisting Minister/Lector:

Ann Warner

Usher:

John Gordon

Altar Guild:

Sally Dudderar

Camera:

Mike Lehm

Ministers:

The people of St. Stephen's

Pastor F. Mark Walters (lvtheos@gmail.com 410-739-5365)

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church

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CONCERTS AT ST. STEPHEN'S



An Organ Recital *Featuring American Hymns and Spirituals*

Christopher Gage
Sunday, February 19 | 4 pm

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church
1301 N Broom St | Wilmington DE 19806
ststeph.org | 302-652-7623

Free to the community
Donations appreciated