

John
was a
righteous
and holy man.

MARK 6:20

8th Sunday after Pentecost

July 14, 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

“That Priceless Grace” arr. by Arron D. Miller

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 *"Canticle of the Turning"* #723

My soul cries out with a joyful shout
That the God of my heart is great,
And my spirit sings of the wondrous things
That you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight,
And my weakness you did not spurn,
So from east to west shall my name be blest.
Could the world be about to turn?

REFRAIN

*My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,
and the world is about to turn.*

(hymn continued)

Though I am small, my...God, my all,
You work great...things in me,
And your mercy will last from the depths of the past
To the end of the age to be.
Your very name puts the proud to shame,
And to those who would for you yearn,
You will show your might, put the strong to flight,
For the world is about to turn. *REFRAIN*

From the halls of pow'r to the fortress tow'r,
Not a stone will be left on stone.
Let the king beware for your justice tears
Ev'ry tyrant...from his throne.
The hungry poor shall...weep no more,
For the food they can never earn;
There are tables spread, ev'ry mouth be fed,
For the world is about to turn. *REFRAIN*

Though the nations rage from...age to age,
We remember who holds us fast:
God's mercy must deliver us
From the conqueror's crushing grasp.
This saving word that our forebears heard
is the promise which holds us bound,
Till the spear and rod can be crushed by God,
who is turning the world around. *REFRAIN*

*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

Amos 7:7-15

Celebrate pg. 1

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

Second Reading

Ephesians 1:3-14

Celebrate pg. 2

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

*Gospel Acclamation

ELW #175

ALLELUIA



*Gospel Reading

Mark 6:14-29

Celebrate pg. 3

P: The Holy Gospel acc. to St. Mark, the 6th 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

“Let Justice Flow Like a Stream” #717

Let Justice flow like streams of sparkling water, pure,
Enabling growth, refreshing life,
abundant, cleansing, sure.

Let righteousness roll on as others' cares we heed,
An ever flowing stream of faith translated into deed.

So may God's plumb line, straight,
define our measure true,
And justice right, and peace pervade this world
our whole life through.

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

“Pattetbee Sonata”
(Second Movement—Exerpt) Beethoven

Offering Prayer

P: Creator God,
In your wisdom you bring forth all that is good
And the harvest is plentiful.
Strengthen us at you 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

“Just a Closer Walk with Thee” Red #697

REFRAIN: Just a closer walk with thee,
Grant it, Jesus, is my plea;
Daily walking close to thee,
let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

I am weak but Thou are strong
Jesus, keep me from all wrong
I'll be satisfied as long
As I walk, let me walk close to thee. **REFRAIN**

Through this world of toil and snares,
If I falter, Lord, who cares?
Who with me my burden shares?
None but Thee, dear Lord, none but Thee **REFRAIN**

When my feeble life is o'er
Time for me will be no more
Guide me gently, safely o'er
to thy kingdom shore, to thy shore. **REFRAIN**

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

“Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises” #535

REFRAIN

Hallelujah! We sing your praises,
All our hearts are filled with gladness.
Hallelujah! We sing your praises,
All our hearts are filled with gladness

Christ the Lord to us said: I am wine, I am bread,
I am wine, I am bread, give to all who thirst and hunger.

REFRAIN

Now he sends us all out, strong in faith, free of doubt,
Strong in faith, free of doubt.

Tell to all the joyful Gospel.

REFRAIN

*Dismissal

P: Go in Peace. Live by the Spirit.

C: Thanks be to God.

Music “Rigaudon” Andre Camara
From Idomegnce, 1712

Serving Today

Reader: Robert Alvarado

Coffee Host: Jeanette Dawson

Office Support: Sheila Buswell & Sherilyn Jager

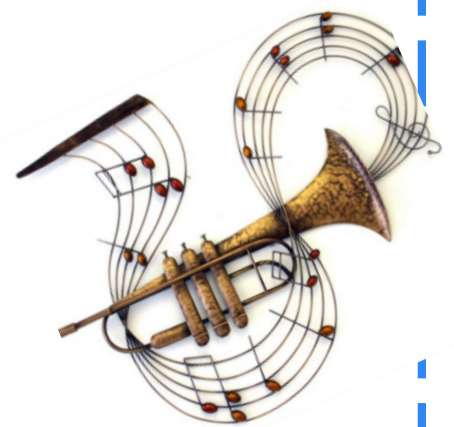
Music at St. Stephen's

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!

July 21 — Guest Rawley Capone
on Trumpet

Yours in Christ, and Mission ~
Gary





Prayer Concerns

SHORT TERM: James, Beth Mills, Mary D., Candace Anderson & family, Family of Gary Meeker, Tom, Galahad, Susan O., Family of Mike Homer, Debbie, Sam, James, 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 Jeanette Dawson in honor of her mother
Barbara Allen's 94 birthday*





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 (November?) delegation this year. Please let me know if you are interested.



On Zoom or at Church w Pastor Jim

check email on Tues. for link

WEDNESDAYS 11:00 am & 7:30 pm

Upcoming Events:

July Benevolence Offering
ELCA World Hunger

- | | |
|----------|--|
| July 15 | Embroiders 7:00 pm |
| July 16 | Boy Scouts 7:00 pm |
| July 17 | Preschool Chapel 10:15 am |
| July 17 | Bible Study Wed. 11 am & 7:30 pm |
| July 18 | Knitter's Guild 10 am |
| July 18 | Mens beginner A.A. Thursday 7:00 pm |
| July 19 | A.A. Friday 7:00 pm |
| July 20 | A.A. Memorial 3:00 pm fellowship hall |
| July 22 | CDC Board 11:15 am |
| July 22 | Women's Café Group Mondays at 6:00 pm |
| July 27 | Knitters Workshop 9:00—4:00 fireside room |
| July 28 | NO Sunday School |
| August 4 | SAVE THE DATE
Potluck and back to school blessing |

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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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