



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

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church
The Holy Trinity
Worship Service with Holy Communion



WE PREPARE TO WORSHIP

Prelude

Trinity Fantasia on "Holy, Holy, Holy"
ELW #413

Gerrit Lamain

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,
the God of manna,
the God of miracles,
the God of mercy.
Amen.

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our provider,
help us.

It is hard to believe there is enough to share.

**We question your ways when they differ from the ways
of the world in which we live.**

**We turn to our own understanding
rather than trusting in you.**

We take offense at your teachings and your ways.

Turn us again to you.

Where else can we turn?

**Share with us the words of eternal life
and feed us for life in the world.**

Amen.

Beloved people of God:

in Jesus, the manna from heaven,
you are fed and nourished.

By Jesus, the worker of miracles,
there is always more than enough.

Through Jesus, † the bread of life,
you are shown God's mercy:

you are forgiven and loved into abundant life. **Amen.**

WE GIVE OUR PRAISE

Hymn

“Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty”

ELW #413 vs. 1, 2, 4

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
which wert and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

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Music: John B. Dykes, 1823-1876
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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

**Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,
Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

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
**Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,
Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

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
**Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,
Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

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
**Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,
Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word;
that you nourish our souls with your body and blood,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord
**Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,
Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

* Hymn of Praise

“This is the Feast”

ELW Page 187

This is the feast of vict'ry for our God,
for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

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

This is the feast of vict'ry for our God,
for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

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

**This is the feast of vict'ry for our God,
for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.**

*** Prayer of the Day**

God of heaven and earth,
**before the foundation of the universe
and the beginning of time
you are the triune God:
Author of creation,
eternal Word of salvation,
life-giving Spirit of wisdom.
Guide us to all truth by your Spirit,
that we may proclaim all
that Christ has revealed
and rejoice in the glory he shares with us.
Glory and praise to you,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
now and forever. Amen.**

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

First Reading

Romans 8:12-17

12 So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh— 13 for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. 14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. 15 For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" 16 it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

Word of God, Word of Life.
Thanks be to God

Reading from the Psalms

Psalm 29

Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name;
worship the LORD in holy splendor.
The voice of the LORD is over the waters;
the God of glory thunders,
the LORD, over mighty waters.
The voice of the LORD is powerful;
the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.
The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.
He makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Sirion like a young wild ox.
The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire.
The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
The voice of the LORD causes the oaks to whirl,
and strips the forest bare;
and in his temple all say, "Glory!"
The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.
May the LORD give strength to his people!
May the LORD bless his people with peace!

Word of God, Word of Life.
Thanks be to God

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
 You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.
 Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia.
 Alleluia, alleluia.

The Holy Gospel according to St. John,
Glory to you, O Lord

* Gospel

John 3:1-17

1 Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. 2 He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." 3 Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." 4 Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" 5 Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. 6 What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7 Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' 8 The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." 9 Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" 10 Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? 11 "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. 12 If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? 13 No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. 14 And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, 15 that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. 16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. 17 "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

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

Sermon

Pastor Tim

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn

"Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth"

ELW #735 vs. 1, 2

Mothering God, you gave me birth
 in the bright morning of this world.
 Creator, source of ev'ry breath,
 you are my rain, my wind, my sun.

Mothering Christ, you took my form,
 offering me your food of light,
 grain of life, and grape of love,
 your very body for my peace.

Baptism: Sven Conrad Haarstad

[Video]

Hymn

"Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth"

ELW #735 vs. 3

Mothering Spirit, nurt'ring one,
 in arms of patience hold me close,
 so that in faith I root and grow
 until I flow'r, until I know.

Text: Jean Janzen, b. 1933; based on Julian of Norwich, c. 1342- c. 1413
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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.

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

* **Offertory Prayer**

Jesus, Bread of life,
you have set this table with your very self,
and called us to the feast of plenty.
Gather what has been sown among us,
and strengthen us in this meal.
Make us to be what we receive here,
your body for the life of the world.
Amen.

* **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**

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all.
Come!

Communion is Received

The body of Christ, given for you

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen.

* **Communion Hymn**

"The Laborer's Task"

Gerrit W. Lamain
Soloist: Mike Westmoreland

Now the laborer's task is o'er,
Now the battle day is past,
Now upon the farther shore,
Lands the voyager at last.

Chorus

Father in Thy gracious keeping,
Leave we now Thy servant sleeping,
Father in Thy gracious keeping,
Leave we now Thy servant sleeping.

There the tears of earth are dried,
There its hidden things are clear,
There the work of earth is tried,
By a juster judge than here. *Chorus*

There the sinful souls that turn,
To the cross their dying eyes,
All the love of Christ shall learn,
At His feet in paradise. *Chorus*

Earth to earth, and dust to dust,
Calmly now the words we say,
Left behind we wait in trust,
For the resurrection day. *Chorus*

Text: John Ellerton b.1826 d.1893
Music: Gerrit Lamain b.1935
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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**

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.

WE GO INTO THE WORLD

*** Blessing**

The blessing of God,
who provides for us, feeds us,
and journeys with us,
✠ be upon you now and forever.

Amen.

Hymn

“Holy God, We Praise Your Name”

ELW #414 vs. 1, 4

**Holy God, we praise your name;
Lord of all, we bow before you.
All on earth your scepter claim,
all in heav'n above adore you.
Infinite your vast domain,
everlasting is your reign.**

**Holy Father, holy Son,
Holy Spirit, three we name you,
though in essence only one;
undivided God we claim you
and, adoring, bend the knee
while we own the mystery**

Text: source unknown; tr. Clarence A. Walworth, 1820-1900
Music: *Katholisches Gesangbuch*, Vienna, 1774
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*** Dismissal**

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

*** Postlude**

Improvisation “Praise Fantasia”

Gerrit W. Lamain



Leaders in Today's Service

Presiding Pastor	The Rev. Dr. John Snider
Preaching Pastor	The Rev. Tm Thompson, Ph.D
Director of Worship	Bryon Dockter
Song Leaders	Deborah Ellis
Organist	Gerrit Lmain
Soloist	Mike Westmoreland
Lectors	Jackie Hanson, Jenny Van Pelt
Communications and Media Coordinator	Garrett Masters
Audio Visual Ministry	Norm Goetzke, Jan Perkins
Prayer Chain	Rachel Circle, Mary Circle, Kathy Ericson, Abby Vavra
Altar Guild	Mary Jo Martinek, Lori Ritt
Outdoor Street Sign	Jerry Thoreson



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: **Barbara, Delores, Janel, Laura (Snider), Carol, Barbara, Marlene.**

Each week different families will be included in special prayers. Please hold in your prayers: **Wayne and Kay, Jim, Jan, Lindsay, Jake, Hudson and Sullivan, Alex, Kathryn, Matthew and Evangeline.**

Each week different missions that St. Stephen's supports through our Sunday offerings are included in our prayers. This week we offer prayers for **the Meals on Wheels program.** Fueled by a commitment to address senior hunger and isolation, they basic support that seniors need to maintain their health and independence in our community and virtually every other community in America.

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: **Tim, Ben, Nick, Jeremy, Matthew, Zachary, Sam, Troy, Tricia, Adam, Nick, Peter D. J., Christopher, Gene, Sam, Andrew.** (Please help us keep our military member list-ing up to date. Thank you.)

Our thoughts and prayers surround **Lindsey** as she is deployed as a member of the Army National Guard for a year.

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.

We offer our deepest and most sincere condolences to:
Carol Meisenheimer and Family on the recent death of our friend Jim.
Jim passed away on Wednesday, Mary 26.
In the midst of their sorrow may all find comfort in
God's promise of life everlasting.



Today we welcome into the body of Christ through baptism
Sven Conrad Haarstad, son of Shawn and Sarah,
Grandson of Loren and Donna Oberg,
and brother to Sierra.

May we all be reminded of God's grace in our own baptism.
Thanks be to God!



ST STEPHEN'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Senior Pastor John Snider | Associate Pastor of Discipleship Tim Thompson
1575 Charlton Street ■ West St. Paul, MN 55118



Bulletin Acknowledgements

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