



St. Stephen's Lutheran Church

HOLY COMMUNION

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
August 8, 2021 • 9 am

You are welcome here! As a Reconciling in Christ congregation, we believe that the gospel is God's gift to all people, shared unconditionally and without regard to race, gender identity, sexual orientation, socio-economic or family status, age, physical or mental abilities, outward appearance, or religious affiliation. We seek to live the truth written in Ephesians that Christ breaks down the dividing walls between us and makes

Jesus says that the bread he gives for the life of the world is his flesh, and whoever eats this bread has eternal life now and will be raised on the last day. In Ephesians Paul tells us what this life Jesus gives us looks like, this life we live as those marked with the seal of the Holy Spirit in baptism. We live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us. The whole purpose of life is giving yourself for the other.

We are not yet singing as a congregation, but you are welcome to hum and/or meditate on the text of the hymns.

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Prelude

Welcome

**** Thanksgiving for Baptism**

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

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness,...

Your steadfast love fills the earth.

Your steadfast love fills the earth.

Your love flows through water,
satisfying the thirst of all living things,
sustaining life in this community,
nourishing and delighting us.
We bless you for these gifts of water:

Local waters may be named.

Your steadfast love fills the earth.

Your steadfast love fills the earth.

Your love flows through water,
a sign of your saving power:
...Your steadfast love fills the earth.

Your steadfast love fills the earth.

Your love flows through the water of baptism
joined to your life-giving Word:
...Your steadfast love fills the earth.

Your steadfast love fills the earth.

Shower us with your Holy Spirit.
Fill us with your love.
Clothe us and all your people with grace.
Embolden us to do justice.
Bless us to love mercy.
Guide us to walk humbly with you,
whom we thank and praise, through Jesus Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

** Please stand as you are able. **Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.**

** Gathering Song

O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts

ELW 658



1 O Je - sus, joy of lov - ing hearts, the fount of
2 We taste you, ev - er - liv - ing bread, and long to
3 For you our rest - less spir - its yearn, wher - e'er our
4 O Je - sus, ev - er with us stay! Make all our



life, the light of all: from ev - 'ry bliss that earth im -
feast up - on you still; we drink of you, the foun - tain -
chang - ing lot is cast; glad, when your smile on us you
mo - ments fair and bright! Oh, chase the night of sin a -



parts we turn, un - filled, to hear your call.
head; our thirst - ing souls from you we fill.
turn, blest, when by faith we hold you fast.
way! Shed o'er the world your ho - ly light.

** Greeting

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

And also with you.

** Please stand as you are able. **Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.**

** Song of Praise



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,

** Please stand as you are able. Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.



**** Prayer of the Day**

Assisting Minister leads the prayer of the day and the assembly responds: Amen.

Word

God speaks to us in scripture, preaching and song.

First Reading

1 Kings 19:4-8

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 34:1-8

The psalm is read responsively.

¹I will bless the LORD at all times;
the praise of God shall ever be in my mouth.

²**I will glory in the LORD;**
let the lowly hear and rejoice.

³Proclaim with me the greatness of the LORD;
let us exalt God's name together.

⁴**I sought the LORD, who answered me**
and delivered me from all my terrors.

⁵Look upon the LORD and be radiant,
and let not your faces be ashamed.

⁶**I called in my affliction, and the LORD heard me**
and saved me from all my troubles.

⁷The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear the LORD
and delivers them.

⁸**Taste and see that the LORD is good;**
happy are they who take refuge in God!

**** Please stand as you are able. Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.**

Second Reading

Ephesians 4:25-5:2

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to 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.

** Gospel

John 6:24-35

The Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you O Lord.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you O Christ.

** Gospel Acclamation

Please see above.

Sermon

The Rev. Jason Churchill

** Please stand as you are able. **Items in bold** are to be spoken by the assembly.

Hymn of the Day

Be Thou My Vision

ELW 793



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,
Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,
thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

** Apostles' Creed

Please see pew card for words to the Apostles' Creed.

** Prayers of the People

Each portion of the prayer ends with either:

Responses: Bless we the Lord.
Hear us, O God.

Thanks be to God.
Your mercy is great.

** Please stand as you are able. **Items in bold** are to be spoken by the assembly.

Meal

Jesus calls all people to sit at the table with him. All are invited, none is excluded.

** Offering Song

Each week we give thanks to God for things that God has given us: our selves, our time, and our possessions. A financial donation to the church is never a requirement, but is freely given to support the work of the congregation in the community.

For your convenience, St. Stephen's offers the opportunity to give on-line through text message. Type "Funds" to 302-257-6155 to make any donations.

Gather Us In

ELW 532



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ers,
light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in, the
Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the
Give us to drink the wine of com-pas - sion, give us to eat the
Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath-er us in and

** Please stand as you are able. Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

**** Offering Prayer**

Assisting Minister leads the offering prayer and the assembly responds: Amen.

**** Dialogue**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

**** Preface**

**** Please stand as you are able. Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.**

** Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est.

** Thanksgiving at the Table

** Lord's Prayer

Please see pew card for words to the Lord's Prayer.

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.

** Please stand as you are able. Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.

Invitation to Communion

Communion Hymn

The ushers will invite the assembly from the front row to the back row to come to the chancel to receive communion packets from the pastor via the central aisle. Once you receive your communion, please use the side aisles to return to your pew. We will all take communion together. Please be sure to discard your cups in the trash bin on your way out of church. Please do not leave used communion cups in the pews or pew racks.

Communion Blessing

Post Communion Prayer

Together, let us pray.

**Jesus, Bread of life,
we have received from your table
more than we could ever ask.
As you have nourished us in this meal,
now strengthen us to love the world with your own life.
In your name we pray.
Amen.**

** Please stand as you are able. Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.

Sending

We are sent into the world to serve.

Blessing

Sending Hymn

Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises

ELW 535

Refrain— sung twice each time



Ha - le - lu - ya! Pe - lo tsa ro - na, di tha -
Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your prais - es, all our



bi - le ka - o - fe - la. Ha - le - lu - ya! Pe - lo tsa
hearts are filled with glad - ness. Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your



ro - na, di tha - bi - le ka - o - fe - la.
prais - es, all our hearts are filled with glad - ness.



1 Christ the Lord to us said: I am wine, I am bread,
2 Now he sends us all out, strong in faith, free of doubt,

Repeat stanza, then sing refrain



I am wine, I am bread, give to all who thirst and hun - ger.
strong in faith, free of doubt. Tell to all the joy - ful gos - pel.

** Please stand as you are able. Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.

Dismissal

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

During the postlude the ushers will dismiss the assembly from the back to the front.

*Chancel flowers are given by Bob & Sue Linderman
in loving memory of Sue's husband, Charles Krick,
and Bob's father, Randolph Linderman*

Enjoy today's service? Visit our Facebook page and invite a friend, comment, or leave a review. Please text the word "welcome" to 855-965-5200 to be added to our email list. May God go with you today and everyday.

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** Please stand as you are able. **Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.**

Participants in Today's Service

Pastor:

The Rev. Jason Churchill

Musician:

Steve Schmidt

Assisting Minister/Lector:

Matthew Johnson

Ushers:

Michele Torchia and Carl LaPorte

Altar Guild:

Karleen Strayer

Camera:

John Rodammer

PowerPoint:

Leah Strayer

Ministers:

The people of St. Stephen's

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“God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday



Sept. 12
2021

God’s work. Our hands. Sunday

On Sunday, September 12, congregations will join together for **“God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday.**

This annual day of service is an opportunity for us to celebrate who we are as the ELCA — one church, freed in Christ to love and serve our neighbor.

Send your ideas for that Sunday to Pastor Jason at pastor@ststeph.org.

Sign up for a t-shirt in the narthex by Sunday, August 15!



COFFEE FOR PEACE

CLIMATE JUSTICE, PEACE AND ME!

Open dialogue with Delaware Interfaith Power & Light

OCTOBER 8, 2021

7 PM - 8 PM

ST. STEPHEN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Coffee, food trucks, music by Skinner & Spadola

5 PM - 7 PM