



# St. Stephen's Lutheran Church

## HOLY COMMUNION

Resurrection of Our Lord  
March 31, 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:** *Bach Prelude in D*

### \*\* Easter Proclamation

Jesus Christ is the Light of the world.  
**The light no darkness can overcome.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Eternal God, in Jesus Christ  
you have given the light of life to all the world.  
Increase in us a new desire to shine forth  
with the brightness of Christ's rising,  
until we feast at the banquet of eternal light;  
through the Sun of righteousness,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

May the light of Christ, rising in glory, dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.  
The light of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God!**

The light of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God!**

The light of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God!**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**\*\* Processional Hymn**

*Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*

ELW 365

1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!  
3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!  
4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!  
our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!  
praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!

The musical score consists of two systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are written below the vocal line. The first system contains four lines of lyrics, and the second system contains four lines. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the melody. There are some decorative flourishes in the piano part, such as slurs and ties.

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

who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 now a - bove the sky he's king, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 praise him, all you heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!

suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Latin carol, 14th cent., sts. 1–3; tr. J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708, alt.; Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, st. 4  
 Music: EASTER HYMN, J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708

**\*\* Greeting**

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

**Christ is Risen indeed! Alleluia!**

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.**

## \*\* Hymn of Praise



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav'n-ly King, al - might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



2 Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of



God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.

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

*Refrain*



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

3 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the

Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the

Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.

A - men, a - men.

**\*\* 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.

\*\* 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**

Acts 10:34-43

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm**

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

<sup>1</sup>Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good;  
God's mercy endures forever.

<sup>2</sup>**Let Israel now declare,  
"God's mercy endures forever."**

<sup>14</sup>The LORD is my strength and my song,  
and has become my salvation.

<sup>15</sup>**Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous:  
"The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"**

<sup>16</sup>The right hand of the LORD is exalted!  
The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"

<sup>17</sup>**I shall not die, but live,  
and declare the works of the LORD.**

<sup>18</sup>The LORD indeed punished me sorely,  
but did not hand me over to death.

<sup>19</sup>**Open for me the gates of righteousness;  
I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.**

<sup>20</sup>"This is the gate of the LORD;  
here the righteous may enter."

<sup>21</sup>**I give thanks to you, for you have answered me  
and you have become my salvation.**

<sup>22</sup>The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the chief cornerstone.

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

<sup>23</sup>By the LORD has this been done;  
it is marvelous in our eyes.

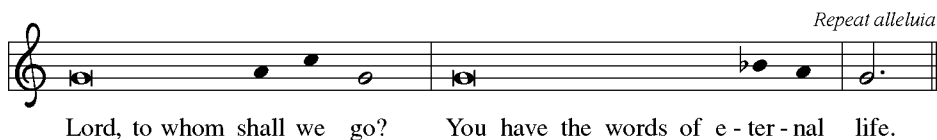
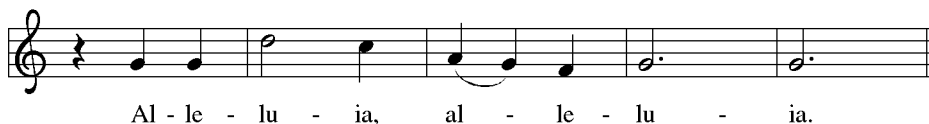
<sup>24</sup>This is the day that the LORD has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

## Second Reading

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

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

## \*\* Gospel Acclamation



## \*\* Gospel

Mark 16:1-8

The Holy Gospel according to Mark.  
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

*Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!*

ELW 377



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en!  
2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter  
3 Je - sus the vine, we are the branch - es;  
4 Weep - ing, be gone; sor - row, be si - lent:  
5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er,



Trum - pets re - sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light!  
tell - ing the sto - ry to o - pen our eyes;  
life in the Spir - it the fruit of the tree;  
death put a - sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright.  
gold - en Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb,



Splen - dor, the Lamb, heav - en for - ev - er!  
break - ing our bread, giv - ing us glo - ry:  
heav - en to earth, Christ to the peo - ple,  
Cher - u - bim sing: O grave, be o - pen!  
riv - er of life, saints and arch - an - gels,



Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!  
Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.  
gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.  
Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.  
sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!

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



*Refrain*

Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise.  
Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926  
 Music: David N. Johnson, 1922-1987  
 Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.  
 Music © 1969 *Contemporary Worship 1*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## \*\* 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.

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



## \*\* Offering Song

*Now the Green Blade Rises*

ELW 379



1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,  
2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,  
3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,  
4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;  
think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,  
he that for three days in the grave had lain;  
your touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;  
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;  
raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;  
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872–1958

Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol

Text from *Oxford Book of Carols*. © Oxford University Press 1928. All rights reserved.

\*\* 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**

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**


**\*\* Holy, Holy, Holy**




Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and




might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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

## **\*\* Thanksgiving at the Table**

You are indeed holy....Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

Therefore, O God, ....the great and promised feast.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Send now, we pray your Holy Spirit, that we and all who share in this bread and cup may be united in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, may enter the fullness of the kingdom of heaven, and may receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

**Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

**Amen.**

## **\*\* 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



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.

## 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, instead of or in addition to the Bread and Cup, simply tell the minister. Wheat and GF wafers are available as are red wine and amber juice.*

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

# Communion Hymn

At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

ELW 362



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing praise to  
2 Praise we Christ, whose love di - vine gives his  
3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured death's dread  
4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, pas - chal



our vic - to - rious king, who has washed us in the tide  
sa - cred blood for wine, gives his bod - y for the feast—  
an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael's hosts tri - um - phant go  
vic - tim, pas - chal bread; with sin - cer - i - ty and love



flow - ing from his wound - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!  
through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!  
eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

5 Mighty victim from the sky,  
hell's fierce pow'rs beneath you lie;  
you have conquered in the fight,  
you have brought us life and light.  
Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!  
This alone can sin destroy;  
from sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,  
newborn souls in you to be.  
Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall,  
now no more the grave enthrall;  
you have opened paradise,  
and your saints in you shall rise.  
Alleluia!

8 Father, who the crown shall give,  
Savior, by whose death we live,  
Spirit, guide through all our days:  
Three in One, your name we praise.  
Alleluia!

Text: Latin hymn, 17th cent.; tr. Robert Campbell, 1814–1868, alt.  
Music: SONNE DER GERECHTIGKEIT, Bohemian Brethren, *Kirchengeseng*, 1566

\*\* 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.

Shepherding God,  
you have prepared a table before us  
and nourished us with your love.  
Send us forth from this banquet  
to proclaim your goodness  
and share the abundant mercy of Jesus,  
our redeemer and friend.

Amen.

### **Announcements**

# Sending

*We are sent into the world to serve.*

### **\*\* Blessing**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

The God of resurrection power,  
the Christ of unending joy,  
and the Spirit of Easter hope  
✚ bless you now and always.

Amen.

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



\*\* Sending Hymn

*Christ Is Risen! Alleluia!*

ELW 382

1 Christ is ris - en! Al - le - lu - ia! Ris - en our vic - to - rious head!  
2 Christ is ris - en! All the sad - ness of our Lent - en fast is o'er;  
3 Christ is ris - en! All the sor - row that last eve - ning round him lay  
4 Christ is ris - en! Hence - forth nev - er death or hell shall us en - thrall.

Sing his prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en from the dead!  
through the o - pen gates of glad - ness he re - turns to life once more;  
now has found a glo - rious mor - row in the ris - ing of to - day.  
We are Christ's, in him for - ev - er we have tri - umphed o - ver all.

Grate - ful - ly our hearts a - dore him as his light once more ap - pears;  
death and hell be - fore him bend - ing see him rise, the vic - tor now,  
See the grave its first - fruits giv - ing, spring - ing up from ho - ly ground;  
All the doubt - ing and de - jec - tion of our trem - bling hearts have ceased;

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

bow - ing down in joy be - fore him, ris - ing up from griefs and tears.  
 an - gels on his steps at - tend - ing, glo - ry round his wound - ed brow.  
 Christ was dead, but now is liv - ing; he was lost, but he is found.  
 hail the day of res - ur - rec - tion! Let us rise and keep the feast.

*Refrain*

Christ is ris - en! Al - le - lu - ia! Ris - en our vic - to - rious head!

Sing his prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en from the dead!

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811–1875, alt.  
 Music: MORGENLIED, Frederick C. Maker, 1844–1927

**\*\* Dismissal**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!	<b>Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!</b>
Go in peace,	<b>To Love, To Invite, To Serve.</b>
Thanks be to God.	<b>Alleluia!</b>

**Postlude:** *Bach Fugue in D*

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

## *Easter Flower Dedications*

*Ann Dransfield:* In honor of Pastor Sue and Claudio Espejo

*Gary & Sue Gooden:* In memory of Susie and Betty & Bob Gooden

*John Gordon:* In memory of Judi Pacileo, Doris Stack, Linda Gordon and to the Glory of God

*Jerome O. & Mary Ann Herlihy:* In memory of Thomas & Pearl Herlihy

*Ingrid LaPorte:* In honor of Mom & Dad LaPorte and in memory of Mom & Dad Munson

*John Rodammer:* In memory of Leona Rodammer

*Bill & Betty Sperati:* In memory of our parents Carleton & Eloise Sperati and Horace & Betty Short and sister Mary Ellen Short. In honor of our children Jacob (Christa), Joshua (Gloriana) and Becky Sperati; Our grandchildren Aurora, Lydia, Roland and Lillith Sperati and Douglas and Francis Fagnant-Sperati; the members and staff of St. Stephen's Lutheran Church

*The Strayer family:* In memory of Shirleen Hoffman, Edsel & Delores Carlson and Gerald Strayer

*Michelle Torchia:* In memory of Lena & Frank Torchia

*Karen, Joy and Kathy Weber:* in memory of Al Weber

*Karen Weber:* In memory of Elaine Jackson, Karen's sister and Mary Snyder, Karen's sister

## Participants in Today's Service

**Pastor:**

The Rev. Susan Loney  
pastor@ststeph.org

**Music Director:**

Claudio Espejo

**Assisting Minister/Lector:**

Karen Weber

**Usher:**

John Rodammer

**Altar Guild:**

Michele Torchia

**Camera:**

John Gordon

**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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