



# St. Stephen's Lutheran Church

## SERVICE OF THE WORD

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost  
June 28, 2020 • 10 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

The welcome of baptism is for all God's children. This baptismal gift sets us free from the power of sin and death. In today's gospel, Christ promises that the disciple who gives a cup of cold water to the little ones serves Christ himself. From worship we are sent on our baptismal mission: to serve the little ones of this world and to be a sign of God's merciful welcome.

## Gathering

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

### Welcome

### Prelude

### \*\* Confession for Forgiveness

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

In the name of the Holy Parent, and of the † Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit,

**Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, and in particular your LGBTQIA+ children whom for too long the church was a harmful place. Turn those of us who have actively participated in the sins of homophobia, transphobia, and fear to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Liberator.

**Amen.**

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and our LGBTQIA+ siblings and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, to the full vision of the kingdom of God, and uphold us by your Spirit, who loves us and encourages us towards liberation, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy...that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**Amen.**

## \*\* Gathering Song

*There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

ELW#588



1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide - ness of the sea;  
2 There is wel - come for the sin - ner, and a prom - ised grace made good;  
3 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sures of our mind;  
4 'Tis not all we owe to Je - sus; it is some - thing more than all:



there's a kind - ness in God's jus - tice which is more than lib - er - ty.  
there is mer - cy with the Sav - ior; there is heal - ing in his blood.  
and the heart of the E - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.  
great - er good be - cause of e - vil, larg - er mer - cy through the fall.



There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in heav'n.  
There is grace e - nough for thou - sands of new worlds as great as this;  
But we make this love too nar - row by false lim - its of our own;  
Make our love, O God, more faith - ful; let us take you at your word,



There is no place where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment giv'n.  
there is room for fresh cre - a - tions in that up - per home of bliss.  
and we mag - ni - fy its strict - ness with a zeal God will not own.  
and our lives will be thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of the Lord.

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814–1863, alt.  
Music: LORD, REVIVE US, North American, 19th cent.

## \*\* Prayer of the Day

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

\*\* Items in bold are to be spoken/sung by the assembly.

# Word

*God speaks to us in scripture, preaching and song.*

**Reading**

**Matthew 10:40-42**

**Sermon**

**The Rev. Jason Churchill**

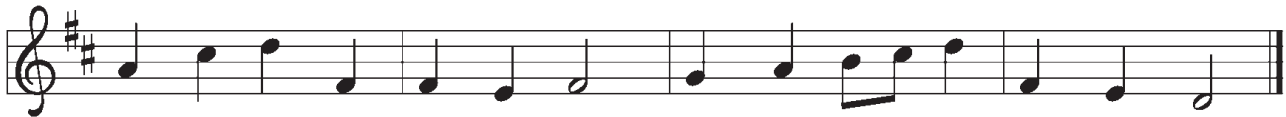
**\*\* Hymn**

*Take My Life, That I May Be*

ELW #685



1 Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;  
2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;  
3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;  
4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with - hold;



take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise.  
take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.  
take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sag - es from thee.  
take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it thine;  
it shall be no longer mine.  
Take my heart, it is thine own;  
it shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour  
at thy feet its treasure store;  
take myself, and I will be  
ever, only, all for thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, alt.  
Music: PATMOS, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

**\*\* 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.

**Thanksgiving for the Word**

**\*\* Items in bold are to be spoken/sung by the assembly.**

# Sending

*We are sent into the world to serve.*

**Blessing**

**Dismissal**

**Postlude**

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For additional reference on hymn text and music please refer to the hymn number in the cranberry prayer book and hymnal, Evangelical Lutheran Worship.

## Participants in Today's Service

**Pastor:**

The Rev. Jason Churchill

**Cantor:**

Dr. Oksana Glouchko

**Assisting Minister:**

Ann Warner

**Lector:**

John Gordon

**Reader:**

Henry Sullivan

**Ministers:**

The people of St. Stephen's

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