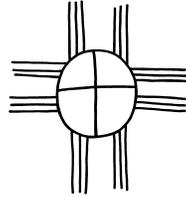




St. Stephen's Lutheran Church
Worship Service with Communion
Worship August 15, 2021 ■ 9:30 a.m.

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



WE PREPARE TO WORSHIP

Prelude

Reflection on "You Are Holy"

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,
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

“You Are Holy”

ELW #525 (*sing twice*)

You are holy, you are whole.
You are always ever more
than we ever understand.
You are always at hand.
Blessed are you coming near.
Blessed are you coming here
to your church in wine and bread,
raised from soil, raised from dead.

You are holy,
you are wholeness,
you are present.
Let the cosmos praise you, Lord!
Sing hosanna in the highest!
Sing hosanna!
Sing hosanna to our God!

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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

Ever-loving God,
**your Son gives himself as living bread
for the life of the world.**
**Fill us with such a knowledge of his presence
that we may be strengthened and sustained
by his risen life to serve you continually,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**
Amen.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

First Reading

Ephesians 5:15-20

15 Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, 16 making the most of the time, because the days are evil. 17 So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. 18 Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, 19 as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, 20 giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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

Reading from the Psalms

Psalms 34:9-14

O fear the LORD, you his holy ones,
for those who fear him have no want.
The young lions suffer want and hunger,
but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.
Come, O children, listen to me;
I will teach you the fear of the LORD.
Which of you desires life,
and covets many days to enjoy good?
Keep your tongue from evil,
and your lips from speaking deceit.
Depart from evil, and do good;
seek peace, and pursue it.

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

*** Gospel Acclamation**

ELW Page 188

**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 6:51-58

Jesus said ... I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh." 52 The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" 53 So Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. 54 Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; 55 for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. 56 Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. 57 Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. 58 This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever."

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

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn

"We Are Baptized in Christ Jesus"

ELW #451 vs. 1

We are baptized in Christ Jesus,
 we are baptized in his death;
 that as Christ is raised victorious,
 we might live a brand new life.
 And if we have been united
 in a dreadful death like his,
 we will all be reunited, for he lives.

Baptism: Marie Ella Johnson

Pages 227-231

Hymn

"We Are Baptized in Christ Jesus"

ELW#451 vs. 2, 3

In the water and the witness,
 in the breaking of the bread,
 in the waiting arms of Jesus
 who is risen from the dead,
 God has made a new beginning
 from the ashes of our past;
 in the losing and the winning we hold fast.

Glory be to God the Father,
 glory be to Christ the Son,
 glory to the Holy Spirit,
 ever three and ever one;
 as it was in the beginning,
 glory now resounds again
 in a song that has no ending. Amen

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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 Response

"Praise, Praise! You Are My Rock"

ELW #862 vs. 1, 2

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.
 My desert sand is dry.
 You break the rock, a river flows.
 You hear me when I cry, I cry.
 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

"Go, My Children, with My Blessing"

ELW #543

**"Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.
In my love's baptismal river
I have made you mine forever.
Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own."

"Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Here you heard my dear Son's story,
here you touched him, saw his glory.
Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure."**

**“Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me.
Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.
Here my Spirit’s power filled you,
here my tender comfort stilled you.
Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.”**

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*** Dismissal**

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

*** Postlude**

Celebration on “Go, My Children, with My Blessing”

Bryon Dockter



Jesus said ...

“My Father’s House shall be a house of prayer.”

Please include the following people in your prayers this week: **Laura, Leslie, Linda, Mark.**

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

**Roger and Becky, Patrick, Amy, William and Audrey, Damian, Becky and James,
Tom, Teresa, Ben, Adam and Emily, John, Jennifer, Eleanor and Henry.**

Each week different missions that St. Stephen’s support through our Sunday offerings are included in our prayers. This week we offer prayers for **Loaves & Fishes**, a nonprofit organization serving free, nutritious meals to those in need. They are guided by their vision that all people, regardless of socioeconomic, cultural or ethnic background, deserve to meet their basic needs for food, dignity and respect

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., 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.



Today we welcome into the body of Christ
through baptism

Marie Ella Johnson
daughter of **Jessica and Andy Johnson**
granddaughter of **Pastor John and Polly Snider**

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



Today’s Altar Flowers

Flowers dedicated by **Butch and Kathy Canniff**
in honor of their family.

Leaders in Today's Service

Pastor.....	The Rev. Dr. John Snider
Lay Liturgist.....	Mary Jo Martinek
Director of Worship.....	Bryon Dockter
Song Leaders.....	Jane Dockter, Deborah Ellis, Debbie Pirkl
Communications and Media Coordinator.....	Garrett Masters
Audio Visual Ministry.....	Norm Goetzke, Keith Gregory, Jan Perkins
Ushers.....	Merrill Zieman, Sue Clark
Altar Guild.....	Mary Jo Martinek
Fellowship.....	The Gregory Family: Keith, Jess and Max
Prayer Chain.....	Rachel Circle, Mary Circle, Kathy Ericson, Abby Vavra, Janet Gibson
Outdoor Street Sign.....	Jerry Thoreson



ST STEPHEN'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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



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