

# ST. STEPHEN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost



**SUNDAY, AUGUST 13, 2023**

**10 A.M.**

## INTRODUCTION

*Elijah finds the presence of God not in earthquake, wind, or fire, but in the sound of sheer silence. When the disciples face a great storm on the sea, they cry out with fear. Jesus says: "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Amid the storms of life, we gather to seek the calm presence of Christ that soothes our fears. In comforting words of scripture and in the refreshing bread and cup of the eucharist, God grants us peace and sends us forth to be a sign of God's presence to others.*

## 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.*

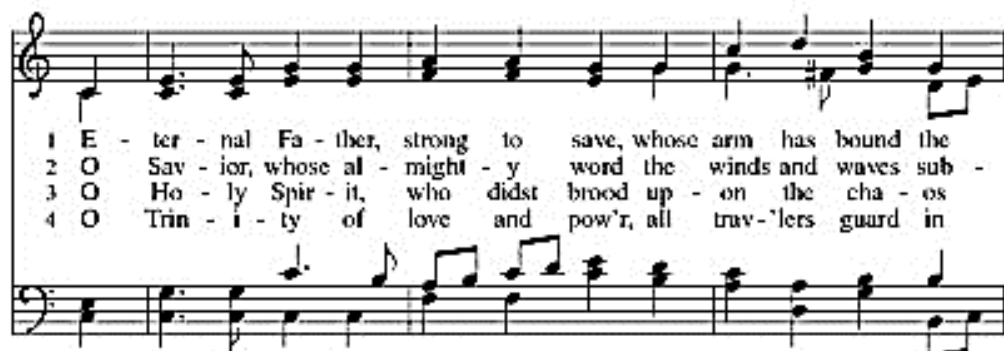
P Righteous God,

**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.**

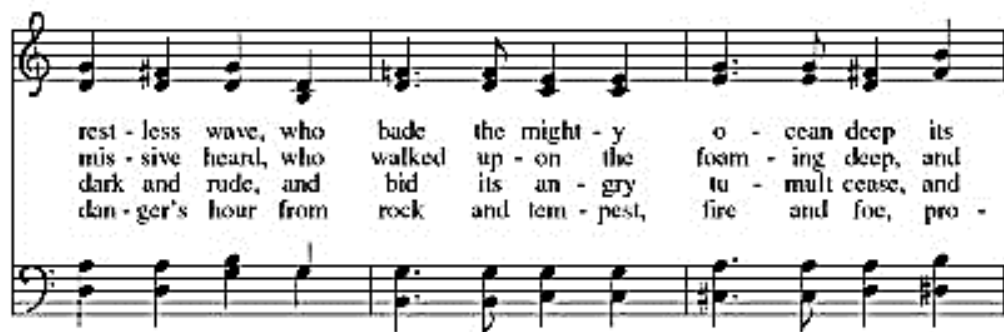
*Silence is kept for reflection.*

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.

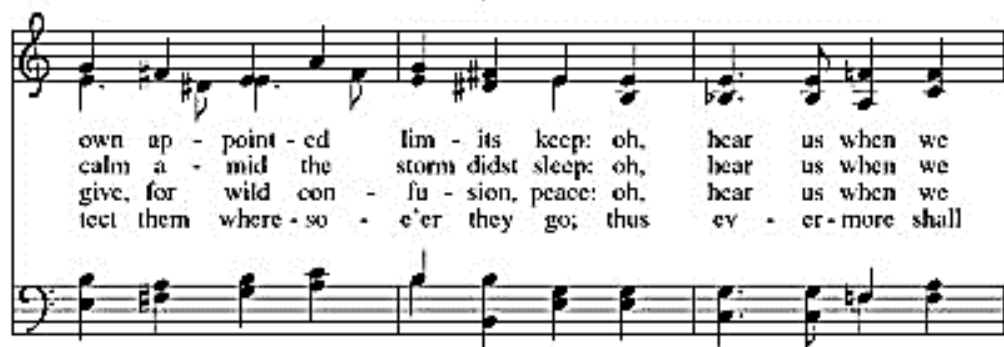
**C Amen.**



1 E - ter - nal Fa - ther, strong to save, whose arm has bound the  
 2 O Sav - ior, whose al - might - y word the winds and waves sub -  
 3 O Ho - ly Spir - it, who didst brood up - on the cha - os  
 4 O Trin - i - ty of love and pow'r, all trav - 'lers guard in



rest - less wave, who bade the might - y o - cean deep its  
 mis - sive heart, who walked up - on the foam - ing deep, and  
 dark and rude, and bid its an - gry tu - mult cease, and  
 dan - ger's hour from rock and tem - pest, fire and foe, pro -



own up - point - ed lim - its keep: oh, hear us when we  
 calm a - mid the storm didst sleep: oh, hear us when we  
 give, for wild con - fu - sion, peace: oh, hear us when we  
 tect them where - so - e'er they go; thus ev - er - more shall



cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.  
 cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.  
 cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.  
 rise to thee glad hymns and praise from land and sea.

## 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*



## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

O God our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## CHILDREN'S TIME



+ WORD +

### FIRST READING: 1 Kings 19:9-18

*On Mount Horeb, where God had appeared to Moses with typical signs of God's presence—earthquake, wind, and fire—Elijah now experienced God in "sheer silence." God assured Elijah that he is not the only faithful believer. Seven thousand Israelites are still loyal. God instructed Elijah to anoint two men as kings and to anoint Elisha as his own successor.*

<sup>9</sup>At [Horeb, the mount of God,][Elijah] came to a cave, and spent the night there.

Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" <sup>10</sup>He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."

<sup>11</sup>He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; <sup>12</sup>and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. <sup>13</sup>When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.



*Spoken after the Psalm is sung:*

**C      Amen.**

**SECOND READING: Romans 10:5-15**

*A right relationship with God is not something we achieve by heroic efforts. It is a gift received in the proclamation whose content is Jesus Christ. This proclaimed word creates our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Hence Christian proclamation is an indispensable component of God's saving actions.*

<sup>5</sup>Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that “the person who does these things will live by them.” <sup>6</sup>But the righteousness that comes from faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down) <sup>7</sup>“or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). <sup>8</sup>But what does it say?

“The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); <sup>9</sup>because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup>For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. <sup>11</sup>The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” <sup>12</sup>For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. <sup>13</sup>For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

<sup>14</sup>But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? <sup>15</sup>And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

**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!

*Optional Repeat*

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

## GOSPEL: Matthew 14:22-33

*Matthew's gospel typically portrays Jesus' disciples as people of "little faith," who fail despite their best intentions. In this story, Matthew shows how Jesus comes to the disciples when they are in trouble and sustains them in their time of fear and doubt.*

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

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

<sup>22</sup>[Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side [of the Sea of Galilee], while he dismissed the crowds.<sup>23</sup>And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone,<sup>24</sup>but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. <sup>25</sup>And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. <sup>26</sup>But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. <sup>27</sup>But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

<sup>28</sup>Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." <sup>29</sup>He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. <sup>30</sup>But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" <sup>31</sup>Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" <sup>32</sup>When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. <sup>33</sup>And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

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**     773     *Precious Lord, Take My Hand\**

*\*Not able to upload the music.*

### **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.**

*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 HYMNELW

*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.

## 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 music. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and 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.*



## **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.

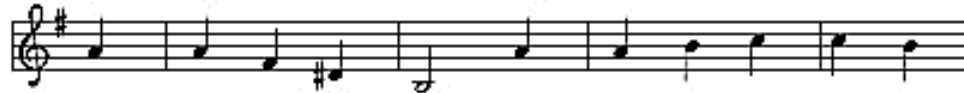
C **Amen.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SENDING HYMN 822** *Oh, Sing to the Lord*



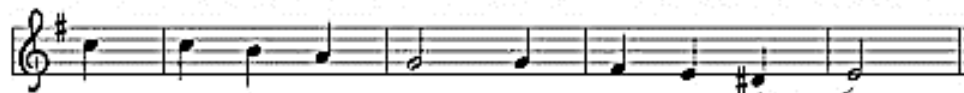
1 Can - tad al Se - ñor un cân - ti - co nue - vo.  
1 Oh, sing to the Lord, oh, sing God a new song.  
2 For God is the Lord, and God has done won - ders.  
3 So dance for our God and blow all the trum - pets.  
4 Oh, shout to our God, who gave us the Spir - it.  
5 For Je - sus is Lord! A - men! Al - le - lu - ia!



Can - tad al Se - ñor un cân - ti - co nue - vo.  
Oh, sing to the Lord, oh, sing God a new song.  
For God is the Lord, and God has done won - ders.  
So dance for our God and blow all the trum - pets.  
Oh, shout to our God, who gave us the Spir - it.  
For Je - sus is Lord! A - men! Al - le - lu - ia!



Can - tad al Se - ñor un cân - ti - co nue - vo.  
Oh, sing to the Lord, oh, sing God a new song.  
For God is the Lord, and God has done won - ders.  
So dance for our God and blow all the trum - pets.  
Oh, shout to our God, who gave us the Spir - it.  
For Je - sus is Lord! A - men! Al - le - lu - ia!



¡Can - tad al Se - ñor, cân - tad al Se - ñor!  
Oh, sing to our God, oh, sing to our God.  
Oh, sing to our God, oh, sing to our God.  
Oh, sing to our God, oh, sing to our God.  
Oh, sing to our God, oh, sing to our God.  
Oh, sing to our God, oh, sing to our God.

2 *Pues nuestro Señor ha hecho prodigios.  
Pues nuestro Señor ha hecho prodigios.  
Pues nuestro Señor ha hecho prodigios.  
¡Cantad al Señor, cantad al Señor!*

3 *Cantad al Señor, alabadle con arpa.  
Cantad al Señor, alabadle con arpa.  
Cantad al Señor, alabadle con arpa.  
¡Cantad al Señor, cantad al Señor!*

4 *Es él que nos da el Espíritu Santo.  
Es él que nos da el Espíritu Santo.  
Es él que nos da el Espíritu Santo.  
¡Cantad al Señor, cantad al Señor!*

5 *¡Jesús es Señor! ¡Amén, aleluya!  
¡Jesús es Señor! ¡Amén, aleluya!  
¡Jesús es Señor! ¡Amén, aleluya!  
¡Cantad al Señor, cantad al Señor!*




**DISMISSAL**

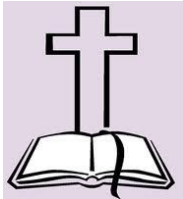
- A We believe out loud that God’s mission for us is:  
C **to be an active community that welcomes all people to nurture and share their faith and gifts with everyone, according to God’s call.**
- A Go in peace. Go in peace. Share the harvest.  
C **Thanks be to God!**

+ + +

*Sundays and Seasons v.20220805.1416  
Copyright © 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved*

	<p><b>SUSAN WARREN DEDICATES TODAY’S ALTAR FLOWERS TO THE GLORY OF GOD.</b></p>
---	---

<u>Calendar for August 13 - 20</u>				
Aug.	13	Sun.	9:00 am	Book study
			10:00 am	Worship, Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
Aug.	20	Sun.	9:00 am	Book study
			10:00 am	Worship, Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
			11:30 am	Council meeting

<p><b>Next Sunday, Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost:</b></p> <p><a href="#"><u>Isaiah 56:1, 6-8</u></a> <a href="#"><u>Psalm 67</u></a> <a href="#"><u>Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32</u></a> <a href="#"><u>Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28</u></a></p>	
--	---

<b>SERVING TABLE</b>		
<b>Serving</b>	<b>August 13</b>	<b>August 20</b>
<b>Presiding</b>	Pastor Tom	Pastor Tom
<b>Preaching</b>	Pastor Tom	Pastor Tom
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Audrey Post	Rob Schiffer
<b>Cup Minister</b>	Jennifer Dritt	Colleen Holdcraft
<b>Cantor</b>	Rita Ford	Rudy Hehn
<b>Lector</b>	Astrid van der Mark	Graham Reece
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Billie Reardon Erik Robinson	Rita Ford Susan Warren
<b>Counters</b>	Margaret Bowers Patricia Handschy Greta Scavone	Audrey Post Billie Reardon
<b>Announcements</b>	Denise Bookwalter	Denise Bookwalter

### **PRAYER REQUESTS**

***New concerns:*** Steve Walits (cousin of Rob Schiffer), hospitalized after a serious accident.

***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; 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.

***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>.