



# St. Stephen's Lutheran Church

## HOLY COMMUNION

Day of Pentecost  
May 28, 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.

## Gathering

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

**Joys & Concerns**

**\*\* Thanksgiving for Baptism**

*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,  
by whose hand we are given new birth,  
by whose speaking we are given new life.

**Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,  
we are welcomed, restored, and supported  
as citizens of the new creation.

Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Holy God, holy and merciful...the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you.

Empower our witness to your resurrection.

Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.

Satisfy the world's need...and the Spirit reigns forever.

Amen.

**\*\* Gathering Hymn**

*O Holy Spirit, Enter In*

ELW 786



1 O Ho - ly Spir - it, en - ter in, and in our hearts your  
2 Left to our - selves, we sure - ly stray; oh, lead us on the  
3 O might - y Rock, O Source of life, let your good Word in



work be - gin, and make our hearts your dwell - ing. Sun of the soul,  
nar - row way, with wis - est coun - sel guide us; and give us stead -  
doubt and strife be in us strong - ly burn - ing, that we be faith -



O Light di - vine, a - round and in us bright - ly shine, your strength  
fast - ness, that we may fol - low you for - ev - er free, no mat -  
ful un - to death and live in love and ho - ly faith, from you

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



in us up - well - ing. In your ra - diance life from heav - en now is  
ter who de - rides us. Gent - ly heal those hearts now bro - ken; give some  
true wis - dom learn - ing. Lord, your mer - cy on us show - er; by your



giv - en o - ver - flow - ing, gift of gifts be - yond all know - ing.  
to - ken you are near us, whom we trust to light and cheer us.  
pow - er Christ con - fess - ing, we will cher - ish all your bless - ing.

**\*\* Greeting**

Arise, shine; for your light has come.

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



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb



who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and



strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of

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



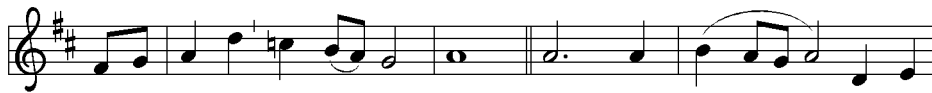
God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was



slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



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

**\*\* 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 2:1-21 (p. 992)

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

## **Psalm**

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

<sup>24</sup>**How manifold are your works, O LORD!**

**In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.**

<sup>25</sup>**Yonder is the sea, great and wide, with its swarms too many to number,  
living things both small and great.**

<sup>26</sup>There go the ships to and fro,  
and Leviathan, which you made for the sport of it.

<sup>27</sup>**All of them look to you  
to give them their food in due season.**

<sup>28</sup>You give it to them; they gather it;  
you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.

<sup>29</sup>**When you hide your face, they are terrified;  
when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.**

<sup>30</sup>You send forth your Spirit, and they are created;  
and so you renew the face of the earth.

<sup>31</sup>**May the glory of the LORD endure forever;  
O LORD, rejoice in all your works.**

<sup>32</sup>You look at the earth and it trembles;  
you touch the mountains and they smoke.

<sup>33</sup>**I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;  
I will praise my God while I have my being.**

<sup>34</sup>May these words of mine please God.  
I will rejoice in the LORD.

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

<sup>35b</sup> Bless the LORD, O my soul.  
Hallelujah!

**Second Reading**

1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 (p. 1046)

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

**\*\* Gospel Acclamation**



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

**\*\* Gospel**

John 20:19-23 (p. 989)

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. Mark Walters

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

**\*\* Hymn of the Day**

*As the Wind Song*

ACS 943



1 As the wind song through the trees, as the stir - ring of the  
2 As the rain - bow af - ter rain, as the hope that's born a -



breeze, so it is with the Spir - it of God,  
gain, so it is with the Spir - it of God,



as the heart made strange-ly warm, as the voice with - in the  
as the green in the . . . spring, as a kite on a . . .



storm, so it is with the Spir - it of God.  
string, so it is with the Spir - it of God,



Nev - er seen, ev - er known where this wind has  
mak - ing worlds that are new, mak - ing peace come



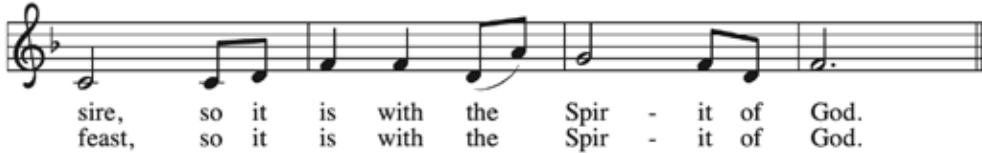
blown bring-ing life, bring-ing pow'r to the world,  
true, bring-ing gifts, bring-ing love to the world,



as the danc - ing tongues of fire, as the soul's most deep de -  
as the ris - ing of the yeast, as the wine at the . . .

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





**\*\* 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:	Hear us, O God.	or	Your mercy is great.
	Bless we the Lord.		Thanks be to God.

\*\* 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

That Easter Day with Joy was Bright

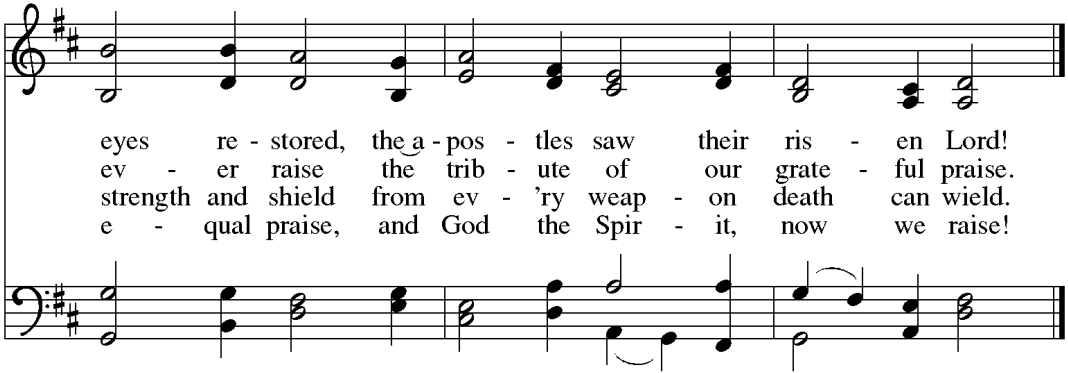
ELW 384

1 That Eas - ter day with joy was bright; the  
2 O Je - sus, king of gen - tle - ness, with  
3 O Christ, you are the Lord of all in  
4 All praise, O ris - en Lord, we give to

sun shone out with fair - er light when, to their long - ing  
con - stant love our hearts pos - sess; to you our lips will  
this our Eas - ter fes - ti - val, for you will be our  
you, once dead, but now a - live! To God the Fa - ther

The musical score consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line.

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



eyes re - stored, the a - pos - tles saw their ris - en Lord!  
 ev - er raise the trib - ute of our grate - ful praise.  
 strength and shield from ev - 'ry weap - on death can wield.  
 e - qual praise, and God the Spir - it, now we raise!

**\*\* Offering Prayer**

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

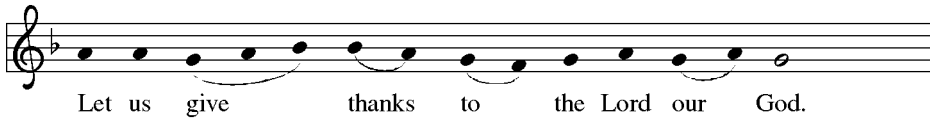
**\*\* Dialogue**



The Lord be with you. **And al - so with you.**



Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

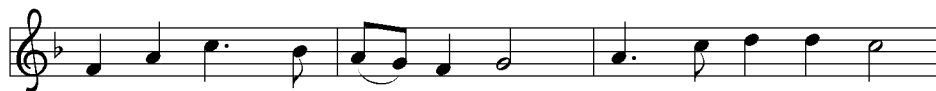


**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**\*\* Preface**

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

## \*\* Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -



san-na. 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.

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

## \*\* Thanksgiving at the Table

Holy God, Breath of life and Fire of love:...both now and forever.

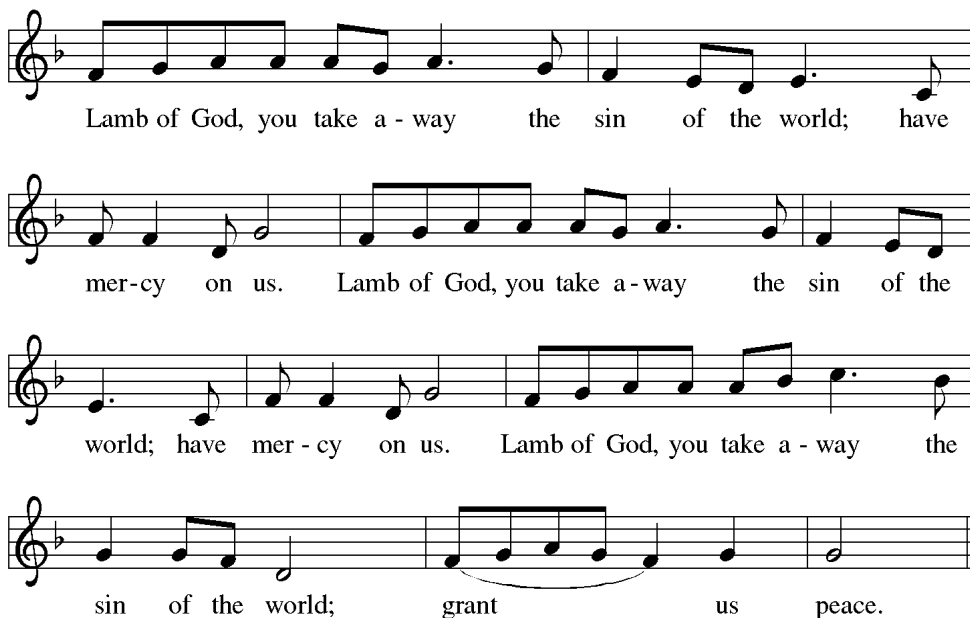
Amen.

## \*\* 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



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.

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

## 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 via the center aisle to receive communion from the pastor. 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 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


*I Received the Living God*

ELW 477

*Refrain*



I re - ceived the liv - ing God, and my heart is full of joy.




I re - ceived the liv - ing God, and my heart is full of joy.



I re - ceived the liv - ing God, and my heart is full of joy.

- 1 Je - sus said: I am the bread, knead - ed long to give you life;
- 2 Je - sus said: I am the way, and my Fa - ther longs for you;
- 3 Je - sus said: I am the truth; come and fol - low close to me.
- 4 Je - sus said: I am the life, far from whom no thing can grow,



*Refrain*

you who will par - take of me need not ev - er fear to die.  
so I come to bring you home to be one with us a - new.  
You will know me in your heart, and my word shall make you free.  
but re - ceive this liv - ing bread, and my Spir - it you shall know.

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

## Communion Blessing

# Sending

*We are sent into the world to serve.*

### **\*\* Post Communion Prayer**

Together, let us pray.

Gracious God,  
in you we live and move and have our being.  
With your word and this meal of grace,  
you have nourished our life together.  
Strengthen us to show your love  
and serve the world in Jesus' name.

Amen.

### **Announcements**

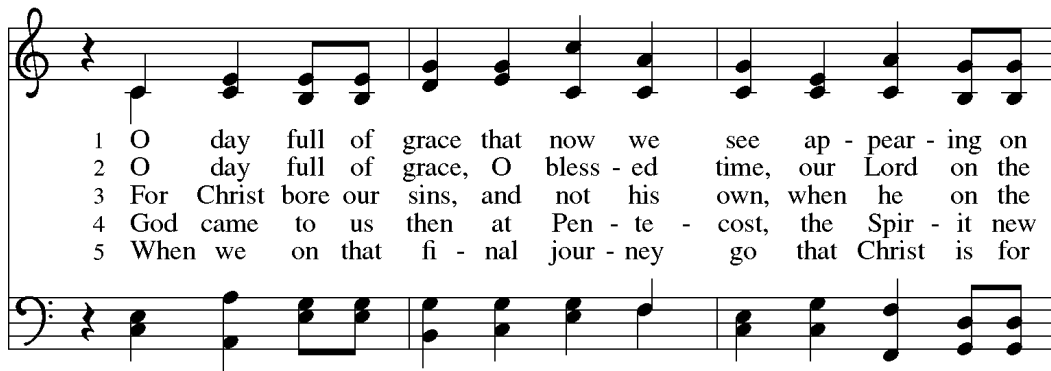
### **\*\* Blessing**

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

## \*\* Sending Hymn

### *O Day Full of Grace*

ELW 627



1 O day full of grace that now we see ap - pear - ing on  
2 O day full of grace, O bless - ed time, our Lord on the  
3 For Christ bore our sins, and not his own, when he on the  
4 God came to us then at Pen - te - cost, the Spir - it new  
5 When we on that fi - nal jour - ney go that Christ is for



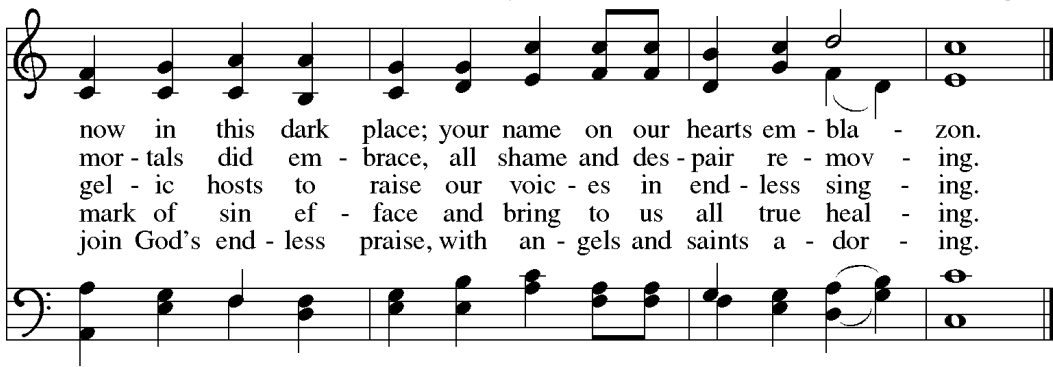
earth's ho - ri - zon, bring light from our God that we may  
earth ar - riv - ing; then came to the world that light sub -  
cross was hang - ing; and then he a - rose and moved the  
life re - veal - ing, that we might no more in death be  
us pre - par - ing, we'll gath - er in song, our hearts a -



be a - bun - dant in joy this sea - son. God, shine for us  
lime, great joy for us all re - triev - ing; for Je - sus all  
stone, that we, un - to him be - long - ing, might join with an -  
lost, its pow'r o - ver us dis - pel - ling. This flame will the  
glow, all joy of the heav - ens shar - ing, and there we will

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





now in this dark place; your name on our hearts em - bla - zon.  
 mor - tals did em - brace, all shame and des - pair re - mov - ing.  
 gel - ic hosts to raise our voic - es in end - less sing - ing.  
 mark of sin ef - face and bring to us all true heal - ing.  
 join God's end - less praise, with an - gels and saints a - dor - ing.

**\*\* Dismissal**

Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

Thanks be to God!

**Postlude**

*Chancel flowers are given by St. Stephen's to the Glory of God.*

*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

**Music Director:**

Claudio Espejo

**Assisting Minister/Lector:**

Karen Weber

**Usher:**

John Gordon

**Altar Guild:**

Michele Torchia

**Camera:**

Ann Iona Warner

**Ministers:**

The people of St. Stephen's

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

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