

# ST. STEPHEN LUTHERAN CHURCH

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



JULY 27, 2025

10 A.M.

**St. Stephen Lutheran Church**

(850) 385-2728, Office

sslc@ststephenlutherantally.com, Email <http://www.ststephenlutherantally.com>

Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 am - 1:00 pm

Rev. Tom Holdcraft, Pastor

Katharine Gossman, Music Director

Lori Zengel, Office Manager

All Members, Ministers

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**Welcome, Everyone!**

**We are glad to have you with us this morning.** If you need assistance in finding anything, one of our ushers will be glad to help you.

**Restrooms are found** in the fellowship hall and office building to the right as you exit the sanctuary. Proceed up the stairs and through the glass door. Unisex bathrooms are available through the kitchen in the office area. Please do not leave children under 12 unattended.

**“Let the Little Children Come” Matthew 19:14** - In accordance with St. Stephen’s mission “to be a welcoming community . . .” we encourage all ages to worship on Sundays. We also believe that children learn to welcome others by how they have been welcomed. If you are a parent of a young child, know that this community supports your efforts to engage your child in worship and understands that it can be a stressful process. Having children in worship is a joy that we treasure, so please know that we welcome you and your children as they learn to become active members in Christ’s body. A nursery is available if parent or guardian desires. See usher for details.

**Please remember** to turn off your cell phone during the liturgy.

**All the hymns** for the worship service are in the red Evangelical Lutheran Worship book and numbered by hymn, not page.

**For safety** we no longer pass the offering plate. Financial gifts can be placed in the plate by the baptismal font.

**St. Stephen Lutheran Church (ELCA) is a Reconciling in Christ congregation that explicitly welcomes people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions. St. Stephen is equally committed to anti-racism. We welcome people without regard to race, ethnicity, age, family status, economic status, or differing abilities.**

**All are invited to receive the sacrament. Lutherans believe that Jesus Christ is present in, with and under the consecrated bread and wine of Holy Communion. Those not wishing to commune are welcome to the altar to receive a blessing. To indicate this, please cross your arms over your chest. If you are not able to come forward, please inform the ushers and the meal will be brought to you.**

## INTRODUCTION

*Persistence in prayer is encouraged by Jesus and wins the attention of God when Abraham intercedes for Sodom. The life of the baptized—to be rooted and built up in Christ Jesus—is to be nurtured with prayer. God hears and answers prayer and so strengthens God’s own. “When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me.”*

## PRELUDE

*The assembly stands.*



+ Gathering +

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Pastor In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation      Amen.

P      Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P      Merciful God,

**C      you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.**

P      You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God’s children through faith. In the cross of ☩ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

**C      Amen.**

## GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

## HYMN OF PRAISE

## Refrain

*Congregation:*

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,  
all of cre - a - tion sings for joy  
to the God of life and love and  
free-dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -  
er - more!

Text and Music: Marty Haugen; © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

## Verse 1

*Congregation or Congregation 1:*

1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once

slain, whose blood has freed and u -  
nit - ed us to be one great peo - ple of  
God. *to Refrain*

**Verse 2** *Congregation or Congregation 2:*

2. Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and  
might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ  
for ev - er. *to Refrain*

**Verse 3** *Congregation:*

3. For God has come to dwell with us, to  
make us peo - ple of God; to make  
all things new. *to Refrain*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY



**P** Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and you gladly give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us your abundant mercy. Forgive us those things that weigh on our conscience, and give us those good things that come only through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C** Amen.

*The assembly is seated.*

## CHILDREN'S TIME

*Noisy offering*



+ WORD +

## FIRST READING: Genesis 18:20-32

*In today's reading, Abraham undertakes the role of a mediator between God and sinful humanity. Appealing to God's justice, Abraham boldly asks for mercy for the city of Sodom for the sake of the few righteous people there, including Abraham's nephew, Lot.*

<sup>20</sup> Then the Lord said, "How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! <sup>21</sup> I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me; and if not, I will know."

<sup>22</sup> So the men turned from there, and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. <sup>23</sup> Then Abraham came near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? <sup>24</sup> Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it?

<sup>25</sup> Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?" <sup>26</sup> And the Lord said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will

forgive the whole place for their sake.” <sup>27</sup> Abraham answered, “Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. <sup>28</sup> Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?”

And he said, “I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there.” <sup>29</sup> Again he spoke to him, “Suppose forty are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of forty I will not do it.” <sup>30</sup> Then he said, “Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there.” He answered, “I will not do it, if I find thirty there.” <sup>31</sup> He said, “Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it.” <sup>32</sup> Then he said, “Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of ten I will not destroy it.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**PSALM:** Psalm 138 *We sing the psalm responsively.*



Leader <sup>1</sup> I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with <sup>1</sup> my whole heart;  
before the gods I will <sup>1</sup> sing your praise.

**C** <sup>2</sup> I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of  
your steadfast <sup>1</sup> love and faithfulness;  
for you have glorified your name and your word a- <sup>1</sup> bove all things.

L <sup>3</sup> When I called, you <sup>1</sup> answered me;  
you increased my <sup>1</sup> strength within me.

**C** <sup>4</sup> All the rulers of the earth will praise <sup>1</sup> you, O Lord,  
when they have heard the words <sup>1</sup> of your mouth.

L <sup>5</sup> They will sing of the ways <sup>1</sup> of the Lord,  
that great is the glory <sup>1</sup> of the Lord.

**C**     <sup>6</sup>The Lord is high, yet cares <sup>1</sup> for the lowly,  
          perceiving the haughty <sup>1</sup> from afar.

**L**     <sup>7</sup>Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you <sup>1</sup> keep me safe;  
          you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your  
right <sup>1</sup> hand shall save me.

**C**     <sup>8</sup>You will make good your pur- <sup>1</sup> pose for me;  
          **O Lord, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the**  
works <sup>1</sup> of your hands.

*Spoken after the psalm is sung:*

**Amen.**

## **SECOND READING: Colossians 2:6-15 [16-19]**

*The writer of this letter warns the congregation in Colossae about “the empty lure” of philosophies and traditions that compromise faith. Through the gift of faith, the church is mystically connected with Christ in his death and resurrection which is enacted in baptism.*

<sup>6</sup> As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him,  
<sup>7</sup> rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding  
in thanksgiving.

<sup>8</sup> See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. <sup>9</sup> For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, <sup>10</sup> and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. <sup>11</sup> In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; <sup>12</sup> when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. <sup>13</sup> And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, <sup>14</sup> erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. <sup>15</sup> He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.



[<sup>16</sup>Therefore do not let anyone condemn you in matters of food and drink or of observing festivals, new moons, or sabbaths. <sup>17</sup>These are only a shadow of what is to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. <sup>18</sup>Do not let anyone disqualify you, insisting on self-abasement and worship of angels, dwelling on visions, puffed up without cause by a human way of thinking, <sup>19</sup>and not holding fast to the head, from whom the whole body, nourished and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows with a growth that is from God.]

R      The Word of the Lord.

C      **Thanks be to God.**

*The assembly stands.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Congregation:*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we  
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal  
life. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text and Music: Marty Haugen; © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

## GOSPEL:      Luke 11:1-13

*In teaching his disciples this prayer, Jesus also reminds them to focus on God's coming reign, God's mercy, and the strengthening of the community. Jesus encourages his disciples to childlike trust and persistence in prayer.*

P      The holy gospel according to Luke, the eleventh chapter.

C      **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> [Jesus] was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.”<sup>2</sup> He said to them, “When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. <sup>3</sup> Give us each day our daily bread. <sup>4</sup> And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial.”

<sup>5</sup> And he said to them, “Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; <sup>6</sup> for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.’ <sup>7</sup> And he answers from within, ‘Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.’ <sup>8</sup> I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

<sup>9</sup> “So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. <sup>10</sup> For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. <sup>11</sup> Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? <sup>12</sup> Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? <sup>13</sup> If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

**P** The gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to you, O Christ.

*The assembly is seated.*

**SERMON** *We encounter the living word of God in the preaching.*

*The assembly stands.*

1 Day by day, your mer-cies, Lord, at - tend me, bring - ing com - fort  
2 Day by day, I know you will pro - vide me strength to serve and  
3 Oh, what joy to know that you are near me when my bur - dens

to my anx-i-ous soul. Day by day, the bless-ings, Lord, you send me  
wis-dom to a - bey; I will seek your lov-ing will to guide me  
grow too great to bear; oh, what joy to know that you will hear me

draw me near - er to my heav'n-ly good. Love di-vine, be-yond all  
o'er the paths I strag-gle day by day, I will fear no e - vil  
when I come, O Lord, to you in prayer, Day by day, no mat - ter

mor-tal mea-sure, brings to naught the bur-dens of my quest; Sav-ior,  
of the mor-row, I will trust in your en-dur-ing grace. Sav-ior,  
what be - tide me, you will hold me ev - er in your hand. Sav-ior,

lead me to the home I trea-sure, where at last I'll find e - ter-nal rest,  
help me bear life's pain and sor-row till in glo - ry I be-hold your face,  
with your pres-ence here to guide me, I will reach at last the prom-ised land.

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**A** Let us confess our faith.

**C** I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*Each petition ends: Hear us, O God.*

*Congregational response: Your mercy is great.*

## **PEACE**

**P** The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C** And also with you.

*We greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.*

*The assembly is seated.*



## OFFERING

*An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.*

## OFFERING HYMN

*The assembly stands to sing the offering hymn as the collection and the gifts are brought forward.*

**Refrain**  
*Congregation:*

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were  
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread;  
so may all your peo-ple from all the ends of earth be  
gath-ered in - to one in you.

**Verses**

1. As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst  
2. Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when  
to Refrain  
may we share the pres-ence of your love.  
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

Text and Music: Marty Haugen; © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You reveal your glory as the glory of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: equal in majesty, undivided in splendor, one Lord, one God, ever to be adored in your eternal glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

*Congregation:*

The musical score is written for a congregation in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The time signature is 6/8. The melody consists of five staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes. The score includes various musical notations such as eighth notes, quarter notes, and rests. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!'.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and  
might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!  
Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

*The presiding minister continues to give thanks.*

P In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread,  
and gave thanks; broke it,  
and gave it to his disciples,  
saying: Take and eat;  
this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

C **Amen.**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray.

C **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**


### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

*The assembly is seated.*


## LAMB OF GOD

*Congregation:*      *Congregation or Assistant:*




Lamb of God,      you take a - way the sin of the  
    you break the chains of ha - tred and  
    you are the way of jus - tice and  
    you are the way of mer - cy and

*Congregation:*



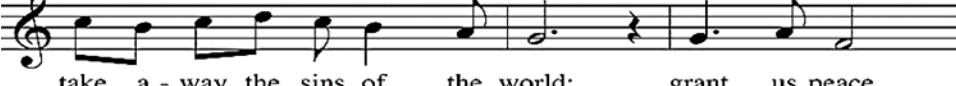
world:                      have mer - cy on us,      mer - cy on us,  
 fear:  
 peace:  
 love.

**Final Stanza**  
*Congregation or Assistant:*



mer-cy on us.      Lamb of God,      you

*Congregation:*



take a - way the sins of the world:      grant us peace,  
 grant us peace,      grant us peace.

Text and Music: Marty Haugen; © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

## DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

*As the ushers direct you, come to the altar using the side aisles and return to your seat via the central aisle. The assisting ministers offer both wine and grape juice from pouring cups. Take a communion glass from one of the trays at the corners as you approach the rail. Leave the empty glass on the lower rail. Wheat-free wafers are available -- simply tell the pastor. If you do not wish to receive the meal, simply fold your arms over your chest to receive a blessing from the pastor.*

<b>COMMUNION HYMNS</b>	<b>742</b>	<i>What a Friend We Have in Jesus</i>
	<b>752</b>	<i>Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying</i>

*The assembly stands.*



## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Let us pray.

Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace.  
Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love  
in Jesus' name.

C Amen.

## + SENDING +

**BLESSING** *We receive the blessings of the triune God.*

P The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts;  
and the life of the Spirit ✠ bless you and give you peace.

C Amen.

*The assembly is seated.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*The assembly stands.*

**SENDING HYMN**

**856\*** *How Great Thou Art*

*\*Requested hymn*



1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won-der con-sid-er  
 2 When through the woods and for-est glades I wan-der, I hear the  
 3 But when I think that God, his Son not spar-ing, sent him to  
 4 When Christ shall come, with shout of ac-cla-ma-tion, and take me



all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the night-y  
 birds sing sweet-ly in the trees; when I look down from loft-y moun-tain  
 die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross my bur-den glad-ly  
 home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum-ble ad-o-



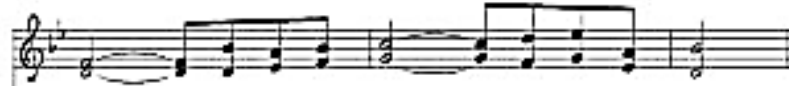
thun-der, thy pow'r through-out the u-ni-verse dis-played;  
 gram-deur and hear the brook and feel the gen-tle breeze;  
 bear-ing be-bled and died to take a-way my sins,  
 ra-tion and there pro-claim, "My God, how great thou art!"



Then sings my soul, my Sav-ior God, to thee, how great thou



art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav-ior God, to



thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!



## DISMISSAL

- A We believe out loud that God's mission for us is:
- C to be an active community that welcomes all people to nurture and share their faith and gifts with everyone, according to God's call.**
- A Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.
- C Thanks be to God.**

+ + +

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### Calendar for July 27 – August 03

July	27	Sun.	9 am	Book study
			10 am	Worship, Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
Aug.	3	Sun.	9 am	Book study
			10 am	Worship, Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
			11:30 am	Congregational meeting

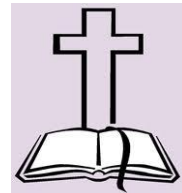
### Next Sunday's Readings, Eighth Sunday after Pentecost:

[Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23](#)

[Psalm 49:1-12](#)

[Colossians 3:1-11](#)

[Luke 12:13-21](#)



Today's altar flowers are  
given by Mark and Sue Canning  
in thanks for their 54th wedding anniversary.

## SERVING EVERY SUNDAY

Pastor Tom, presiding and preaching

Katharine Gossman, piano

Karl Barton, flute

Denise Bookwalter, announcements

Choir: Jordi Banitt, Karl Barton, Melissa Barton, Mark Canning, Kirsten Ebbesen, Rita Ford, Rudy Hehn, Susan Hehn, Colleen Holdcraft, Pastor Tom Holdcraft, Olivia James, Sandy Ness, Simone Schuster, Dave Suhrweir, Cassandra White

## SERVING TODAY AND ONE WEEK FROM TODAY

Serving	July 27	August 3
Assisting Minister	Rob Schiffer	Beth Alexander
Cup Minister	Colleen Holdcraft	Audrey Post
Cantor		
Lector	Stephanie Leitch	Karen Olson
Acolyte	Ceilia Greeley or Graham Reece or Bastian Stover	
Tech Team	Sylvia Smith Cindy Suhrweir	Colleen Holdcraft Jonas Holdcraft
Ushers		
Altar Guild	Beth Alexander	Rita Ford Anita Sawh
Counters	Margaret Bowers Marilyn Larson Billie Reardon	Patricia Handschy Rob Schiffer

## PRAYER REQUESTS

***New concerns:*** Prayers for healing for Margarete Decker (mother of Caroline Collins) as she is in the hospital with pneumonia

***For the sick:*** Sallie Robinson (wife of Erik Robinson); Sarah (friend of Cassandra White); Laura McDuffie (sister of Rob Schiffer).

***In treatment for cancer:*** Ruth Hartung; Scott Simmons (son of Sharon Simmons); Gordon Fleischer; Jim Saxman (uncle of Rob Schiffer); Jenny (niece of Laura Sullivan & Colin Hackley); Rosalinda Wright; Craig Timm (friend of Cheryl & Steve); Gil Johnson (friend of Judi Duffy); David McManus (friend of Audrey Post); Shannon Miller (friend of Barb O'Donnell); Timothy Stewart (son of Pepper Stewart).

***Health and protection:*** For those encountering fear & uncertainty around government cuts and the future of Medicaid. For immigrants and refugees who are working and raising families in the United States to be safe and secure without unnecessary deportations.

***For prisoners:*** All those on Death Row.

***Other concerns:*** For Karen Olson; Kevin Robinson (son of Erik Robinson), in need of encouragement; Isaac (son of Terri Schmitt), for physical and emotional healing; Margarete Deckert (mother of Caroline Collins), ongoing prayers for strength as she is recovering from illness; Donna Dickson Miller (friend of Audrey Post), facing health challenges; Gladys Kane for continued healing; Theresa Martin (friend of Cheryl Stuart).

***Church concerns:*** St. Stephen's Church Council; the Florida-Bahamas Synod Council; all congregations searching for ways to stay connected and proclaim the Good News; Reconciling Works; Grace Lutheran Church; Bishop Pedro Suarez; Our Savior Lutheran Church in Freeport, Bahamas; the ELCA Advocacy offices and ministry; St. Paul Lutheran Church, Pensacola.

***World concerns:*** For all people suffering and/or recovering from hurricanes; migrants and asylum seekers; civil rights for people around the world; a ceasefire in Ethiopia and in Ukraine; peace in Gaza and the Middle East.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**FLOWER CHART FOR 2025:** Do you have an anniversary, birthday or special memory you would like to honor? Celebrate the occasion by sponsoring the flowers for our service by signing up for the 2025 Flower Chart located in the narthex. The cost is \$40, and you can place it in the offering plate.

**WEEKLY NEWSLETTER:** Want to read a sermon you missed? Visit [\*https://ststephenlutherantally.com/sermons\*](https://ststephenlutherantally.com/sermons). Want to read the latest newsletters? Go to [\*https://ststephenlutherantally.com/newsletters\*](https://ststephenlutherantally.com/newsletters). Want to browse a collection of St. Stephen songs? They're at [\*https://ststephenlutherantally.com/songs-of-st-stephen\*](https://ststephenlutherantally.com/songs-of-st-stephen).