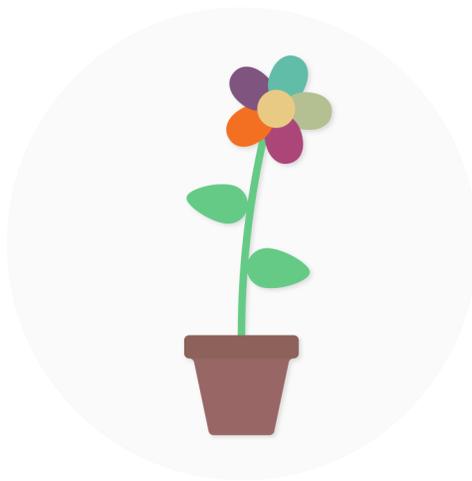


# Living a Life of Joy

the book of Philippians: July 18-August 8, 2021



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St. Stephen's Lutheran Church  
Worship Service with Holy Communion  
Sunday, July 18, 2021 ■ 9:30 a.m.

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church  
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost  
Worship Service with Holy Communion

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**WE PREPARE TO WORSHIP**

**Goodbye and Godspeed—Ben**

**Prelude**

**Improvisation on “The Church’s One Foundation”**

**Ben D.**

**Welcome**

**Progress Update: Vision to Action**

**\* 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

### “The Church’s One Foundation”

ELW #654 vs. 1, 2

The church's one foundation  
is Jesus Christ, her Lord;  
she is his new creation  
by water and the word.  
From heav'n he came and sought her  
to be his holy bride;  
with his own blood he bought her,  
and for her life he died.

Elect from ev'ry nation,  
yet one o'er all the earth,  
her charter of salvation  
one Lord, one faith, one birth:  
one holy name she blesses,  
partakes one holy food,  
and to one hope she presses,  
with ev'ry grace endued.

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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 184 vs. 1, 2

**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.**

### 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

O God, powerful and compassionate,  
**you shepherd your people,  
faithfully feeding and protecting us.  
Heal each of us, and make us a whole people,  
that we may embody the justice and peace of your Son,  
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
Amen.**

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

### Reading

**Philippians 1:1-20**

1 Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, with the bishops and deacons: 2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. 3 I thank my God every time I remember you, 4 constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, 5 because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. 6 I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. 7 It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. 8 For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. 9 And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight 10 to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, 11 having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God. 12 I want you to know, beloved, that what has happened to me has actually helped to spread the gospel, 13 so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to everyone else that my imprisonment is for Christ; 14 and most of the brothers and sisters, having been made confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, dare to speak the word with greater boldness and without fear. 15 Some proclaim Christ from envy and rivalry, but others from goodwill. 16 These proclaim Christ out of love, knowing that I have been put here for the defense of the gospel; 17 the others proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely but intending to increase my suffering in my imprisonment. 18 What does it matter? Just this, that Christ is proclaimed in every way, whether out of false motives or true; and in that I rejoice. Yes, and I will continue to rejoice, 19 for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance. 20 It is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be put to shame in any way, but that by my speaking with all boldness, Christ will be exalted now as always in my body, whether by life or by death.

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

Sermon

**Pastor John**

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

### Hymn

**"Amazing Grace"**

**ELW #779 vs. 1, 2**

**Amazing grace! how sweet the sound  
that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found;  
was blind, but now I see.**

**'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved;  
how precious did that grace appear  
the hour I first believed!**

Text: John Newton, 1725-1807, alt., sts. 1-4; anonymous, st. 5  
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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]

**Discerning God's Call—Vision Reflection**

When Peter first heard God's call to go meet with some Gentiles, he thought it was a really bad idea. What might seem like a "really bad idea" for St. Stephen's that could actually be a call from God?

**Offertory Response**

**"Praise, Praise! You Are My Rock"**

**ELW #862 vs. 1, 5**

**Praise, praise! You are my rock.  
The wind, the waves are high.  
You hold me when the waves are strong.  
You hold me lest I die, I die.  
Praise, praise! O God, you are my rock.**

**Praise, praise! You are my rock.  
The Easter grave is sealed;  
you roll the stone--you, God alone--  
then sin and death are healed, are healed.  
Praise, praise! O God, you are my rock.**

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**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.*

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**

**“Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing”**

**ELW #544 vs. 1, 3**

**Praise the Lord, rise up rejoicing,  
worship, thanks, devotion voicing:  
glory be to God on high!  
Christ, your cross and passion sharing,  
by this eucharist declaring  
yours the final victory.**  
**Sins forgiven, wrongs forgiving,  
we go forth alert and living  
in your Spirit, strong and free.  
Partners in your new creation,  
seeking peace in ev'ry nation,  
may we faithful foll'wers be.**

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**\* Dismissal**

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

**\* Postlude**

**Celebration on “Taste & See”**

**Ben D.**



<b>Leaders in Today’s Service</b>	
Pastor .....	The Rev. Dr. John Snider
Lay Liturgist .....	Debbie Pirkel
Director of Worship .....	Bryon Dockter
Music and Choir Leader .....	Ben D.
Guest Musicians .....	Mary L., Andrew H., Jason W., Corinne S.
Communications and Media Coordinator .....	Garrett Masters
Audio Visual Ministry .....	Keith Gregory, Matt Kirkwood
Prayer Chain .....	Rachel Circle, Mary Circle, Kathy Ericson, Abby Vavra
Altar Guild.....	Mary Jo Martinek, Lori Ritt
Fellowship Hour.....	The Gregory Family: Keith, Jess and Max
Outdoor Street Sign.....	Jerry Thoreson

## Jesus said ...

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

Please include the following people in your prayers this week: **Barbara, Laura.**

**Each week** different families will be included in special prayers. Please hold in your prayers: **Marilyn, Gale, Barbara, Sara, Shawn, Sierra and Sven, Lupe.**

**Each week** different missions that St. Stephen's supports through our Sunday offerings are included in our prayers. This week we offer prayers for **Lutheran World Relief: Fairly Traded Coffee and Chocolate.** Supporting Fair Trade reflects our faith—it improves the lives of farmers, families, and communities around the world. Benefits to farming communities include access to clean water, health clinics, and schools. Fair trade also helps stop child labor, human trafficking, and slavery in the cocoa farming industry.

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

**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., Donald, Christopher, Gene, Sam, Andrew, Lindsey.** (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.*

### **We offer our deepest and most sincere condolences to:**

**Janel Saari and Family** on the death of her Dad,  
Geoffrey Saari who passed away July 12.

A memorial service will be held at 11:00 a.m.  
on Tuesday, July 20, 2021 at the  
Akkerman Ingebrand Funeral Home in Mora.  
Visitation will be from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. on Monday, July 19;  
as well as one hour prior to the service on Tuesday.

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



**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!



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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