

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church HOLY COMMUNION

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost August 13, 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.

Gathering

Prelude

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, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.

Merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned. We have hurt our community.

We have squandered your blessings.

We have hoarded your bounty.

In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Righteous God,

we confess that we have sinned.

We have failed to be honest.

We have lacked the courage to speak.

We have spoken falsely.

In the name of Jesus,

forgive us and grant us your mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

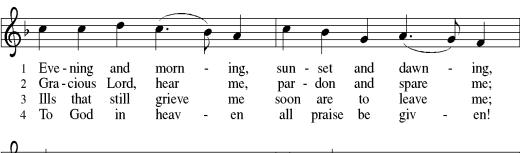
God is a cup of cold water... in the name of ♣ Jesus Christ.

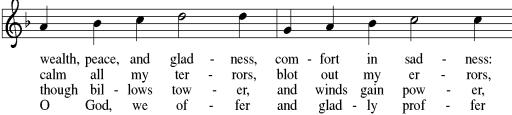
Amen.

** Gathering Hymn

Evening and Morning

ELW 761





^{**} 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.

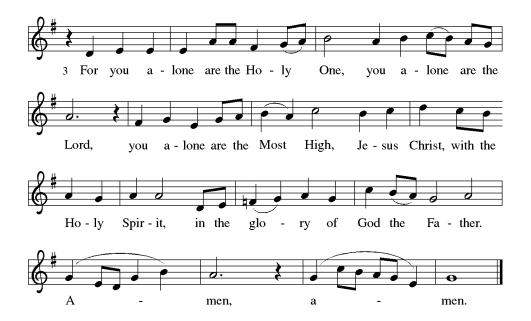
And also with you.

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

** Hymn of Praise



^{**} 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.

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

1 Kings 19:9-18 (p. 322-323)

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 85:8-13

The Psalm will be read responsively.

- ⁸I will listen to what the LORD God is saying; for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to you.
- ⁹Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you, that your glory may dwell in our land.
- ¹⁰Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
- ¹¹Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth, and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
- ¹²The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, and our land will yield its increase.
- ¹³Righteousness shall go before the LORD and shall prepare for God a pathway.

Second Reading

Romans 10:5-15 (p. 1032)

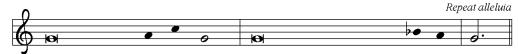
Word of God. Word of Life. Thanks be to God.

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

** Gospel Acclamation







Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e-ter-nal life.

** Gospel

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

Matthew 14:22-33 (p. 892)

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

** Gospel Acclamation

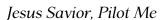
Please see gospel acclamation above.

Sermon

The Rev. Susan Loney

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

ELW 755





^{**} 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, Your mercy is great.

^{**} 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.

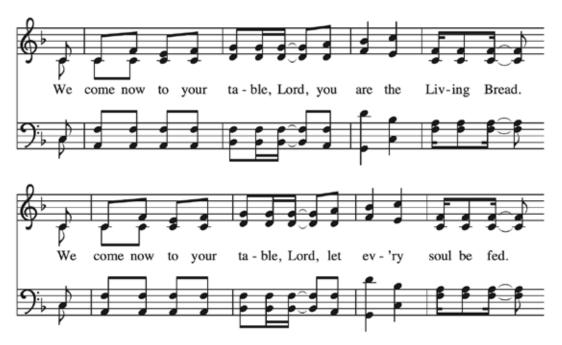
Offering

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.

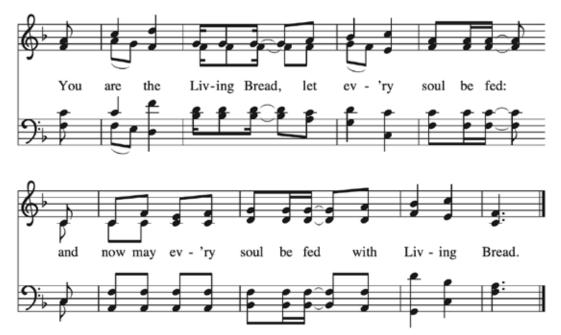
** Offering Song

We Come Now to Your Table, Lord

ACS 970



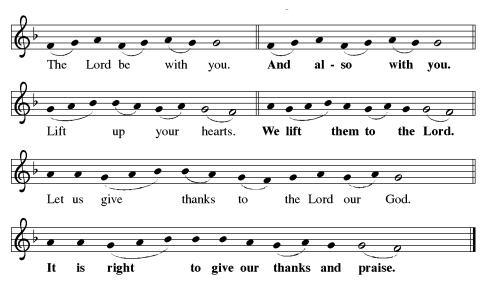
^{**} Please stand as you are able. Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.



** Offering Prayer

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

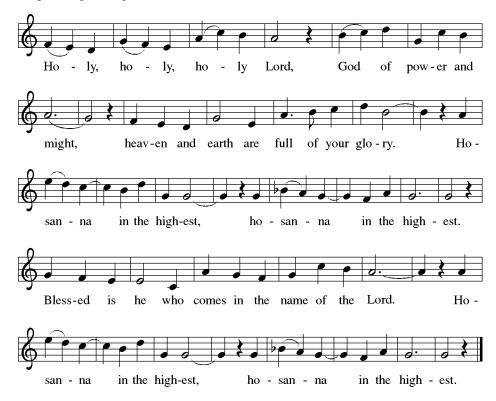
** Dialogue



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

** Preface

** Holy, Holy, Holy



** Thanksgiving at the Table

Holy God, our Maker, Healer and Redeemer....both now and forever. **Amen.**

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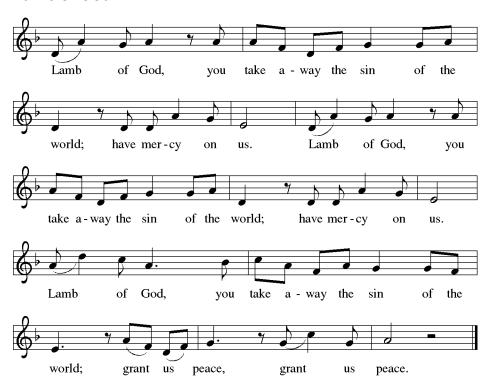
** Lord's Prayer

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,

Invitation to Communion

now and forever. Amen.

Lamb of God



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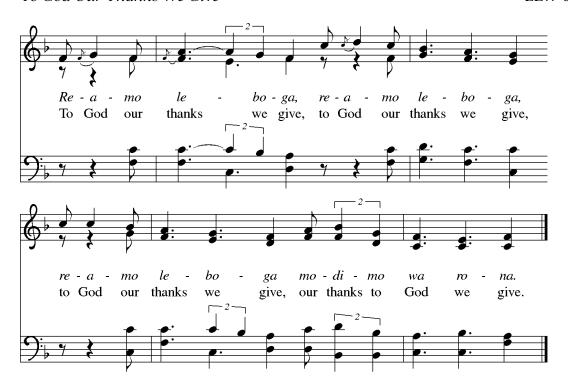
Communion

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. Wheat and GF wafers are available as are red wine and white grape juice.

Communion Hymn

To God Our Thanks We Give

ELW 682



Communion Blessing

^{**} 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.

Post Communion Prayer

Together, let us pray.

We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table.
Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Announcements

** Blessing

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

ELW 763



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



** Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the harvest.

Thanks be to God!

Postlude

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

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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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Participants in Today's Service

Pastor:

The Rev. Susan Loney

Music Director:

Claudio Espejo

Assisting Minister/Lector:

Michael Farthing

Usher:

John Rodammer

Altar Guild:

Karleen Strayer

Camera:

John Gordon

Ministers:

The people of St. Stephen's