



# St. Stephen's Lutheran Church

## HOLY COMMUNION

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
August 25, 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 sharp minor*

Bach

**Welcome**

**Joys & Concerns**

**\*\* Thanksgiving for Baptism**

We give you thanks, holy and gracious God,  
for you created the waters of the earth:  
wide oceans, rushing streams, clear lakes, mighty rivers.

You led your people through the sea and called them to life in covenant with you.  
Your Son was baptized in the river Jordan to begin his mission among us.  
You pour out your Holy Spirit to renew the face of the earth.

Through this water remind us of the gift of baptism.

When we were baptized in Christ Jesus,  
we were baptized into his death.

We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death,  
so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father,  
we too might live a new life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his,  
we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

God of grace and glory, we remember before you today our sister Eleanor.

We thank you for giving her to us to know and to love as a companion in our pilgrimage on earth. In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see that death has been swallowed up in the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ, so that we may live in confidence and hope until, by your call, we are gathered to our heavenly home in the company of all your saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

## \*\* Gathering Hymn

*When Morning Gilds the Skies*

ELW 853

1 When morn-ing gilds the skies, my heart a - wak - ing cries:  
2 When mirth for mu - sic longs, this is my song of songs:  
3 No love - lier an - ti - phon in all high heav'n is known  
4 Let all of hu - man - kind in this their con - cord find:  
5 Sing, sun and stars of space, sing, all who see his face,

may Je - sus Christ be praised! When eve - ning shad - ows fall,  
may Je - sus Christ be praised! God's ho - ly house of prayer  
than "Je - sus Christ be praised!" There to the e - ter - nal Word  
may Je - sus Christ be praised! Let all the earth a - round  
sing, "Je - sus Christ be praised!" God's whole cre - a - tion o'er,

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

this rings my cur - few call: may Je - sus Christ be praised!  
 has none that can com - pare with "Je - sus Christ be praised!"  
 the e - ter - nal psalm is heard: oh, Je - sus Christ be praised!  
 ring joy - ous with the sound: may Je - sus Christ be praised!  
 to - day and ev - er - more shall Je - sus Christ be praised!

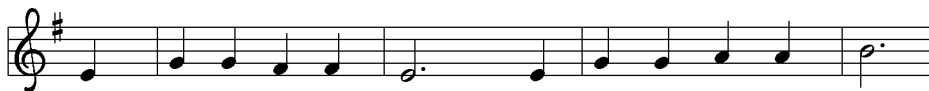
Text: German hymn, 19th cent.; tr. Robert Bridges, 1844–1930, alt.  
 Music: LAUDES DOMINI, Joseph Barnby, 1838–1896

## \*\* 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**

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm**

Psalm 34:15-22

<sup>15</sup>The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous,  
and his ears are open to their cry.

<sup>16</sup>**The face of the LORD is against evildoers,  
to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth.**

<sup>17</sup>When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears,  
and rescues them from all their troubles.

<sup>18</sup>**The LORD is near to the brokenhearted,  
and saves the crushed in spirit.**

<sup>19</sup>Many are the afflictions of the righteous,  
but the LORD rescues them from them all.

<sup>20</sup>**He keeps all their bones;  
not one of them will be broken.**

<sup>21</sup>Evil brings death to the wicked,  
and those who hate the righteous will be condemned.

<sup>22</sup>**The LORD redeems the life of his servants;  
none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.**

**\*\* 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 6:56-69

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**

*Blessed Assurance*

ELW 638



1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!  
2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;  
3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,



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

Heir of sal - va - tion, pur - chase of God, born of his Spir - it, washed in his blood.  
 an - gels de - scend - ing bring from a - bove ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love.  
 watch - ing and wait - ing, look - ing a - bove, filled with his good - ness, lost in his love.

*Refrain*

This is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long:

this is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915  
 Music: ASSURANCE, Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830–1908

\*\* 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 what God has given us: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. A financial gift to St Stephen's supports the work of the congregation in our community.*

## \*\* 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.

\*\* 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

*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.

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

2

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

du är när - het he - lä 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!

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 ÄR 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.**

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

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.**

**\*\* 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**

**Lamb of God**



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;

2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;

3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.

you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.

e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

**\*\* 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

*Refrain*



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




Bread of life, cup of love, we re-joyce 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.

*Refrain*



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.

## 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.

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

# Sending

*We are sent into the world to serve.*

## \*\* Blessing

## \*\* Sending Hymn

*Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer*

ELW 618

1 Guide me ev - er, great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this  
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain where the heal - ing  
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land. I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me  
wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me  
fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me

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

with your pow'r-ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,  
 all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer, strong de - liv - 'rer,  
 safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs and prais - es, songs and prais - es

feed me now and ev - er-more, ev - er-more, feed me now and ev - er - more.  
 shield me with your might-y arm, might-y arm, shield me with your might-y arm.  
 I will raise for - ev - er-more, ev - er-more, I will raise for - ev - er - more.

Text: William Williams, 1717-1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722-1796, alt.  
 Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873-1932

**\*\* Dismissal**

Go in peace,  
**To Love, To Invite, To Serve.**  
 Share your bread!  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude:** *Fugue in f sharp minor*

Bach

*Flowers are given by Michael Farthing and Todd Gockley  
 in celebration of Todd'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  
pastor@ststeph.org

**Music Director:**

Claudio Espejo

**Assisting Minister/Lector:**

Bob Linderman

**Usher:**

John Gordon

**Altar Guild:**

Sally Dudderar

**Camera:**

John Gordon

**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.

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