

Second Sunday after Epiphany January 19, 2025

WELCOME AND A NOTE TO VISITORS

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.

The Gathering

Call to Worship "Come to the Water of Life" ACS #955

- 1. All who are thirsty for mercy, all who are thirsty for love; All who are thirsty for love, for mercy, come: Come to the Water of life.
- 2. All who are thirsty for healing, all who are thirsty for touch; All who are thirsty for touch, for healing, come: Come to the Water of life.
- 3. All who are thirsty for beauty, all who are thirsty for truth; All who are thirsty for truth, for beauty, come: Come to the Water of life.
- 4. All who are thirsty for justice, all who are thirsty for peace; All who are thirsty for peace, for justice, come: Come to the Water of life.

*Confession and Forgiveness

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

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life. 2

C: Amen.

P: Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts. let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection

P: Merciful God.

C: you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act With judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; We resist your call to oppose injustice; We give in to scarcity and fear; We assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults And release us from their grasp. Show us your loving kindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, That we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.

P: God proclaims these words of assurance; "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine." In † Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, Live anew as beloved children of God.

C: Amen.

*Opening Hymn

"All Are Welcome" #641

Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live, A place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive. Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace; Here the love of Christ shall end divisions: REFRAIN All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true, where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.

Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace;

Here as one we claim the faith of Jesus: REFRAIN

Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat:
A banquet hall on holy ground where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space;
As we share in Christ the feast that frees us: REFRAIN

Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone
To heal and strengthen serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;
Let us bring an end to fear and danger:

REFRAIN

Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard And loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word. Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: REFRAIN

*Greeting

*P: Grace and peace from God our Creator, from God who became one of us, Jesus Christ, and may the promised gifts of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

C: And also with you.

*Kyrie

- 1. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.
- 2. Christe eleison. Christe eleison.
- 3. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.



Glory to God

WOV #607





*Prayer of the Day

Celebrate insert pg. 1

P: May God be with you. C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray...

C: (following the prayer) Amen.

The Word of God

First Reading Isaiah 62:1-5 Celebrate pg. 1

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 96:5-10 Celebrate pg. 2

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 12:1-11 Celebrate pg. 3

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.



*Gospel Acclamation

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 2nd Chapter C: Glory to you, O God.

*Gospel Reading

John 2:1-11

Celebrate pg. 3

P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Rev. James Lapp

*Hymn of the Day

"All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly" #461

All who hunger, gather gladly; holy manna is our bread.
Come from wilderness and wandering. Here, in truth, we will be fed.
You that yearn for days of fullness, all around us is our food.
Taste and see the grace eternal.
Taste and see that God is good.

All who hunger, never strangers; seeker, be a welcome guest.
Come from restlessness and roaming. Here, in joy, we keep the feast.
We that once were lost and scattered in communion's love have stood.
Taste and see the grace eternal.
Taste and see that God is good.

All who hunger, sing together;
Jesus Christ is living bread.
Come from loneliness and longing.
Here, in peace, we have been led.
Blest are those who from this table live their lives in gratitude.
Taste and see the grace eternal.
Taste and see that God is good.

*Passing of the Peace

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

C: And also with you.

The Communion Meal

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

Offering Hymn "This Little Light of Mine"

#677

This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine; This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine; This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine; Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine; Ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine; Ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine; Let it shine, let it shine.

Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine; Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine; Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine; Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Music

*Offering Prayer

P: God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, And your abundance to the depths of the seas.

Bless what we offer to your service; Our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts.

Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, Now and always.

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 our thanks and praise.

Eucharistic Prayer

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, vour 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, 11 Amen Now and forever.

Invitation to Communion

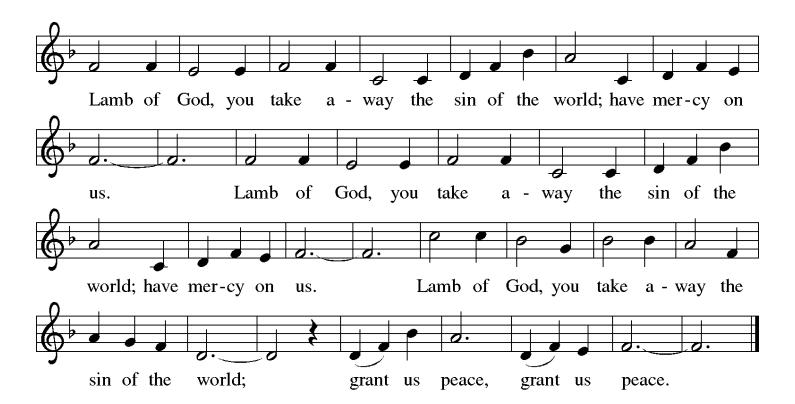
P: The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.

Holy Communion

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

#195

Lamb of God



Communion Hymn

"Now the Silence"

#460 (sing three times)

Now the silence Now the peace Now the empty hands uplifted

Now the kneeling Now the plea

Now the Father's arms in welcome

Now the hearing Now the pow'r

Now the vessel brimmed for pouring

Now the body Now the blood Now the joyful celebration

Now the wedding Now the songs

Now the heart forgiven leaping

Now the Spirit's visitation Now the Son's epiphany

Now the Father's blessing Now Now Now

Prayer after Communion

P: Nourishing God,

At this table you have refreshed us

With holy gifts of food and drink.

Strengthen us for service,

And send us out to embody your good news

Of liberation and healing for the sake of the world.

In the name of Christ we pray,

C: Amen.

Post Communion Hymn

"Light Shone in Darkness" #307

Light shone in darkness at the world's creation, Bathing in beauty nature's revelation. All that has being cry in adoration, "Praise for the light. Amen!"

Light shone in darkness at the new creation; Christ rose in glory, won for us salvation. Sing, earth and heaven, hymns of jubilation, praise for the light. Amen! Light shines in darkness till the full creation; Christ's body, groaning, suffers tribulation, longs for God's justice, Global transformation, prays for the light. Amen!

The Sending

*Blessing

P: The Spirit of the triune God † Bless you with joy, Anoint you with compassion, And send you in love.

C: Amen

*Closing Hymn

"Arise, Your Light Has Come!" #314

Arise, your light has come! The Spirit's call obey; Show forth the glory of your God which shines on you today.

Arise, your light has come! Fling wide the prison door; Proclaim the captive's liberty, Good tidings to the poor.

Arise, your light has come! All you in sorrow born, Bind up the broken hearted ones And comfort those who mourn.

Arise, your light has come!
The mountains burst in song!
Rise up like eagles on the wing,
God's pow'r will make us strong.

*Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Live in hope.

C: Thanks be to God.

Music

Prayer Concerns

SHORT TERM: Mary Saccullo, Chad Fields, Ana Cardenas, Rose, Levi, Lisa J., John B., Trace Hull, Linda, Scoutmaster Scott, Connie & Family of Paul Cunningham, Glosier family, Julie Mouw & Family of Marty Lundin, Unemployed, George Webber, Isaac & Marissa, Chris Powers, Gloria, Beth & Family of Barbara Stiles, Marta's

parents, Adrianne, Gary & Louse Matz, Friends in Tel Aviv, Nick, James, Mary D., Tom, Galahad, Debbie, Sam, Nate Barker, Robbin, Francisco, Michael, Keith, Noelle, Ensley, Sierra, Middle East Peace, Tom Dawson, Taiyo, Marissa, Isaac, Alvarado family, Dustin, Father Jack Davis, Sandi Csik, Elida, Jeannie, Anetta, Jane, Barbara Allen, Sandy, Gary & Marjie Toops, Rachel B., Anne & Chloe Johnston, Nancy, Mateo & Lina, Don, Atlas, Will, Aaron Johnson, Sal, Katarina, Stephanie Jager.

LONG TERM: Those suffering with Mental Illness, James Sheehan, Biergiel—Colclough family, Carla Brown, Eric Utto-Galarneau, Joel Hurtgamm, Dawit and family (Ethiopia), 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, 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, People of Palestine/Israel, 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.

Serving Today

Reader: Janet Slay

Coffee Host: Rebecca Wickham

Office Helpers: Sherilyn Jager & Sheila Buswell



Did you know...

While in Germany, this man — who was named Michael King — became so impressed with what he learned about the reformer Martin Luther that he decided to do something dramatic. He offered the

ultimate tribute to the man's memory by changing his own name to Martin Luther King. His 5-year-old son was also named Michael — but not long after the boy's father changed his own name, he decided to change his son's name too, and Michael King Jr. became known to the world as Martin Luther King Jr!

MLK Awaken to a New Day Jan. 20

March for the Dream 10 am (Cathcart & Pacific) A powerful tradition, symbolizing the ongoing pursuit of justice, equality, non violence, and civil rights.

Program at the Civic Auditorium 11 am

An impactful event and an inspiring program honoring Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and to reflect on the importance of safeguarding and advancing civil rights. Inspired by Dr. King's tireless work, which brought critical racial justice reforms to U.S. immigration law, this day serves as a powerful reminder of the enduring need for unity and collective action. Guided by his legacy, we come together to celebrate the ongoing journey toward a more inclusive and equitable society.

This event is committed to fostering mutual respect and peaceful collaboration.



New in January
We welcome
Nancy & Connie
to our choir

AND

We welcome

NOST ANY PLACE. Mary & Rebecca

to music ministry

We are looking for, strings & woodwinds to play for preludes, etc. and liturgy during worship.

Yours In Christ & Mission ~ Gary

Sunday Helpers Needed

- ~ Settting up Communion
- ~ Greeting people
- ~ Reading the scripture lessons
- ~ Hosting Coffee

Sign up in the Narthex, or call the office

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

NEXT SUNDAY, JAN. 26 @ 11:00 AM

Refreshments will be provided

ALSO VIA ZOOM

(watch for email link)

We gather together to hear the Long Range Task Force plan for our pastoral leadership for the next 5 years, elect leadership to our Church Council, elect 2 voting members for Synod Assembly, and approve a budget for 2025 that reflects our mission.

The Proposed Budget is available in the narthex today.

Please plan on attending to support your church as we continue to seek God's will for our ministry together.



Upcoming Events:

January Benevolence Offering—Community Bridges

Jan. 20 NL deadline NOON

Jan. 20 Embroiders Guild 7:00 pm

Jan. 21 Boy Scouts 6:00 pm

Jan. 22 Preschool Chapel 10:15

Jan. 22 Bible Study 11 am & 7:30 pm

Jan. 23 Mens beginner A.A. Thursdays 7:00 pm

Jan. 24 A.A. Fridays 7:00 pm

Jan. 26 Congregational Annual Meeting 11:00 am
Plan on coming to support your church as we continue
to seek God's will for our ministry.

Jan. 27 CDC Board 11:15 am

Jan. 27 Women's Café Group Mondays at 6:00 pm

Jan. 30 NL Collating 2:00 pm

Feb. 2 Scout Sunday

Feb. 9 kids Valentine delivery

March 7-9 Women's Retreat Mt. Cross

Pastor's Office Hours: Weds. & Thur. 10:00—1:00 pm

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
Church Musician: Gary Roberts
Sunday School: Leslie Lapp
Pre-School Director: Kathy Berens
Custodian: John Hopping
Videographers: Kent Madsen & Barb Rice

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