

Even the wind
and the sea
obey him

MARK 4:41



5th Sunday after Pentecost

June 23, 2024

10:00 a.m.

Welcome to people new to this church or faith, long time Lutherans, and Christians from every tradition. Welcome to all who have no church home, want to follow Christ, have doubts, or do not believe. Welcome to new visitors and old friends. Welcome to people of every age and size, color and culture, sexual orientation and marital status, ability and challenge. Welcome to believers and questioners and questioning believers. This is a place where you are welcome to celebrate and sorrow, rejoice and recover. This is a place where lives are made new. Welcome on this day.

Please fill out the “Worship Slip” and place it in the offering plate.

(*) Asterisk means, “Please stand as you are able.”

Music

“Morning” David Cherwien
Tune Johann Ebeling 1676

The Gathering

*Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

**C: In the name of the Father,
And of the + Son,
And of the Holy Spirit.
Amen**

P: Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

**C: Merciful God,
You free us to love others,
But we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,
But we turn away from the abundant life you offer.
You surround us with patience, kindness,
And generosity,
But we grow weary in doing what is right.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Do not give up on us.
Heal us, break our bonds,
And show us the path of life.
Amen.**

P: You belong to Christ Jesus
And you are God's children through faith.
In the cross of + Christ,
And through the power of the Holy Spirit,
Your sins are forgiven.
Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.
C: Amen.

*Opening Hymn

“What is This Place” Red #524

What is this place where we are meeting?
Only a house, the earth it's floor.
Walls and a roof sheltering people,
windows for light, an open door.
Yet it becomes a body that lives
when we are gathered here,
and know our God is near.

(hymn continued)

Words from afar, stars that are falling,
Sparks that are sown in us like seed:
Names for our God, dreams, signs and wonders
sent from the past are all we need.
We in this place remember and speak
again what we have heard:
God's free redeeming word.

And we accept bread at this table,
Broken and shared, a living sign.
Here in this world, dying and living,
We are each other's bread and wine.
This is the place where we can receive
What we need to increase:
Our justice and God's peace.

*Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.

C: And also with you

Kyrie "Spirit, Open My Heart" ACS #1043

REFRAIN

Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.
As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving.
Spirit, open my heart.

1. God, replace my stony heart
with a heart that's kind and tender.
All my coldness and fear
to your grace I now surrender.

REFRAIN

2. Write your love upon my heart
as my law, my goal, my story.
In each thought, word, and deed,
may my living bring you glory.

REFRAIN

3. May I weep with those who weep;
Share the joy of friend and neighbor.
As I live from day to day,
love will be my finest labor.

REFRAIN

*Prayer of the Day

God Stories

The Word of God

First Reading Ezekiel 17:22-24 Celebrate pg. 1

R: Word of God, Word of Life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

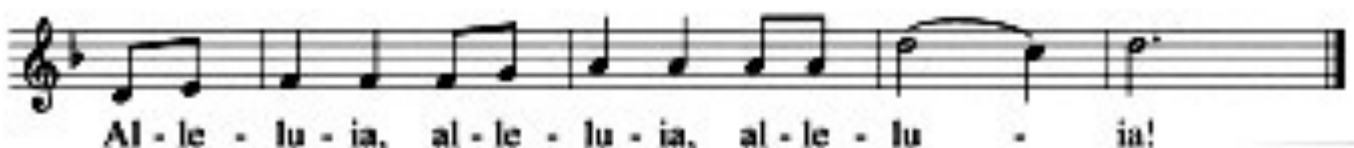
Second Reading 2 Corinthians 5:6-17 Celebrate pg. 2

R: Word of God, Word of Life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

*Gospel Acclamation

ELW #175

ALLELUIA



*Gospel Reading

Mark 4:26-34

Celebrate pg. 3

P: The Holy Gospel acc. to St. Mark, the 4th Chapter

C: Glory to you. O God.

(The Gospel is read)

P: This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Message

Rev. James Lapp

*Hymn of the Day

“God Bestows on Every Sense”

ACS #1069

God bestows on ev’ry sense
beauty as hope’s evidence:
Signs of what the earth will be
just beyond what we can see.

Catch a fleeting glimpse of grace
In an unexpected place;
Just a taste, the smallest crumb
Of the banquet yet to come.

Vibrant pictures in our dreams,
Brushed with crystal color schemes,
Vanish from a waking mind,
Leaving just a trace behind.

In a burnt and blackened field
Broken ground begins to yield
Tiny, fragile sprouts of green;
Hints of forests yet unseen.

God makes all creation new,
Turning back what people do,
Building up what we destroy,
Singing sorrow into joy.

*The Prayers of the Church

Celebrate, Page 4

The Communion Meal

* Passing of the Peace

P: May the peace of God be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

Offering — We honor and worship God by returning some
of the gifts with which we have been blessed.

Music “Hallelujah! Jesus Lives” J. Carlson

Offering Prayer

P: Creator God,

In your wisdom you bring forth all that is good

And the harvest is plentiful.

Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth

And our labor,

That we may work for the good of all;

Through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: **Amen**

*Great Thanksgiving

P: May God be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to God

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our JOY...

*Words of Institution

*Lord's Prayer

**C: Our Father, in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is 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**

P: The gifts of God for the people of God.
Come for all is ready!

(You may be seated)

Invitation to Communion

P: The kingdom of God is set before you.
Eat and rejoice.

Communion Gathering Song

“As the Wind” ACS #943

As the wind song through the trees,
as the stirring of the breeze,
so it is with the Spirit of God,
as the heart made strangely warm,
as the voice within the storm,
so it is with the Spirit of God.
Never seen, ever known where this wind has blown
bringing life, bringing pow’r to the world,
as the dancing tongues of fire,
as the soul’s most deep desire,
so it is with the Spirit of God.

As the rainbow after rain, as the hope that’s born again,
so it is with the Spirit of God,
as the green in the . . . spring,
as a kite on a . . . String, so it is with the Spirit of God,
making worlds that are new, making peace come true,
bringing gifts, bringing love to the world,
As the rising of the yeast, as the wine at the . . . feast,
so it is with the Spirit of God.

Communion Hymn

“Precious Lord, Take My Hand” Red #773

Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.

Through the storm, through the night,
lead me on to the light.

Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

When my way grows...drear, precious Lord, linger near,
When my life is...almost...gone,

Hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall.

Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

When the darkness appears and the night draws..near,
And the day is...past and ...gone,

At the river I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand.

Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

The Sending

*Prayer after Communion

P: Mothering God,
You gathered us to your table
And we drank deeply of your grace.
Send us out by your Spirit
To love our neighbors as ourselves
And proclaim your love in Jesus' name.

C: Amen

*Blessing

P: The love of God abound in you;
The grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts;

And the life of the Spirit
+ bless you and give you peace.

C: Amen

*Closing Hymn

“My Life Flows on in Endless Song” Red #763

My life flows on in endless song;
above earth's lamentation
I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn
that hails a new creation.

REFRAIN

No storm can shake my inmost calm
while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth,
How can I keep from singing?

Through all the tumult and the strife
I hear that music ringing.
It finds an echo in my soul.
How can I keep from singing? REFRAIN

What though my joys and comforts die?
The lord my Savior liveth.
What though the darkness gather round?
Songs in the night he giveth. REFRAIN

The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,
A fountain ever springing.
All things are mine since I am his!
How can I keep from singing? REFRAIN

*Dismissal

P: Go in Peace. Live by the Spirit.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Music “O Lord, We Praise You” B. Culli 1953

Serving Today

Reader: Bill Schraft

Coffee Host: Bill & Margaret Schraft

Office Support: Sheila Buswell & Sherilyn Jager



Music at St. Stephen's

The singers will be on their summer break and will return in the Fall. Think about joining, we need you!

Please come and share your talents ~ anything musical. We will rejoice!

Yours in Christ, and Mission ~ Gary



Prayer Concerns

SHORT TERM: *Mary D., Candace Anderson & family, Family of Gary Meeker, Galahad, Susan O., Family of Mike Homer, Debbie, Sam, Michael Lee, Nate Barker, Grandpa Dennis, Bob & Shirley Salter, Monica & Family, Lurline Moore, Barry Hansen, Beth Butler, Family & friends of Sgt. William Nelson, Jen, Robbin, Maria Mendoza, Ila & Reina, Family of Richard Barker, Francisco, Margot Wilson, Michael, Keith, Noelle, Ensley, Tim Oldfield, Sierra, Beth's mom, Julie R., Anne Rice, Rosie, The Webber Family, Janet, Sue, Middle East Peace, Tom Dawson, James, Keith, Taiyo, Marissa, Isaac, Alvarado family, Dustin, Eric Utto-Galarneau, Father Jack Davis, Atlas, Sandi Csik, Janica Paustian, James, John, Elida, Jeannie, Anetta, Jane, Barbara Allen, Joel Hurttgam, Sandy, Levi & Alexandria, Gary Toops, Donna Kemper, Paul Cunningham, Paul Paustian, Dawit & Family (Ethiopia), Gaye Cornell, Dorothy, Rachel B., Anne & Chloe Johnston, Nancy, Mateo & Lina, Don, Atlas, Anthony, Steve, Rose, Will, Aaron Johnson, Sal, Katarina, Stephanie Jager, Parents, Healthcare workers & teachers.*

LONG TERM: *Biergiel—Colclough family, Carla Brown, April McCalmont, Marty Nehring, Miller Mouw, Kyle Lapp, Shelby Volpi, Ashley, Frank, Joe, Dom, Lisa & Beau, Linda Johnson, Bailey Ingalls, Jan Shadle, Vi Olly, Bobbie Erickson, Joyce, Mike, Susan Anderson, Jan Wagner, Richard C., Brouse Family, Janet Baker, Sandy Godvine, Janelle Yung, Karin, Will, Chris, Pearl Runquist, Volpi & Robe Family, Cabel, Noah, Esdras, Immigrant families, The Homeless, People of Ukraine, Our Nation's leaders, Mt. Cross, St. Stephen's Child Development Ctr, S.S. Senior Housing, Pastor Jim & Our Church Family, men & women of Armed Forces, and the Youth of today.*

*The Altar Flowers are given
by Paul & Connie
For all our family*





Sister Parish News

Prayer Child Sponsorships - *Thank you* to those who have committed to support your prayer children for another year and have made the associated donations. We would also like you to write a short letter to your prayer child and include a photo. Please send them to:

Marian Langdon
220 Horizon Way
Aptos, CA 95003

There are 6 children that still need a sponsor. If you want to sponsor a child, please let me know. Thank you!

2024 Delegation?

Planning has begun for a delegation this year. It will probably be in November. Please let me know if you are interested in going to El Salvador.



Provide Lunches for volunteers
10:30 am
June 25
Sandwiches still needed

Upcoming Events:

June Benevolence Offering
Society for the Prevention of Suicide

- | | |
|-------------|------------------------------------------|
| June 24 | CDC Board 11:15 am |
| June 25 | Provide Habitat Lunches 10:30 am |
| June 25 | Boy Scouts 7:00 pm |
| June 27 | Mens beginner A.A. Thursday 7:00 pm |
| June 28 | A.A. Friday 7:00 pm |
| June 30 | Pastor Carol Been presiding |
| July 8 & 22 | Women's Café Group Mondays at 6:00 pm |
| July 9 | Church Council 6:30 pm |
| July 10 | Preschool Chapel resumes 10:15 am |
| July 10 | Bible Study Resumes Wed. 11 am & 7:30 pm |
| July 13 | Property Work Day 9:00 am |
| July 15 | NL Deadline noon |
| July 22 | NL Collating 1:00 |

Pastor's Office Hours Wed & Thurs. 10:00 to 1:00

Our Mission Statement

St. Stephen's is a welcoming, healing community who worship God in Christ, nurture people growing in faith, serve others with acceptance and love, invite people to share the joy of the Spirit.

Reconciling in Christ

"We welcome all who are seeking God's love and grace. We welcome all because God welcomes all, regardless of race or culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or relationship status. We welcome all without regard to addictions, physical or mental health, imprisonment, socio-economic circumstances, or anything that too often divides us. Our unity is in Christ."

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Office Hours: Mon.—Fri. Noon—5:00 pm

Ministers: The People of St. Stephen's
Pastor: Rev. James P. Lapp
Church Administrator: Leslie Lapp
Music Director: Gary Roberts
Pre-School Director: Kathy Berens
Sunday School: Leslie Lapp
Custodian: John Hopping
Powerpoint: Jay Johnston, Kent Madsen & Barbara Rice

Music used by permission Onelicense #A-706539