



St. Stephen's Lutheran Church

HOLY COMMUNION

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany
February 16, 2025

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: *Etude in c minor*

Espejo

Welcome

Joys & Concerns

**** Confession and 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,
our creator,
our protector,
our wellspring of life.

Amen.

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,
you speak blessing and compassion into the world.
Forgive us for the ways we act
with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.
We ignore the needs of our neighbors;
we resist your call to oppose injustice;
we give in to scarcity and fear;
we assume the worst about one another.
Cleanse us from our faults
and release us from their grasp.
Show us your lovingkindness.
Restore our hearts and repair your world,
that we may live in Christ's ways.
Amen.

God proclaims these words of assurance:
"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.
I have called you by name. You are mine."
In ☩ Christ, you are forgiven.
In the Spirit, you are made free.
Refreshed by the waters of mercy,
live anew as beloved children of God.
Amen.

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

**** Gathering Hymn**

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.

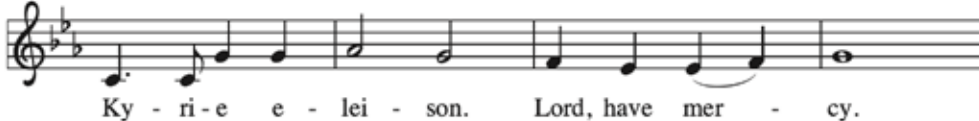
**** Please stand as you are able. Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.**

** 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.

** Kyrie



** Hymn of Praise



1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;

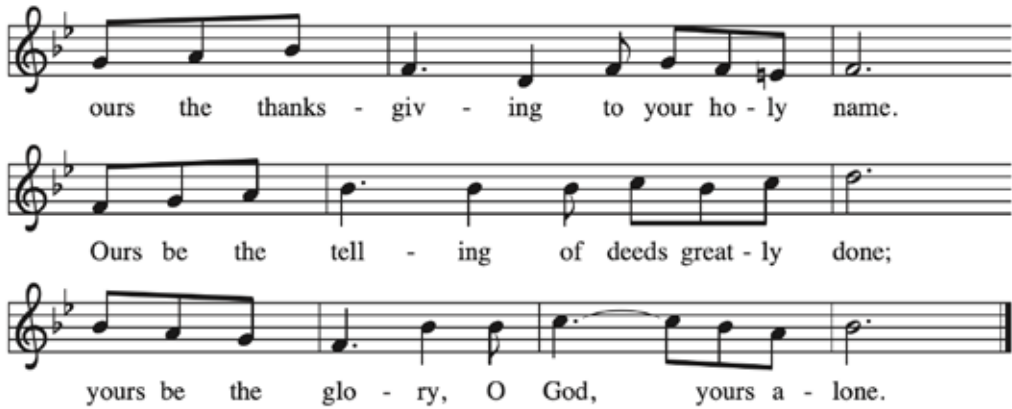


yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.
yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.
yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.



Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;
Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;
Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;

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



ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.
Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;
yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

**** Prayer of the Day**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Living God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

**** 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

Jeremiah 17:5-10

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 1

¹Happy are those
who do not follow the advice of the wicked,
or take the path that sinners tread,
or sit in the seat of scoffers;

²**but their delight is in the law of the LORD,
and on his law they meditate day and night.**

³They are like trees
planted by streams of water,
which yield their fruit in its season,
and their leaves do not wither.
In all that they do, they prosper.

⁴**The wicked are not so,
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.**

⁵Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

⁶**for the LORD watches over the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked will perish.**

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 15:12-20

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

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

**** Gospel Acclamation**



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

**** Gospel**

Luke 6:17-26

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

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

**** Gospel Acclamation**

Please see gospel acclamation above.

Sermon

Rob Gurnee, Executive Director, Lutheran Community Services

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

** Hymn of the Day

When the Poor Ones

ELW 725



1 *Cuan-do el po-bre na-da tie-ne y a ún re-par-te,*
1 When the poor ones, who have noth-ing, still are giv-ing;
2 When com-pas-sion gives the suf-f'ring con-so-la-tion;
3 When our spir-its, like a chal-ice, brim with glad-ness;
4 When the good-ness poured from heav-en fills our dwell-ings;



cuan-do al-guén pa-sa sed ya-gua nos da,
when the thirst-y pass the cup, wa-ter to share;
when ex-pect-ing brings to birth hope that was lost;
when our voic-es, full and clear, sing out the truth;
when the na-tions work to change war in-to peace;



cuan-do el dé-bil a su her-ma-no for-ta-le-ce:
when the wound-ed of-fer oth-ers strength and heal-ing;
when we choose love, not the ha-tred all a-round us;
when our long-ings, free from en-vy, seek the hum-ble:
when the strang-er is ac-cept-ed as our neigh-bor:

Refrain / Estribillo



Va Dios mis-mo en nues-tro mis-mo ca-mi-nar;
We see God, here by our side, walk-ing our way;



va Dios mis-mo en nues-tro mis-mo ca-mi-nar.
we see God, here by our side, walk-ing our way.

Text: José Antonio Olivar, b. 1939; tr. Martin A. Seltz, b. 1951

Music: EL CAMINO, Miguel Manzano, b. 1934

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

**** Statement of Faith**

As a sign of our love for each other and God's whole creation, let us proclaim together St. Stephen's Welcome Statement.

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 – that Christ breaks down the dividing walls between us and makes us one.

**** Prayers of the People**

Each portion of the prayer ends with:

Response: God of grace, receive our prayer.

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.

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

**** Offering Song**

Welcome Table

ACS 969

1 I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel-come ta - ble,
2 I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey,
3 I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er,

I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel-come ta - ble, some of these days.
I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon-ey, some of these days.
I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er, some of these days.

I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel-come ta - ble,
I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey,
I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er,

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

I'm goin' - a eat at the wel - come ta - ble, some of these days.
 I'm goin' - a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey, some of these days.
 I'm goin' - a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er, some of these days.

Text: African American spiritual
 Music: WELCOME TABLE, African American spiritual; arr. Mark Hayes, b. 1953
 Arr. © 2003 Augsburg Fortress

**** Offering Prayer**

God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens,
 and your abundance to the depths of the seas.
 Bless what we offer to your service:
 our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts.
 Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity,
 now and always.
Amen.

**** Dialogue**

The Lord be with you.
 Lift up your hearts.
 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**And also with you.
 We lift them to the Lord.
 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



God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your



glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the



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



Ho - san - na, 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

** 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



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.

** 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. Come forward, take an empty cup from the table, then kneel or stand along the Communion rail. If you require GF wafers, please tell the minister. Our chalices contain red wine and amber-colored juice. As you return to your seat, place your used cup in the receptacle at the end of the first row of pews. If you wish to receive words of blessing, simply tell the minister.

Communion Hymn

Let Us Break Bread Together

ELW 471

1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;
2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;
3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;

let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.
let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.
let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.

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

Refrain

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing

sun, O Lord, have mer-cy on me.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: BREAK BREAD TOGETHER, African American spiritual

** 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.

Nourishing God,

at this table you have refreshed us
with holy gifts of food and drink.

Strengthen us for service,

and send us out to embody your good news

of liberation and healing for the sake of the world.

In the name of Christ we pray,

Amen.

Announcements

Sending

We are sent into the world to serve.

**** Blessing**

The Spirit of the triune God

✙ bless you with joy,

anoint you with compassion,

and send you in love.

Amen.

**** Sending Hymn**

Light Dawns on a Weary World

ELW 726



1 **Light** dawns on a wea - ry world when eyes be - gin to
2 **Love** grows in a wea - ry world when hun - gry hearts find
3 **Hope** blooms in a wea - ry world when crea-tures, once for -

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



see all peo - ple's dig - ni - ty. Light dawns on a
bread and chil - dren's dreams are fed. Love grows in a
lorn, find wil - der - ness re - born. Hope blooms in a



wea - ry world: the prom - ised day of jus - tice comes.
wea - ry world: the prom - ised feast of plen - ty comes.
wea - ry world: the prom - ised green of E - den comes.



Refrain
The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;



the hills and moun - tains shall break forth with sing - ing!



We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,



as all the world in won - der ech - oes sha - lom.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

Music: TEMPLE OF PEACE, William P. Rowan, b. 1951

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

**** Dismissal**

Go in peace,
To Love, To Invite, To Serve.
Live in hope.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude: *Prelude and Fugue in e*

Pachelbel

*Flowers are given by John Rodammer
in honor of his wife's birthday*

Participants in Today's Service

Pastor:

The Rev. Susan Loney
pastor@ststeph.org

Guest Preacher:

Rob Gurnee, Executive Director, Lutheran Community Services

Music Director:

Claudio Espejo

Assisting Minister/Lector:

Michael Farthing

Camera:

John Gordon

Altar Guild:

Karleen Strayer

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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