



Let the  
little  
children  
come  
to me

MARK 10:14

# 20th Sunday after Pentecost

October 6, 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 “Adagio” J.S. Bach

## The Gathering

### \*Confession and Forgiveness

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
Who forgives all our sin,  
Whose mercy endures forever.  
**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

*Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination*

Gracious God,  
**Have mercy on us.**  
**We confess that we have honored you with our lips,**  
**But have harmed our neighbors with our tongues.**  
**The cravings at war within us**  
**Cause conflicts and disputes.**



**In our desire to be first  
We make distinctions among ourselves.  
We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last.  
In your great mercy, forgive us our sins.  
Draw near to us with grace in time of need,  
And turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ,  
Our Savior and Lord.  
Amen.**

P: God promises to forgive our iniquity  
And to remember our sin no more.  
By grace you have been saved.  
In the name of † Jesus Christ,  
The source of eternal healing,  
Your sins are forgiven.  
**Amen.**

\*Opening Hymn      *"All Creatures Worship God Most High"*  
#835 (vs. 1-4, 6)

1. All creatures, worship God most high!  
Sound ev'ry voice in earth and sky: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Sing, brother sun, in splendor bright;  
Sing, sister moon and stars of night:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

2. Sing, brother wind; with clouds and rain  
you grow the gifts of fruit and grain:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Dear sister water, useful, clear,  
make music for your Lord to hear:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

3. Sing, brother fire, so mirthful, strong;  
drive far the shadows, join the throng:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Dear mother earth, so rich in care,  
praise God in colors bright and rare:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

4. All who for love of God forgive,  
All who in pain or sorrow grieve: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Christ bears your burdens and your fears;  
Still make your song amid tears:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

6. O sisters, brothers, take your part,  
And worship God with humble heart: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
All creatures, bless the Father, Son,  
And Holy Spirit, Three in One:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

\*Greeting

From the one who is and who was and who is to come,  
And from Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,  
Grace and peace be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

## Kyrie Refrain

*Refrain*



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.

Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.

1. For peace in the world, for the health of the church,  
for the unity of all;  
for this holy house, for all who worship and praise,  
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. REFRAIN
2. That we may live out your impassioned response  
to the hungry and the poor;  
that we may live out truth and justice and grace,  
Let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. REFRAIN
3. For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes,  
For friends and family;  
For life and for love, for our work and our play,  
Let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. REFRAIN
4. For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives  
in the water and the Word;  
That you nourish our souls with you body and blood,  
Let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. REFRAIN

# This Is the Feast

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be



peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and



hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. *Refrain* This is the feast of



vic - t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al -



le - lu - ia. 2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and



join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Final refrain*



This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

\*Prayer of the Day

P: May God be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us Pray.

God Stories

## The Word of God

First Reading

Genesis 2:18-24

Celebrate pg. 1

R: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 8

read responsively

Celebrate pg. 2

Second Reading

Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12

Celebrate pg. 3

R: Word of God, Word of Life.

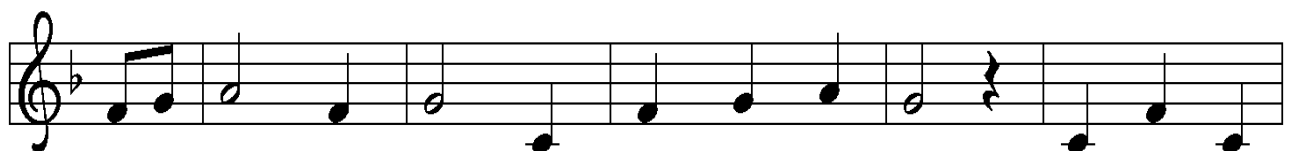
C: **Thanks be to God.**

*(Please stand as you are able)*

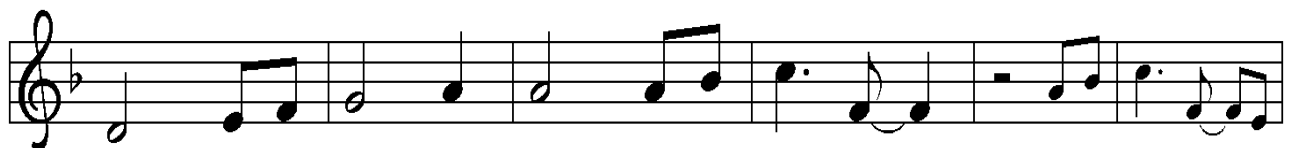
P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark

C: **Glory to you, O God**

## Gospel Acclamation



Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al-le - lu - ia.



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



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

\*Gospel Reading

Mark 10:2-16

Celebrate pg. 3

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Rev. James P. Lapp

\*Hymn of the Day

*“Before the Waters Nourished Earth”* [ACS #1049](#)

Before the waters nourished earth  
or night imagined morning,  
a Love conceived the universe  
and reveled in its forming.

This Love remained as time revealed  
the loss of Eden’s glory  
and, grieving, holds in memory  
each tragic human story.

Despair, so deep it bears no name,  
or sorrows paralyzing  
cannot revoke Love’s faithful claim  
to dwell within our dying.

The Love that called creation good  
all goodness still is bringing.  
This Love turns death again to life  
and silence in to singing.

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            “O Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us”

### Offering Prayer

P: Let us Pray...

**C: Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills  
Were gathered together to become one bread,  
So let your church be gathered together  
From the ends of the earth into your kingdom,  
For yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever.  
Amen**

### \ \*Great Thanksgiving

P: May God be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord**

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, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection, you pour out the fire of your Spirit, uniting in one body people of every tongue and nation.

\*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 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**

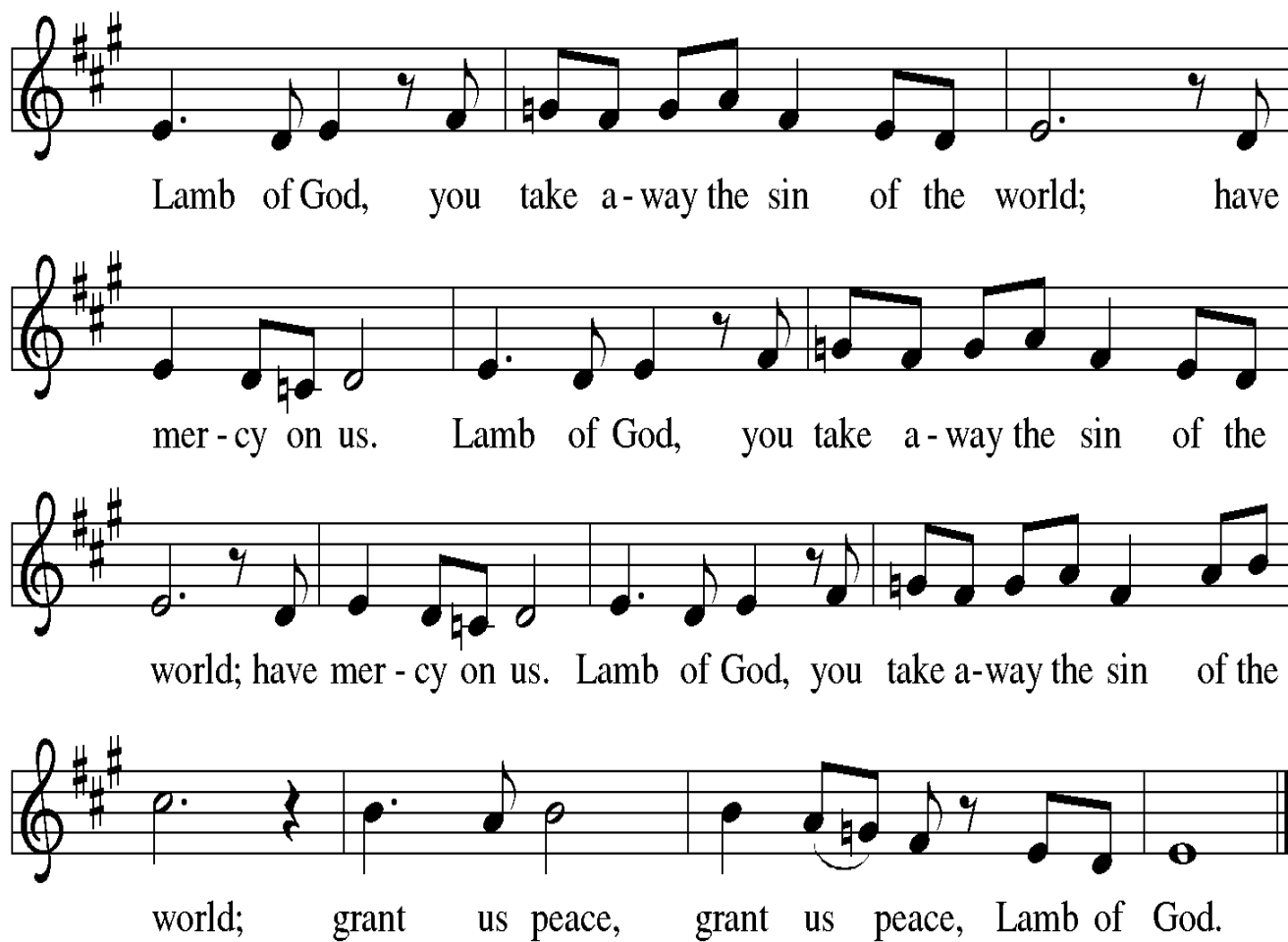
P: Goodness is stronger than evil.  
Life is stronger than death.  
Taste the goodness and life of God.

*(You may be seated)*

## Holy Communion

*Guests: You are welcome to come forward to receive Communion as part of this church family! Children are welcome to come forward and receive a special blessing if they have never communed before. Communion is by intinction, which means that we dip the bread into either the wine (red) or grape juice (white). Please follow the guidance of the ushers as to when and how you are to come forward.*

### 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, Lamb of God.

Communion Hymn

*“For the Beauty of the Earth”* #879

For the beauty of the earth,  
for the beauty of the skies,  
For the love which from our birth  
over and around us lies:

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Christ, our God, to thee we raise  
This our sacrifice of praise.

For the wonder of each hour  
Of the day and of the night,  
Hill and vale and tree and flow’r,  
Sun and moon and stars of light:

REFRAIN

For the joy of ear and eye,  
For the heart and mind’s delight,  
For the mystic harmony  
Linking sense to sound and sight:

REFRAIN

For the joy of human love,  
Brother, sister, parent, child,  
For the friends on earth and friends above;  
For all gentle thoughts and mild:

REFRAIN

For each perfect gift of thine,  
Peace on earth and joy in heav’n;  
For thyself, best gift divine,  
To our world so freely giv’n:

REFRAIN

**The Sending**

\*Communion Blessing

P: May this Holy Communion of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

**C: Amen.**

\*Prayer after Communion

P: O God,

**C: You have called your servants  
To ventures of which we cannot see the ending,  
By paths as yet untrodden,  
Through perils unknown.  
Give us faith to go out with good courage,  
Not knowing where we go,  
But only that your hand is leading us  
And your love supporting us;  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

\*Blessing

P: The love of God who created you,  
The mercy of † Jesus Christ who died for you,  
And the power of the Holy Spirit who strengthens you,  
Keep you at one with all the faithful, living and departed,  
And remain with you now and forever. **C: Amen.**

\*Closing Hymn

“Earth is Full of Wit and Wisdom” [ACS #1064](#)

Earth is full of wit and wisdom,  
sounding God's delighted laugh,  
from the tiny roly-poly to the treetop tall giraffe.  
All creation sings in wonder;  
Even rocks and trees rejoice  
as they join the ringing chorus;  
Echoes of our Maker's voice.

(hymn continued)



Earth is full of wit and wisdom,  
Woven into harmony.  
Every creature has a purpose,  
every flow'r and bumblebee,  
Spider, human, redwood, gecko,  
monkey, chicken, mouse, and snake  
Live within a single fabric;  
Cloth that only God could make.

Earth is full of wit and wisdom,  
penguin, platypus, and snail,  
Cactus, sea slug, oak, and algae,  
from the microbe to the whale.  
In this great strange creation,  
with a breath God gives us birth:  
Born of soil to live as stewards,  
called to love and serve the earth.

\*Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Christ is with you  
C: **Thanks be to God.**

Music "Taccata (Touch)" William Bryce

Serving Today

Reader: Elke Spires

Communion Assistant: Ila Mendoza

Coffee Host: Rebecca Wickham

*The Altar Flowers are given by  
Beth Stiles in memory of  
Barbara's 99th birthday*



## **Upcoming Events:**

October Benevolence Offering  
Lutheran Campus Ministry

- Oct. 8            Boy Scouts 7:00 pm
- Oct. 9            Preschool Chapel 10:15 am
- Oct. 9            Bible Study Wed. 11 am & 7:30 pm
- Oct. 10           MMRR women's circle 10:30 am
- Oct. 10           Mens beginner A.A. Thursdays 7:00 pm
- Oct. 11           A.A. Fridays 7:00 pm
- Oct. 20           No Sunday School
- Oct. 21           Embroiders Guild 7:00 pm
- Oct. 22           Habitat Lunches continue 10:30 am
- Oct. 27           Reformation Polka Mass / October feast  
& tree planting fun
- Oct. 30           Women's Café Group Mondays at 6:00 pm  
Devotions & dinner fellowship
- Nov. 5           NEW Trinity Tuesday 6:30 pm  
Discretion Brew 41st Ave. Kathy Allen 430-6359  
(1 hour, 1 faith question, 1 drink)
- Nov. 12           Church Council 6:30 pm

**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

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