

ST. STEPHEN LUTHERAN CHURCH
FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2026

10 A.M.

St. Stephen Lutheran Church

sslc@ststephenlutherantly.com, Email

<http://www.ststephenlutherantly.com>

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

Rev. Tom Holdcraft, Pastor

Katharine Gossman, Music Director

Rita Ford, Office Manager

All Members, Ministers

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.

“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.

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.

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

Who are the blessed ones of God? For Micah, they are those who do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. For Paul, they are the ones who find wisdom in the weakness of the cross. For Jesus, they are the poor, the meek, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers, those who mourn, and those who hunger for righteousness. In baptism we find our blessed identity and calling in this countercultural way of living and serving.

WELCOME

PRELUDE

The assembly stands.

Leader:
May the peace of the Lord em - brace us. _____ All:
May the

5 Leader:
love of the Lord light our way. _____ We come to you

10 All:
lost and brok - en. _____ Your bril - liance il - lu - mi-nates our flaws. _____

16 Leader:
— You know how our prayers ev - er fade. _____ All:
Yet al - ways you

22 All:
op - en your arms _____ to us.



+ GATHERING +

CONFSSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters.

C **Amen.**

P Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

Silence for reflection.

P Mighty God, lover of justice,

C **you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors. We have sown deceit where honesty was needed. We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you. Turn us to seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

P The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of Christ, and forgives your sin in † Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace.

C **Amen.**

1 We are for-giv-en. We're clean a-gain.

5 Gone is the dark night of sin; in comes the light.

9 We are re-born through no power of our own. We are for-giv-en.

12 and we are giv-en a new start.

17 We are for-give-en. We're clean a-gain. We are for-give-en.

20 and we are giv-en a new start. A-men. A-men. A-men.

GATHERING HYMN ELW 710 *Let Streams of Living Justice* (please see next page)

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.

GATHERING HYMN ELW 710 *Let Streams of Living Justice*

1 Let streams of liv - ing jus - tice flow down up - on the earth;
 2 For heal - ing of the na - tions, for peace that will not end,
 3 Your ci - ty's built to mu - sic; we are the stones you seek;

give free-dom's light to cap - tives, let all the poor have worth.
 for love that makes us lov - ers, God grant us grace to mend.
 your har - mo - ny is lan - guage; we are the words you speak.

The hun - gry's hands are plead - ing, the work - ers claim their rights,
 Weave our var - ied gifts to - geth - er; knit our lives as they are spun;
 Our faith we find in ser - vice, our hope in oth - ers' dreams,

the mourn - ers long for laugh - ter, the blind - ed seek for sight.
 on your loom of time en - roll us till our thread of life is run.
 our love in hand of neigh - bor; our home-land bright - ly gleams.

Make lib - er - ty a bea - con, strike down the i - ron pow'r;
 O great weav - er of our fab - ric, bind church and world in one;
 In - scribe our hearts with jus - tice; your way—the path un - tried;

a - bol - ish an - cient ven - geance; pro - claim your peo - ple's hour.
 dye our tex - ture with your ra - diance, light our col - ors with your sun.
 your truth—the heart of strang - er; your life—the Cru - ci - fied.

Text: William Whits, b. 1934

Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1874-1934

Text © 1989 William Whits.

HYMN OF PRAISE

3

If God were an ea - gle, he'd
 If God were the wind, she'd run
 If God were a moun - tain, a
 God's more than a moun - tain, an

7

swoop through the trees. He'd flex all his fea - thers to
 rings 'round the clouds. She'd swirl 'round the world just ca -
 tow - er of stone, it would reach to the hea - vens, al -
 ea - gle, the wind. God stretch - es be - yond where our

11

catch the least breeze. And peo - ple would shout,
 ress - ing the crowds. And peo - ple would sigh,
 might - ty, a - lone. And peo - ple would cry,
 hymns of praise end. Al - might - y and yet

15

"Oh, what beau - ty in flight!" If God were an ea - gle, so
 "Oh, what gen - tle - ness there!" If God were the wind, whis - pering
 "Oh, what strength we can feel!" If God were a moun - tain, a
 del - i - cate and light, God came in the form of a

19

re - gal, so right. If God were an ea - gle, so
 in eve - ry - where. If God were the wind, whis - pering
 pow - er so real. If God were a moun - tain, a
 ba - by one night, and that is the rea - son our

re - gal, so right.
 in eve - ry - where.
 pow - er so real.
 hearts burn so bright.

PRAYER OF THE DAY



P Let us pray.

Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

CHILDREN'S SERMON *Noisy Offering*



+ WORD +

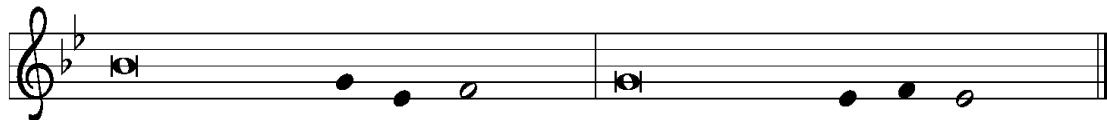
FIRST READING: Micah 6:1-8

With the mountains and the foundations of the earth as the jury, God brings a lawsuit against Israel. God has “wearied” Israel with a long history of saving acts. God does not want or expect lavish sacrifices to attempt to earn divine favor. Rather God empowers the people to do justice, to love loyalty to God, and to walk shrewdly in God’s service.

¹ Hear what the Lord says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. ² Hear, you mountains, the case of the Lord, and you enduring foundations of the earth, for the Lord has a case against his people, and he will contend with Israel. ³ “O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! ⁴ For I brought you up from the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of slavery, and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. ⁵ O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the Lord.” ⁶ “With what shall I come before the Lord and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? ⁷ Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?” ⁸ He has told you, O mortal, what is good, and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God?

Reader The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 15*We sing the psalm responsively.*

Leader ¹Lord, who may dwell in your | tabernacle?
 Who may abide upon your | holy hill?

C ²**Those who lead a blameless life and do | what is right,
 who speak the truth | from their heart;**

L ³they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil | to their friends;
 they do not cast discredit up- | on a neighbor.

C ⁴**In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who | fear the Lord.
 They have sworn upon their health and do not take | back their word.**

L ⁵They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes a- | gainst
 the innocent.
 Those who do these things shall never be | overthrown.

Spoken after the psalm is sung:

Amen.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

According to the world's standards of power and might, the message of the cross seems stupid and offensive. Yet this word reveals the paradoxical way God has chosen to work power and salvation through weakness, rejection, and suffering. Hence the message of the cross becomes true wisdom and power for believers.

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.” ²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

²⁵ For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. ²⁶ Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷ But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸ God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to abolish things that are, ²⁹ so that no one might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰ In contrast, God is why you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹ in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

Reader The word of the Lord.

The assembly stands.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW 169



GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1-12

Jesus opens the Sermon on the Mount by naming those who are blessed in the reign of God.

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

C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ² And he began to speak and taught them, saying: ³ “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. ⁵ “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. ⁶ “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. ⁷ “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. ⁸ “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. ⁹ “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. ¹⁰ “Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹ “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

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 ACS 977 *Look Who Gathers at Christ's Table*

1 Look who gath - ers at Christ's ta - ble! Hear the sto - ries
2 Clouds of light sur - round the ta - ble; an - cient fol - low -
3 Their sad sto - ries are re - peat - ed in a thou - sand
4 Bring your joy and bring your sad - ness, and pre - pare to

that they bring. Some are weep - ing; some are laugh - ing;
ers ap - pear, saints con - fess - ing how they wres - tled
dif - f'rent ways, but they share one thing in com - mon:
be sur - prised by the host whose hands are wound - ed,

some have songs they want to sing. Oth - ers ask why they're in -
with their guilt, their doubt and fear. Pe - ter tells of his de -
they all end in thanks and praise for the host who has in -
who will o - pen wide your eyes when he bless - es bread and

vit - ed, bur - dened by the wrong they've done. Christ in - sists they
ny - ing Christ was ev - er in his sight; Paul re - lates his
vit - ed north and south and east and west to con - verge a -
breaks it - truth and man - na from a - bove!— and then pass - es

all are wel - come. There is room for ev - 'ry - one.
fruit - less ef - forts to ob - lit - er - ate the light.
round this ta - ble, where all life is fed and blest.
wine that wa - kens in your heart the taste of love.

Text: Thomas H. Troeger, b. 1945

Music: COPELAND, Michael Corzine, b. 1947

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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: Merciful God,

Congregational response: receive our prayer.

PEACE

A 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.



+ MEAL +

Stephen Saint
@Stephen-Saint



venmo

OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including caring for those in need. We welcome you to place your gift in the offering plate near the baptismal font, mail it to the church, or by using the VENMO QR Code to the right.

Use this QR Code to connect to Venmo for a donation to St. Stephen. Code 5469.

ANTHEM "I Will Lift Up Mine Eyes" -Berk

I will lift up mine eyes unto the mountains,
From whence shall my help come? My help cometh from the Lord,
Who made heaven and earth.

(repeat)

Amen.

We stand and sing as the collection and the gifts are brought forward

OFFERING HYMN

1
I reach in my pocket - et to

6
pull out an offering as if this gift were really mine. It's not, Lord, I

10
know, but I cling to it so un - til my soul's voice can re -

15
mind me that what - ev - er I have, what - ev - er I have,

20
what - ev - er I have, Lord, is yours.

25
I vis - it with you for an hour on Sun - days as if it's a favor I

29
do. Lord, help me to see that to live faith - ful - ly is to



34

turn my days over to you be cause what - ev - er I have,

39

what - ev - er I have, what - ev - er I have, Lord, is

43

yours.

48

And now down the aisle comes a

gift like no oth - er. The bread and the wine make me free. The best gift of

52

yours is the son we a - dore. The on - ly gift I have is

57

me. Take me. What - ev - er I have, what - ev - er I have,

62

what - ev - er I have, Lord, is yours.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Leader: All:
 May the peace of the Lord em - brace us. May the

9 Leader:
 love of the Lord light our way. We lift our song

14 All: Leader:
 high! We praise the God who gave us life. Hear, Lord,

18 faster All:
 as we sing! Sing our praise to God on high.

27 Sing out! Sing out for joy! Sing so loud we'll drown out war.

31 Sing of peace for - ev - er - more. Sing our praise to God. A-men.

35 Sing our praise to God. Sing our praise to God. A-men.

39 Sing our praise to God. A - men. A - men. A - men. A -

44 men. A - men. A - men. A - men!

The musical score consists of eight staves of music in 4/4 time with a key signature of two sharps. The vocal parts are 'Leader:' and 'All:'. The lyrics are integrated into the musical lines. The score includes measure numbers 14, 18, 27, 31, 35, 39, and 44. The music features various note values including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. The vocal parts are separated by vertical bar lines, and the 'Leader:' part often begins with a dotted half note.

COMMUNION BLESSING

P Bless this bread, Holy God--baked by our hand but sanctified by your Word. On a night 2,000 years ago, shortly before he died to give us everlasting life, your loving Son took such bread and gave thanks to you. He broke it, gave it to his disciples and said, "Take this and eat. This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Bless this wine, Holy God--poured by our hand but made precious by your Son's sacrifice. After supper that night, Jesus took a cup of wine, like this one, and gave you thanks. He gave it to his disciples, telling them, "Take this, all of you, and drink from it. This is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for all people so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in remembrance of me."

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 Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!
Come to the table; taste and see.

The assembly is seated.

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 (first) and grape juice (second) 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.

COMMUNION HYMN

6

Kneel me down now____ at your____
 soul with your ho - li -
 sing of the peace I've____
 light shin - ing in my____

feet. Kneel me down now____ at your____ feet. Kneel me down, kneel me down,
 ness. Feed my soul with your ho - li - ness. Feed my soul, feed my soul,
 found. Hear me sing of the peace I've____ found. Hear me sing, hear me sing,
 heart. Keep this light shin - ing in my____ heart. Keep this light, keep this light,

10

at the al - tar kneel me down,____ for bread and wine,____ the
 with the Prom - ise feed my soul,____ with
 of your true love hear me sing,____ of
 shine right through me, keep this light,____ through

14

1, 2, 3.
 loving sign____ from you, God, and your____ Son.____ Feed my
 Hear me
 Keep this

21

4.
 Through bread and wine,____ the lov-ing____ sign____ from you, God, and your____ Son.

25

A - - - men.

COMMUNION HYMNS

ELW 725 *When the Poor Ones*

ELW 476 *Thee We Adore, O Savior*

The assembly stands.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Let us pray.

Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen

The assembly is seated.

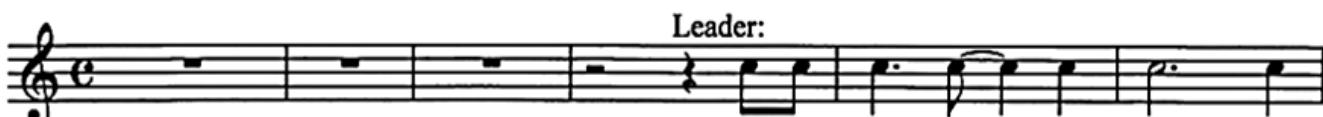
ANNOUNCEMENTS

The assembly stands.

+ SENDING +

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

Leader:



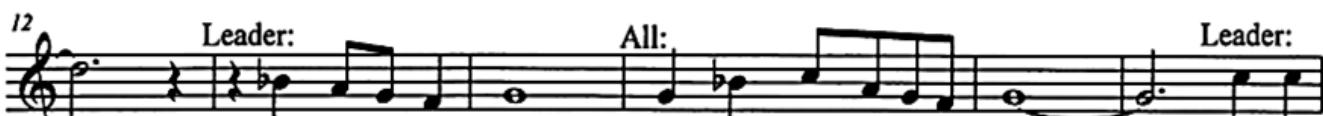
May the peace of the Lord em -

All:



brace us. May the love of the Lord light our way.

Leader: All: Leader:



Show oth-ers that light! God's grace shines for ev-ery - one. May we

All:



care for each oth-er. May we share with our world.

The assembly stands.

SENDING HYMN

ELW 546 *To Be Your Presence*

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: ENGELBERG, Charles V. Stanford, 1852-1924

Text © 2000 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.

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. Do justice. Love mercy.

C Thanks be to God.

+++

Arise! The St. Stephen Service
Music by Tom Buchanan Lyrics by Ron Hartung

Sundays and Seasons v.20220805.1416
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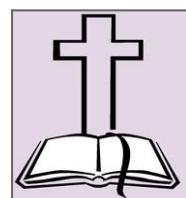
Patricia Handschy dedicates
today's altar flowers to the glory of God.

Calendar for February 1 - February 8

Feb 1 Sun.	9:00 am	Bible study
	9:30 am	Choir rehearsal
	10:00 am	Worship, Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
	11:30 am	Worship and Music meeting in HH
Feb 4 Wed.	7:00 pm	Choir rehearsal
Feb 5 Thurs	10:00 am	Bible study
Feb 8 Sun.	9:00 am	Bible study
	9:30 am	Choir rehearsal
	10:00 am	Worship, Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Next Sunday's Readings, Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

[Isaiah 58:1-9a \[9b-12\]](#)
[Psalm 112:1-9 \[10\]](#)
[1 Corinthians 2:1-12 \[13-16\]](#)
[Matthew 5:13-20](#)



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, Lawana Lamb-Daniels, Sandy Ness, Simone Schuster, Dave Suhrweir, Cassandra White.

SERVING TODAY AND ONE WEEK FROM TODAY

Serving	February 1	February 8
Assisting Minister	Beth Alexander	Rob Schiffer
Cup Minister	Lorraine Sundberg	Jen Dritt
Cantor	Rudy Hehn	
Lector	Violet/Mark Greeley	Judy Duffy
Acolyte		
Tech Team	Cindy Suhrweir Audrey Post	Caroline Collins Sandy Lamb-Daniels
Ushers	Ann DelRossi Rob Schiffer	Jan Harrison Patrick Kennell
Altar Guild	Beth Alexander	Anita Sawh Rita Ford
Counters	Margaret Bowers Patricia Handschy	Billie Reardon Rob Schiffer

PRAYER REQUESTS

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; Jenny (niece of Laura Sullivan & Colin Hackley); Rosalinda Wright; Linda Bobbitt, (friend of Cheryl Stuart) diagnosed with metasticized breast cancer.; David McManus (friend of Audrey Post); Shannon Miller (friend of Barb O'Donnell); Wayne Harrison (Jan Harrison's son); Pat Yeager (sister of Sue Canning).

Health and protection: For Frank "Ramy" Meyers following broken leg. For Loraine and Bertil Sundberg following car accident. 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 Audrey Post and family following the death of Wanda; For Hingst/ Mongomery family and friends following the death of Ann; Kevin Robinson (son of Erik Robinson), in need of encouragement; Theresa Martin (friend of Cheryl Stuart); Allana Lochan-Tekaram (sister of Anita Sawh and Rita Ford), for hormone imbalance; Walt Stein-vorth (friend of Rob Schiffer), suffering from pericarditis and vestibular neuritis and learning to cope with dizziness and severe equilibrium problems; 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; Bishops Pedro Suarez and Yehiel Curry; Our Savior Lutheran Church in Freeport, Bahamas; the ELCA Advocacy offices and ministry.

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 2026: 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 2026 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://ststephenlutherantly.com/newsletters>. Want to read the latest newsletters? Go to <https://ststephenlutherantly.com/newsletters>. Want to browse a collection of St. Stephen songs? They're at <https://ststephenlutherantly.com/newsletters>.

CHURCH COUNCIL	
President , Denise Bookwalter	
Treasurer , Jennifer Dritt	Buildings Coordinator , Sandy Lamb-Daniels
Worship & Music , Susan Hehn	Grounds Coordinator , Rob Schiffer
Care & Hospitality , Lawana Lamb-Daniels	Outreach , Sharon Simmons
Mutual Ministry , Sylvia Smith	Education & Discipleship , Emily Stover
Communications , Audrey Post	Youth , Graham Reece