

Jesus had
compassion
for them, because they were
like sheep without a shepherd

MARK 6:34



9th Sunday after Pentecost

July 21, 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

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

“Build a Longer Table” Blue #1062

*Build a longer table, not a higher wall,
Feeding those who hunger, making room for all.
Feasting together, stranger turns to friend,
Christ breaks walls to pieces;
False divisions end.*

*Build a safer refuge, not a larger jail;
Where the weak find shelter, mercy will not fail.
For any place where justice is denied,
Christ will breach the jail wall, freeing all inside.*

(hymn continued)

*Build a broader doorway, not a longer fence.
Love protects all people, sparing no expense.
When we embrace compassion more than fear,
Christ tears down our fences; all are welcome here.*

*When we lived as exiles, refugees abroad,
Christ became our doorway to the reign of God.
So must our tables welcome those who roam.
None can be excluded; all must find a home.*

*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 Jeremiah 23:1-6 Celebrate pg. 1

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

Second Reading Ephesians 2:11-22 Celebrate pg. 2

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

*Gospel Acclamation

ELW #175

ALLELUIA



*Gospel Reading Mark 6:30-34, 53-56 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

“Sometimes Our Only Song is Weeping” *Blue #1050*

Sometimes our only song is weeping;
Our only sound is gasping breath.
Sometimes it seems that God is sleeping
While our brief lives are bound in death.
Who hears the song our sorrows swallow
And offers hope to calm our fears?
When all our words seem frail and hollow,
God heeds the prayers within our tears.

Sometimes we catch the faintest humming,
A far-off tune our hearts know well.
Sometimes we sense the Spirit coming.
Our song returns; our voices swell.
The Spirit sings though we are shaken,
And Christ shared our heartfelt cries.
Restored, our weary souls awaken
To join God’s song that never dies.

*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

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

“There is a Longing in Our Hearts”

Blue #1078

REFRAIN

*There is a longing in our hearts, O Lord,
for you to reveal yourself to us.*

There is a longing in our hearts

for love we only find in you, our God.

For justice, for freedom, for mercy; hear our prayer.

In sorrow, in grief; be near; hear our prayer, O God.

REFRAIN

For wisdom, for courage, for comfort; hear our prayer.

In weakness, in fear; be near; hear our prayer, O God.

REFRAIN

For healing, for wholeness, for new life;

hear our prayer.

In sickness, in death; be near; hear our prayer, O God.

REFRAIN

Lord, save us, take pity, light in our deepest night.

We call you; we wait; be near; hear our prayer, O God.

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 *“All People That on Earth do Dwell”*
Blue #883

*All people that on earth do dwell,
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
Him serve with mirth, his praise forth tell;
Come ye before him and rejoice,*

*Know that the Lord is God in deed;
Without our aid he did us make.
We are his folk, he doth us feed,
And for his sheep he doth us take.*

*Oh, enter then his gates with praise;
Approach with joy his courts unto;
Praise, laud, and bless his name always,
for it is seemly so to do.*

*For why: The Lord our God is good;
His mercy is forever sure;
His truth at all times firmly stood,
and shall from age to age endure.*

*To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
The God whom heav'n and earth adore,
From us and from the angel host
be praise and glory ever more.*

*Dismissal

P: Go in Peace. Live by the Spirit.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Music

Serving Today

Reader: Barbara Johnston

Coffee Host: Alyssa Burkhardt

Office Support: Sheila Buswell & Sherilyn Jager

Music at St. Stephen's

Jeanette Dawson and Tina Gates singing:

“You Have Come Down To the Lakeshore”

As long there is music, you are never alone.

Please come and share your talents, be part of worship through music.. We will rejoice!

July 21 — Guest Rawley Capone

Trumpet and Organ

Yours in Christ, and Mission ~
Gary





Prayer Concerns

SHORT TERM: Family of Sandra Barker, Family of Tom Harris, 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.

Sign up to offer Altar Flowers





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 22 CDC Board 11:15 am
- July 22 Women's Café Group Mondays at 6:00 pm
- July 23 Boy Scouts 7:00 pm
- July 24 Preschool Chapel 10:15 am
- July 24 Bible Study Wed. 11 am & 7:30 pm
- July 25 Mens beginner A.A. Thursday 7:00 pm
- July 26 Finance Committee am Fireside room
- July 26 A.A. Friday 7:00 pm
- July 27 COPA 9:00 am — noon Fellowship Hall
- 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
Invite your teachers & students
Please sign up now

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

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