

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church

HOLY COMMUNION

Rite of Holy Baptism
August 11, 2024

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.

Gathering

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

Prelude: *Prelude in f minor*

Bach

Welcome

Joys & Concerns

**** Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
the God of manna,
the God of miracles,
the God of mercy.

Amen.

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our provider,
 help us.
 It is hard to believe there is enough to share.
 We question your ways when they differ from the ways
 of the world in which we live.
 We turn to our own understanding
 rather than trusting in you.
 We take offense at your teachings and your ways.
 Turn us again to you.
 Where else can we turn?
 Share with us the words of eternal life
 and feed us for life in the world.
 Amen.

Beloved people of God:
 in Jesus, the manna from heaven,
 you are fed and nourished.
 By Jesus, the worker of miracles,
 there is always more than enough.
 Through Jesus, ✠ the bread of life,
 you are shown God's mercy:
 you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.
 Amen.

**** Gathering Hymn**

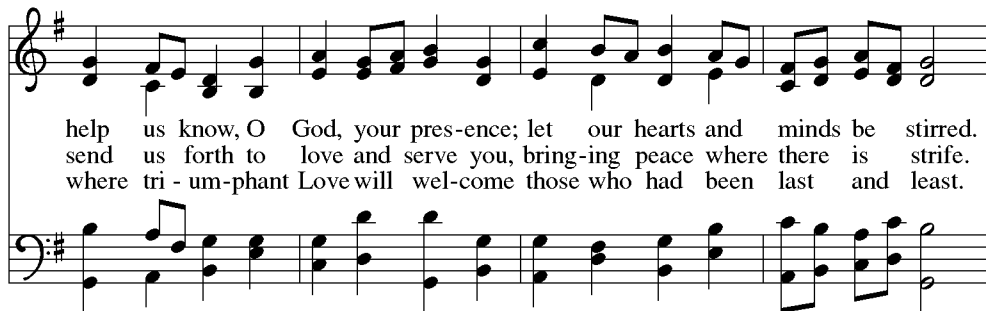
As We Gather at Your Table

ELW 522

The musical score is written for a single melodic line on a treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of 12 measures. The lyrics are printed below the staff, with three different versions of the text provided for different parts of the assembly.

1 As we gath-er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,
 2 Turn our wor-ship in - to wit-ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;
 3 Gra - cious Spir - it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast

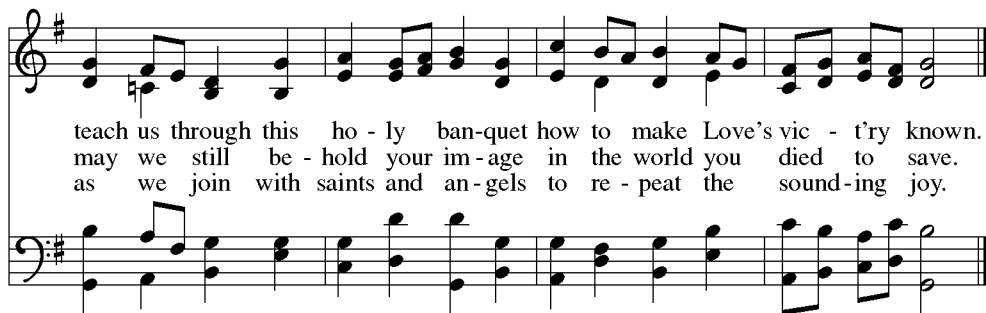
** Please stand as you are able. Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.



help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.
where tri - um-phant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.



Nour-ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;
Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for - give as you for - gave;
There no more will en - vy blind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,



teach us through this ho - ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic - t'ry known.
may we still be - hold your im-age in the world you died to save.
as we join with saints and an-gels to re - peat the sound-ing joy.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710; arr. Julius Röntgen, 1855–1932

Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

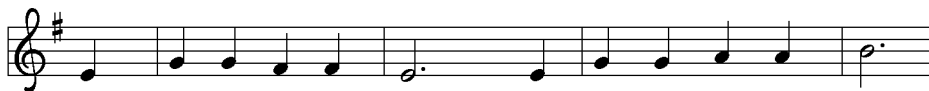
** Greeting

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



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

** Hymn of Praise



- 1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra-cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

** 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.

Word

God speaks to us in scripture, preaching and song.

First Reading

1 Kings 19:4-8

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 34:1-8

¹I will bless the LORD at all times;
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

²**My soul makes its boast in the LORD;
let the humble hear and be glad.**

³O magnify the LORD with me,
and let us exalt his name together.

⁴**I sought the LORD, and he answered me,
and delivered me from all my fears.**

⁵Look to him, and be radiant;
so your faces shall never be ashamed.

⁶**This poor soul cried, and was heard by the LORD,
and was saved from every trouble.**

⁷The angel of the LORD encamps
around those who fear him, and delivers them.

⁸**O taste and see that the LORD is good;
happy are those who take refuge in him.**

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

**** Gospel Acclamation**



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

**** Gospel**

John 6:35, 41-51

The Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you O Lord.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you O Christ.

**** Gospel Acclamation**

Please see gospel acclamation above.

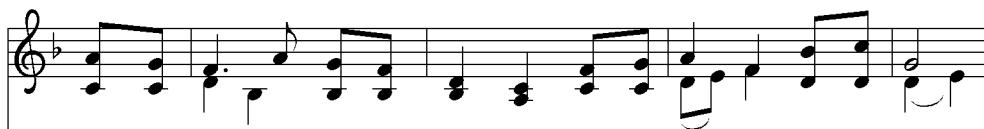
Sermon

The Rev. Susan Loney

**** Hymn of the Day**

By Your Hand Feed Your People

ELW 469



1 By your hand you feed your peo - ple, food of an - gels, heav - en's bread.
2 In this meal we taste your sweet - ness, bread for hun - ger, wine of peace.
3 Send us now with faith and cour - age to the hun - gry, lost, be - reaved.



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

For these gifts we did not la - bor, by your grace have we been fed:
 Ho - ly word and ho - ly wis - dom sat - is - fy our deep - est needs.
 In our liv - ing and our dy - ing, we be - come what we re - ceive:

Refrain

Christ's own bod - y, blessed and bro - ken, cup o'er - flow - ing, life out - poured,

giv - en as a liv - ing to - ken of your world re - deemed, re - stored.

Text: Susan R. Briehl, b. 1952
 Music: CAMROSE, Marty Haugen, b. 1950
 Text and music © 2002 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved.

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

Rite of Holy Baptism

We welcome Athena Eleanor Sperati into Christian community through the rite of Holy Baptism. Athena is the daughter of Joshua Sperati and Gloriana Rial

Sponsors present the candidate:

We present Athena Eleanor Sperati for baptism.

Profession of Faith

The presiding minister addresses the candidates and the assembly.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

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

** Offering Song

We Come to the Hungry Feast

ELW 479



1 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a word of peace.
2 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a world re - leased
3 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry that the hun - ger cease,



To hun - gry hearts un - sat - is - fied the love of God is
from hun - gry folk of ev - 'ry kind, the poor in bod - y,
and know - ing, though we eat our fill, the hun - ger will stay



not de - nied. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.
poor in mind. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.
with us; still we come, we come to the hun - gry feast.

Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943
Music: HUNGRY FEAST, Ray Makeever
Text and music © 1982 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

** Offering Prayer

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

** Dialogue

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.**

** Preface

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

** Holy, Holy, Holy

You Are Holy

ELW 525



Du är he - lig, du är hel. Du är all - tid myck-et mer
You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more



än vi nån - sin kan för - stå, du är nä - ra än - då.
than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.



Väl - sig - nad va - re du som kom - mer hit just nu,
Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here



väl - sig - na - de vår jord, blir till bröd på vår jord.
to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.



Du är he - lig, du är hel - het,
You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,



du är när - het he - la kos - mos lo - var dig!
you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!



Ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na,
Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!

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

ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na vår Gud.
 Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

** May be sung in canon.*

Text: Per Harling, b. 1945
 Music: DU ÅR HELIG, Per Harling
 Text and music © 1990 Ton Vis Produktion AB, admin. Augsburg Fortress in North America,
 South America, and Central America, including the Caribbean.

**** Thanksgiving at the Table**

Glory to you,...Glory to you, O God!

Glory to you, O God!

You are the great I AM,

...Glory to you, O God!

Glory to you, O God!

On the night that he washed his disciples' feet,

...We have seen the Lord.

We have seen the Lord.

Breathe your Spirit of power on us.

...Glory to you, O God!

Glory to you, O God!

Glory to you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

...be to you forever and ever.

Amen.

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

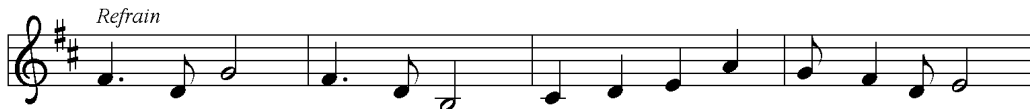
Communion

Holy Communion is a free gift of God's grace and love. Everyone is welcome to share in this meal. Receive bread and dip it into a chalice, consuming both elements at once. Our chalices contain red wine and amber-colored fruit juice. If you wish to receive words of blessing, simply tell the minister.

Communion Hymn

Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup

ELW 492



Eat this bread, drink this cup. Taste and see the good-ness of God.



Bread of life, cup of love, we re-joice in your pres-ence.



- 1 I will bless the Lord at all times, praise with heart and voice;
- 2 Look up - on the Lord, be ra - diant, nev - er turn a - way.
- 3 An - gels fold their wings a - round us, guard through good and ill.
- 4 Saints of God, bow down and wor - ship, bless the ho - ly name.



in my God I glo - ry for - ev - er: lis - ten and re - joice!
God will save in ev - 'ry af - flic - tion, hear us when we pray.
Those who seek the Lord will lack noth - ing; taste, and have your fill.
Rise to tell God's great - ness for - ev - er, won - drous deeds pro - claim!

Text: Jeremy Young, b. 1948, refrain; *With One Voice*, stanzas, based on Ps. 34
Music: STONERIDGE, Jeremy Young
Text and music © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

** 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.

**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.**

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

Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises

ELW 535

Refrain – sung twice each time

Ha - le - lu - ya! Pe - lo tsa ro - na, di tha -
Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your prais - es, all our

bi - le ka - o - fe - la. Ha - le - lu - ya! Pe - lo tsa
hearts are filled with glad - ness. Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your

ro - na, di tha - bi - le ka - o - fe - la.
prais - es, all our hearts are filled with glad - ness.

End

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

1 Christ the Lord to us said: I am wine, I am bread,
2 Now he sends us all out, strong in faith, free of doubt,

Repeat stanza, then sing refrain

I am wine, I am bread, give to all who thirst and hun - ger.
strong in faith, free of doubt. Tell to all the joy - ful gos - pel.

Text: South African; tr. *Freedom Is Coming*, 1984
Music: HALELUYA! PELO TSA RONA, South African; arr. *Freedom Is Coming*
English text and arr. © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.

** Dismissal

Go in peace,
To Love, To Invite, To Serve.

Share your bread!
Thanks be to God.

Postlude: *Fugue in f minor*

Bach

Flowers are given by Bill & Betty Sperati in honor of their 40th anniversary

** 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:

Claudio Espejo

Assisting Minister/Lector:

Ann Dransfield

Usher:

John Rodammer

Altar Guild:

Michele Torchia

Camera:

Kevin Loney

Ministers:

The people of St. Stephen's

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

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

May God go with you today and every day.

The Thanksgiving at the Table comes from pray, praise, and give thanks: A Collection of Litanies, Laments, and Thanksgivings at Font and Table by Gail Ramshaw. Copyright © 2017 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reproduced by permission.

Worship elements taken from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright © 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS004228.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church
1301 N Broom St. Wilmington, DE 19806 302-652-7623
www.ststeph.org office@ststeph.org

