



St. Stephen's Lutheran Church
Worship Service with Holy Communion
Sunday, January 31, 2021 ■ 9:30 a.m.

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
Worship Service with Holy Communion



WE PREPARE TO WORSHIP

Prelude

Reflection on "O God of Light"

Bryon Dockter

Welcome

Singing Bowl *Silence is kept for reflection.*

* **Confession and Forgiveness**

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose voice is upon the waters,
whose mercy is poured out upon all people,
whose goodness cascades over all creation.

Amen.

Let us trust in the abundant grace of God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,
**you search us and know us.
You are acquainted with all our ways.
We confess we turn inward
often failing to follow your way of love:
to trust those who are not like us,
to steward the earth and its resources,
to consider generations to come.
Forgive us, gracious God,
for all we have left undone that would please you.
Receive all of us in your divine mercy.
Amen.**

How vast is God's grace!
Through the power and promise of † Christ Jesus,
our sins are washed away
and we are claimed as God's own beloved.
In the wake of God's forgiveness,
we are called to be the beloved community
living out Christ's justice
and the Spirit's reconciling peace.
Amen.

WE GIVE OUR PRAISE

* Hymn

“O God of Light”

ELW #507 vs. 1, 3

O God of light, your word, a lamp unfailing,
shall pierce the darkness of our earthbound way
and show your grace, your plan for us unveiling,
and guide our footsteps to the perfect day.

Undimmed by time, those words are still revealing
to sinful hearts your justice and your grace;
and questing spirits, longing for your healing,
see your compassion in the Savior's face.

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* 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.

* Kyrie

ELW Page 98

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above,
and for our salvation,
let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world,
for the well-being of the Church of God,
and for the unity of all,
let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house,
and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
Amen, amen.

* Hymn of Praise

ELW Page 101

This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.
Power and riches, wisdom and strength,
and honor and blessing and glory are his.

This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God,
and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing and honor, glory and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.
Alleluia.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

*** Prayer of the Day**

Compassionate God,
**you gather the whole universe
into your radiant presence
and continually reveal your Son as our Savior.
Bring wholeness to all that is broken
and speak truth to us in our confusion,
that all creation will see and know your Son,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

First Reading

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

15 The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. 16 This is what you requested of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the LORD my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." 17 Then the LORD replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. 18 I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. 19 Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. 20 But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die."

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God

Psalm Reading

Psalm 111

1 Praise the LORD!
I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.
2 Great are the works of the LORD,
studied by all who delight in them.
3 Full of honor and majesty is his work,
and his righteousness endures forever.
4 He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds;
the LORD is gracious and merciful.
5 He provides food for those who fear him;
he is ever mindful of his covenant.
6 He has shown his people the power of his works,
in giving them the heritage of the nations.
7 The works of his hands are faithful and just;
all his precepts are trustworthy.
8 They are established forever and ever,
to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.
9 He sent redemption to his people;
he has commanded his covenant forever.
Holy and awesome is his name.
10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;
all those who practice it have a good understanding.
His praise endures forever.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God

The Holy Gospel according to St Mark,
Glory to you, O Lord

* **Gospel**

Mark 1:21-28

21 They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught.
22 They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. 23 Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, 24 and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." 25 But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" 26 And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. 27 They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." 28 At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

The Gospel of the Lord,
Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon

Pastor John

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn

"Dearest Jesus, at Your Word"

ELW #520 vs. 1, 3

**Dearest Jesus, at your word
we have come again to hear you;
let our thoughts and hearts be stirred
and in glowing faith be near you
as the promises here given
draw us wholly up to heaven.**

**Radiance of God's glory bright,
Light of light from God proceeding,
Jesus, send your blessed light;
help our hearing, speaking, heeding,
that our prayers and songs may please you,
as with grateful hearts we praise you.**

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* **Prayers of Intercession**

Petition response Leader: ... Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

* **Sharing the Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
*We invite you to share the peace with those with you
and with us with "thumbs up" or comments on our Facebook page.
Text someone you care about.*

Offering [Invitation to support ongoing ministries of St. Stephen's]

* **Words of Institution**

* **Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

*** Invitation to Communion**

Beloved: here is bread; here is wine. Here is Jesus.
Come and be fed.

Communion is Received

ELW Page 112

The body of Christ, given for you
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen.

“In the Singing”

ELW #466 vs. 1, 2

In the singing, in the silence,
in the hands expectant, open,
in the blessing, in the breaking,
in your presence at this table,

Refrain

Jesus Christ, Jesus Christ,
be the wine of grace;
Jesus, Christ, Jesus Christ,
be the bread of peace.

In the question, in the answer,
in the moment of acceptance,
in the heart's cry, in the healing,
in the circle of your people, *Refrain*

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The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ
Strengthens you and keeps you in his grace.
Amen.

*** Prayer after Communion**

Christ Jesus,
at this table we have feasted on your very life
and are strengthened for our journey.
Send us forth from this banquet
nourished in body and in spirit
to proclaim your good news
and serve others in your name.
Amen.

WE GO INTO THE WORLD

*** Blessing**

God the creator strengthen you;
Jesus the beloved fill you;
and the Holy Spirit the comforter ✝ keep you in peace.
Amen.

Hymn

“Rise, Shine, You People”

ELW #665 vs. 1, 4

Rise, shine, you people! Christ the Lord has entered
our human story; God in him is centered.
He comes to us, by death and sin surrounded,
with grace unbounded.

Tell how the Father sent the Son to save us.
Tell of the Son, who life and freedom gave us.
Tell how the Spirit calls from ev'ry nation
God's new creation.

* **Dismissal**

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

* **Postlude**

Celebration of “Rise, Shine, You People”

Bryon Dockter



To sponsor Sunday Altar Flowers please sign up either
Online at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0945ada822aafb6-sunday>
Stop by the church and add your name to the flower chart outside Fellowship Hall
or **Call the church office** at 651-457-6541.
Cost for two bouquets is \$29.50
Thank you!

Jesus said ...

"My Father's House shall be a house of prayer."

Please include the following people in your prayers this week:

Dorrie, Delores, Loren, Kim, Jerry, Diane, Ed, Laura, Frances, Dolores, Adam, Deb, Finley, Sophia and Claire, Mary, Sally, Max and Cody, Mike, Tom, Carrie, Kevin, Renee and Ismera.

Each week different families will be included in special prayers. Please hold in your prayers:

Chris, Nicole, Dominick and Olivia, Darwin, Diane, Kevin and Kathy, John, Michelle, Nara and Tanner.

Each week different missions that St. Stephen's support through our Sunday offerings are included in our prayers. This week we offer prayers for **Feed My Starving Children**. Founded in 1987, Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) is a Christian non-profit that provides nutritionally complete meals specifically formulated for malnourished children. FMSC's mission is feeding God's starving children hungry in body and spirit.

We also offer prayers for our **brothers and sisters in Christ in the villages of Iwonde and Ihimbo, Tanzania.**

We pray for **residents and staff of group homes and care facilities, and all healthcare workers.**

We pray also for those away from home serving in the military: **Ben, Nick, Jeremy, Matthew, Zachary, Sam, Troy, Tricia, Adam, Nick, Peter DJ, Christopher, Gene, Sam, Andrew..** (Please help us keep our military member listing up to date. Thank you.)

St. Stephen's invites you to add your prayer requests to our daily prayers. We hope that this list is placed inside everyone's Bible or devotional material. All prayer requests will be listed for three weeks. Please contact the church office if additional time is needed.

Our condolences to the **Family and friends of Jeff House.**

A celebration of Jeff's life was held Friday, January 29 at Farmington Lutheran Church.

In the midst of their sorrow may all find comfort in God's promise of life everlasting.

Leaders in Today's Service

Pastor..... The Rev. Dr. John Snider
Lay Liturgist Debbie Pirkl
Director of Worship Bryon Dockter
Song Leader Kim Richter
Christian Music Leader Ben Dyleuth
Lectors Chris and Linda Becker
Audio Visual Ministry Norm Goetzke, Matt Kirkwood, Jan Perkins
Prayer Chain Rachel Circle, Mary Circle, Kathy Ericson, Abby Vavra
Altar Guild Lori Ritt
Outdoor Street Sign Jerry Thoreson



ST STEPHEN'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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