

# ST. STEPHEN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost



SUNDAY, JUNE 25, 2023

10 A.M.

## INTRODUCTION

*God does not promise that the path of the disciple will be easy. Jeremiah feels the pain of rejection from those who do not want to hear what he has to say. Jesus declares that his words may bring stark division. Even so, we need not be afraid for God accounts for each hair on our heads. Though we may experience rejection, frustration, division, and death, God's grace and love make us a new creation each day. Marked with the cross and filled with holy food, we are sent from worship to witness to Christ in the world.*

## PRELUDE

*The assembly stands.*



+ GATHERING +

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, who greets us in this and every season,  
whose word never fails, whose promise is sure.

**Congregation (C) Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.  
Merciful God,

**C we confess that we have sinned. We have hurt our community. We have squandered your blessings. We have hoarded your bounty. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P Righteous God,

**C we confess that we have sinned. We have failed to be honest. We have lacked the courage to speak. We have spoken falsely. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail. Claim the gift of God's mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of ✝ Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN 876 *Let the Whole Creation*

1 Let the whole cre - a - tion cry, "Glo - ry to the Lord on high!"  
2 Ser - vants striv - ing for the Lord, proph - ets burn - ing with the word,  
3 Men and wom - en, young and old, raise the an - them loud and bold,

Heav'n and earth, a - wake and sing, "Praise to our al - might - y king!"  
those to whom the arts be - long add their voic - es to the song,  
and let chil - dren's hap - py hearts in this wor - ship take their parts;

Praise God, an - gel hosts a - bove, ev - er bright and fair in love;  
Pow'rs of knowl - edge and of law, to the glo - rious cir - cle draw;  
from the north to south - ern pole let the might - y cho - rus roll:

sun and moon, lift up your voice; night and stars, in God re - joice.  
all who work and all who wait, sing, "The Lord is good and great!"  
"Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly One; glo - ry be to God a - lone!"

Text: Stegford A. Brocke, 1832-1916, alt.  
Music: SALZBURG, Jakob Hantze, 1622-1702; arr. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685-1750, adap.

## GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion  
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*

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

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**



**P** Let us pray.

Teach us, good Lord God, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

**CHILDREN'S TIME**

*Noisy offering*



+ WORD +

**FIRST READING: Jeremiah 20:7-13**

*Jeremiah accuses God of forcing him into a ministry that brings him only contempt and persecution. Yet Jeremiah is confident that God will be a strong protector against his enemies and commits his life into God's hands.*

<sup>7</sup>O LORD, you have enticed me, and I was enticed; you have overpowered me, and you have prevailed. I have become a laughingstock all day long; everyone mocks me. <sup>8</sup>For whenever I speak, I must cry out, I must shout, "Violence and destruction!" For the word of the LORD has become for me a reproach and derision all day long. <sup>9</sup>If I say, "I will not mention him, or speak any more in his name," then within me there is something like a burning fire shut up in my bones; I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot. <sup>10</sup>For I hear many whispering: "Terror is all around! Denounce him! Let us denounce him!" All my close friends are watching for me to stumble. "Perhaps he can be enticed, and we can prevail against him, and take our revenge on him." <sup>11</sup>But the LORD is with me like a dread warrior; therefore my persecutors will stumble, and they will not prevail. They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed. Their eternal dishonor will never be forgotten. <sup>12</sup>O LORD of hosts, you test the righteous, you see the heart and the mind; let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause.

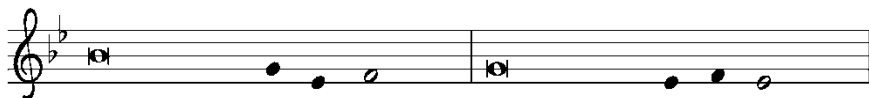
<sup>13</sup>Sing to the LORD; praise the LORD! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hands of evildoers.

Reader     The Word of the Lord.

**C           Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18**

*We sing the psalm in response to the first reading.*



Leader <sup>7</sup>Surely, for your sake I have suf- | fered reproach,  
and shame has cov- | ered my face.

**C** <sup>8</sup>**I have become a stranger to | my own kindred,  
an alien to my | mother's children.**

**L** <sup>9</sup>Zeal for your house has eat- | en me up;  
the scorn of those who scorn you has fall- | en upon me.

**C** <sup>10</sup>**I humbled my- | self with fasting,  
but that was turned to | my reproach.**

**L** [<sup>11</sup>I put on | sackcloth also,  
and became a by- | word among them.

**C** <sup>12</sup>**Those who sit at the gate mur- | mur against me,  
and the drunkards make | songs about me.**

**L** <sup>13</sup>But as for me, this is my prayer to you, at the time you have | set, O LORD:  
“In your great mercy, O God, answer me with your un- | failing help.

**C** <sup>14</sup>**Save me from the mire; do not | let me sink;  
let me be rescued from those who hate me and out of | the deep  
waters.**

**L** <sup>15</sup>Let not the torrent of waters wash over me, neither let the deep swal- | low me  
up;  
do not let the pit shut its | mouth upon me.]

**C** <sup>16</sup>**Answer me, O LORD, for your | love is kind;  
in your great compassion, | turn to me.**

**L** <sup>17</sup>Hide not your face | from your servant;  
be swift and answer me, for I am | in distress.

**C** <sup>18</sup>**Draw near to me | and redeem me;  
because of my enemies de- | liver me.**

*Spoken after the Psalm is sung:*

**C** **Amen.**

## SECOND READING: Romans 6:1b-11

*In baptism we were incorporated into the reality of Christ's death and resurrection. We have been made new in Christ through his death and resurrection to live freed from sin.*

<sup>1b</sup>Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? <sup>2</sup>By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? <sup>3</sup>Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup>Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

<sup>5</sup>For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. <sup>6</sup>We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. <sup>7</sup>For whoever has died is freed from sin. <sup>8</sup>But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. <sup>9</sup>We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. <sup>10</sup>The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. <sup>11</sup>So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

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: Matthew 10:24-39**

*Jesus warns his disciples that their ministry in his name will meet with opposition. However, he assures them that they need not fear for the truth will come to light. Life is found in Christ.*

P The holy gospel according to Matthew, the tenth chapter.

**C Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the twelve:] <sup>24</sup>“A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; <sup>25</sup>it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

<sup>26</sup>“So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. <sup>27</sup>What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. <sup>28</sup>Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. <sup>29</sup>Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. <sup>30</sup>And even the hairs of your head are all counted. <sup>31</sup>So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

<sup>32</sup>“Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; <sup>33</sup>but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

<sup>34</sup>“Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. <sup>35</sup>For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; <sup>36</sup>and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household. <sup>37</sup>Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; <sup>38</sup>and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. <sup>39</sup>Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.”

P The gospel of the Lord.

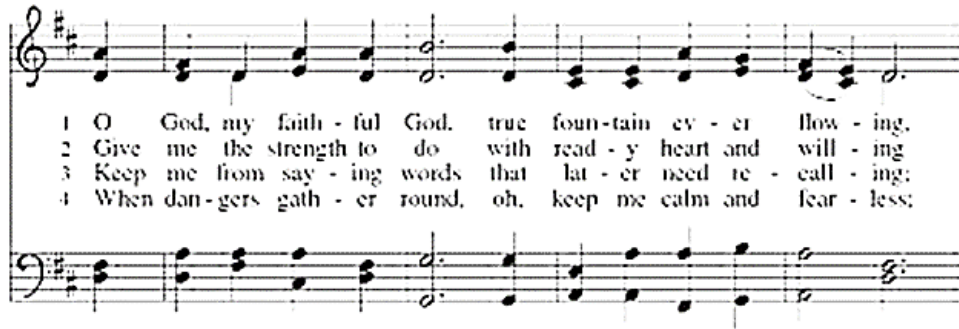
**C Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The assembly is seated.*

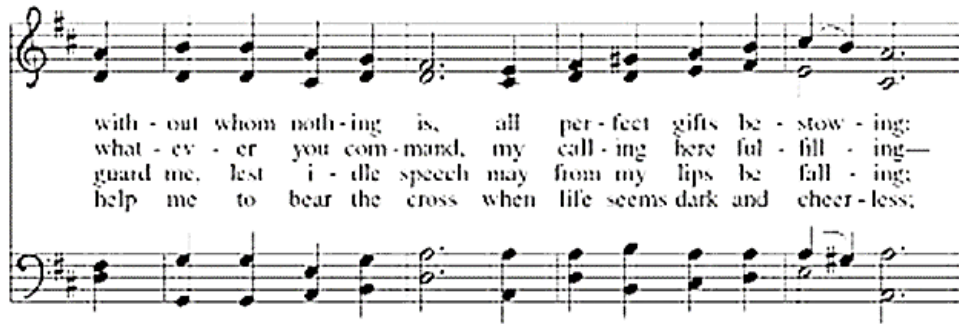
**SERMON** *We encounter the living word of God in the preaching.*

The assembly stands.

HYMN OF THE DAY 806 O God, My Faithful God (vs. 1, 2, 4)



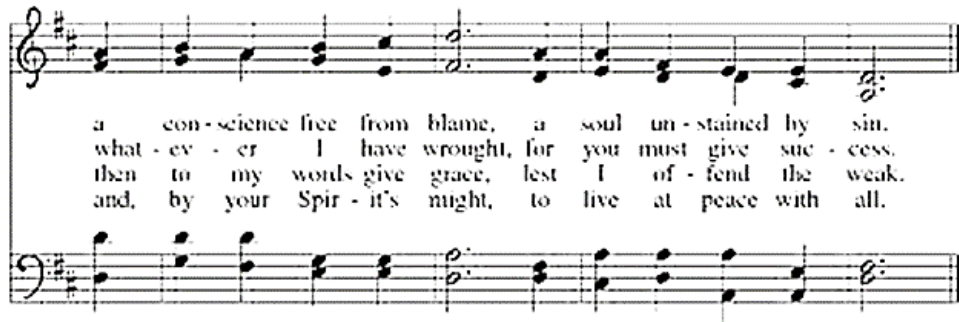
1 O God, my faith - ful God, true foun-tain ev - er flow - ing,  
2 Give me the strength to do with read - y heart and will - ing  
3 Keep me from say - ing words that lat - er need re - call - ing;  
4 When dan - gers gath - er round, oh, keep me calm and fear - less;



with - out whom noth - ing is, all per - feet gifts be - stow - ing;  
what - ev - er you com - mand, my call - ing here ful - fill - ing—  
guard me, lest i - dle speech may from my lips be fall - ing;  
help me to bear the cross when life seems dark and cheer - less;



give me a health - y frame, and may I have with - in  
to do it when I ought, with all my might—and bless  
but when, with - in my place, I must and ought to speak,  
help me, as you have taught, to love both great and small,



a con - science free from blame, a soul un - stained by sin,  
what - ev - er I have wrought, for you must give suc - cess,  
then to my words give grace, lest I of - fend the weak,  
and, by your Spir - it's might, to live at peace with all.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585-1647, in Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, ed.  
Music: WAS FRAG ICH NACH DER WELT, Anonymous, c. 1829-1701



## RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS BY AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

### PRESENTATION

P Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for these people, one with us in the body of Christ, who are today joining the congregation of St. Stephen Lutheran Church by making public affirmation of their baptism.

*A representative of the congregation presents those making affirmation.*

I present the following brother and sister, who desire to make public affirmation of their baptism.

*Bertil and Loraine Sunberg*

P Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you for these siblings in Christ, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished them in the community of faith. Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ.

**Amen.**

*The assembly stands.*

### PROFESSION OF FAITH

*The presiding minister addresses those making public affirmation of baptism. The assembly may join in the responses.*

P I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

P Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

*Response:*

**I renounce them.**

P Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

*Response:*

**I renounce them.**

P Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

*Response:*

**I renounce them.**

*The presiding minister addresses the assembly.*

P Do you believe in God the Father?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**C 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.**

P Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**C 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.**

## **AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM**

*The presiding minister addresses those making public affirmation of baptism.*

P You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,  
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,  
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,  
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,  
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

*Each person responds:*

**I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.**

*The minister addresses the assembly.*

P People of God, do you promise to support these sisters and brothers and pray for them in their life in Christ?

**C We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

P Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

Stir up in your people the gift of your Holy Spirit:  
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and might,  
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord,  
the spirit of joy in your presence,  
both now and forever.

**C Amen.**

P Let us rejoice with these siblings in Christ.

**C We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*Each petition ends: God, in your mercy,*

***Congregational response: hear our prayer.***

## **PEACE**

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C And also with you.**

*The people greet one another with the sign of Christ's peace.*

*The assembly stands.*



+ MEAL +

## 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  
may we share the pres - ence of your love.  
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

*to Refrain*

## 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 on five staves of a grand staff (treble clef). The key signature has four sharps (F#, C#, G#, D#). The time signature is 6/8. 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!

*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 All people are called to Christ's table. Come, eat what is good.

*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 minister offers a pouring cup (wine or grape juice). If you prefer to receive the wine or juice in an individual glass, take one from the tray as you approach the rail. Leave the empty glass on the rail. Wheat-free wafers are available--simply tell the pastor.*

<b>COMMUNION HYMNS</b>	<b>732</b>	<i>Borning Cry</i>	<i>(requested hymn)</i>
	<b>451</b>	<i>We Are Baptized in Christ Jesus</i>	
	<b>781</b>	<i>Children of the Heavenly Father</i>	

*The assembly stands.*

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

A Let us pray.

We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

## **+ SENDING +**

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

P The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed ✝ bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age.

C **Amen.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SENDING HYMN**      546      *To Be Your Presence*

1 To be your pres-ence is our mis-sion here, to show com -  
 2 To be your pres-ence is our mis-sion bold, to feed the  
 3 To be your pres-ence is our mis-sion blest, to speak for  
 4 We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice, to serve your

pas-sion's face and lis - t'ning ear, to be your heart of mer - cy  
 poor and shel-ter home-less cold, to be your hands of jus - tice,  
 all the bro-ken and op - pressed, to be your voice of hope, your  
 peo - ple is our call and choice, and in this mis - sion we, the

ev - er near,  
 right up - hold, al - le - lu - ia!  
 love ex - pressed,  
 church, re - joice,

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939  
 Music: ENGELBERG, Charles V. Stanford, 1852-1924  
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## 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. Go in peace. Share the harvest.
- C Thanks be to God!**

+ + +

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**BARBARA AND BRYON EHLMANN DEDICATE  
TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS TO  
THE GLORY OF GOD  
AND IN CELEBRATION OF THEIR 23RD  
WEDDING ANNIVERSARY.**

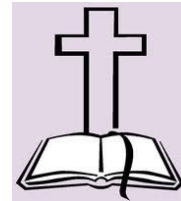
**Calendar for June 25 - 02**

June	25	Sun.	9:00 am	Book study
			10:00 am	Worship, Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
July	02	Sun.	10:00 am	Worship, Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

*\*Pr. Tom will be out of town from June 27—July 11.*

**Next Sunday, Fifth Sunday after Pentecost:**

[Jeremiah 28:5-9](#)  
[Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18](#)  
[Romans 6:12-23](#)  
[Matthew 10:40-42](#)



**SERVING TABLE**

Serving	June 25	July 02
<b>Presiding</b>	Pastor Tom	Pastor Tom Miller
<b>Preaching</b>	Pastor Tom	Pastor Tom Miller
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Beth Alexander	
<b>Cup Minister</b>	Colleen Holdcraft	
<b>Lector</b>	Ron Hartung	
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Judi Duffy Linda Eshleman	
<b>Counters</b>	Audrey Post Billie Reardon	
<b>Announcements</b>	Pastor Tom	Ron Hartung

## PRAYER REQUESTS

***New concerns:*** Dottie Hinkle (with LSSNF), undergoing treatment for cancer; Kevin Robinson (son of Erik Robinson), in need of encouragement; Angela Locke (friend of Audrey Post), for patience and strength; Becky Button (cousin of Audrey Post), as she continues to recuperate; Isaac (son of Terri Schmitt), for physical and emotional healing.

***For the sick:*** Val Sullivan; Audrey Post; Margarete Decker (mother of Caroline Collins); Sallie Robinson (wife of Erik Robinson); Don Dowd; Isabelle Taylor (granddaughter of Bill & Connie Taylor), being treated for rheumatoid arthritis and Primary Immunodeficiency; Theresa Martin (friend of Cheryl Stuart); Dan Graney (friend of Cheryl Stuart); Sarah (friend of Cassandra White).

***In treatment for cancer:*** Gordon Fleischer; Stephanie Barber; Jenny (niece of Laura Sullivan & Colin Hackley); Rosalinda Wright; Maggie Soff (friend of Sandy Sampson); James Sablan (brother of Donna Schiffer); Bruce Blubaum (cousin of Sharon Simmons); Chris Dickman (synod council member); Craig Timm (friend of Cheryl & Steve).

***Health and protection:*** For all affected by the coronavirus – especially those experiencing mental-health difficulties due to isolation, those struggling to recover from the disease, those on the front lines fighting, researching and treating the disease (doctors, nurses, medical personnel, EMTs), the millions of unemployed people, etc.; for the unaccompanied children entering the U.S., including those “unaccounted for.”

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

***Other concerns:*** For Karen Olson.

***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; Bishop Elizabeth Eaton; 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 Afghanistan and the Middle East.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**FLOWER CHART FOR 2023:** 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 2023 Flower Chart located in the narthex. The cost is \$35, and you can place it in the offering plate.

**WEEKLY NEWSLETTER:** Want to read a sermon you missed? Visit <https://ststephenlutherantally.com/newsletters>. Want to read the latest newsletters? Go to <https://ststephenlutherantally.com/newsletters>. Want to browse a collection of St. Stephen songs? They're at <https://ststephenlutherantally.com/newsletters>.