

# ST. STEPHEN LUTHERAN CHURCH

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY



NOVEMBER 23, 2025

10 A.M.

WE WELCOME PASTOR BILL TREXLER

## 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 Rita Ford, 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

*Jeremiah's promise of the execution of "justice and righteousness in the land" finds ironic fulfillment in the execution of Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews. It appears utterly contradictory that a king should be crucified with a criminal. This victory appears for all the world as humiliating defeat. Yet through the gate of death Jesus opens the door to paradise.*

## WELCOME

## 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: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Congregation: Amen.

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P Faithful God,

C you have shown us the ways of your heart, yet we stray from your paths. We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression and do not embrace the freedom of your faithful promises. We ignore our neighbors. We exploit the earth. We reject your abundance, trusting our impulses instead of your steadfast love. Repair our relationships, restore what we have broken, renew our hearts, and bring us to new life. Amen.

P Hear the good news: God the Faithful One loves you, ✠ in Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven, and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free.

C Amen.



1 Come, thou al - might - y King, help us thy name to sing;  
 2 Come, thou in - car - nate Word, mer - ci - ful, might - y Lord;  
 3 Come, ho - ly Com - fort - er, thy sa - cred wil - ness bear  
 4 To thee, great One in Three, e - ter - nal prais - es be



help us to praise; Fa - ther all - glo - ri - ous, o'er all vic -  
 our prayer at - tend. Come and thy peo - ple bless, and give thy  
 in this glad hour! Thou who al - might - y art, rule now in  
 hence ev - er - more! Thy sov - 'reign maj - es - ty may we in



to - ri - ous, come and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days.  
 word suc - cess, and let thy righ - teous - ness on us de - scend.  
 ev - 'ry heart, nev - er from us de - part, Spir - it of pow'r.  
 glo - ry see, and to e - ter - ni - ty love and a - dore.

Text: source unknown, c. 1757, alt.

Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1716-1796

## 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*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. I Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb

who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,  
 al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of  
 God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,  
 glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,  
 al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was  
 slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

*Final refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.  
 Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

P Let us pray.

O God, our true life, to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy. We worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory. Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your divine majesty, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

*The assembly is seated.*

## CHILDREN'S TIME



+ WORD +

### FIRST READING: Jeremiah 23:1-6

*Today's reading builds on the common, ancient Near Eastern metaphor of the king as shepherd. Judah's unjust rulers have caused their people, their "flock," to be scattered. Nevertheless, God will raise up a new and righteous shepherd who will rule a restored Judah.*

<sup>1</sup>Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. <sup>2</sup>Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the Lord. <sup>3</sup>Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. <sup>4</sup>I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall no longer fear or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the Lord. <sup>5</sup>The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. <sup>6</sup>In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

**PSALM: Psalm 46**

*We sing the psalm responsively.*



Leader <sup>1</sup> God is our ref-<sup>1</sup> uge and strength,  
a very present <sup>1</sup> help in trouble.

**C** <sup>2</sup> **Therefore we will not fear, though the <sup>1</sup> earth be moved,  
and though the mountains shake in the depths <sup>1</sup> of the sea;**

**L** <sup>3</sup> though its waters <sup>1</sup> rage and foam,  
and though the mountains tremble <sup>1</sup> with its tumult.

**C** <sup>4</sup> **There is a river whose streams make glad the cit-<sup>1</sup> y of God,  
the holy habitation of <sup>1</sup> the Most High.**

**L** <sup>5</sup> God is in the midst of the city; it shall <sup>1</sup> not be shaken;  
God shall help it at the <sup>1</sup> break of day.

**C** <sup>6</sup> **The nations rage, and the <sup>1</sup> kingdoms shake;  
God speaks, and the earth <sup>1</sup> melts away.**

**L** <sup>7</sup> The Lord of <sup>1</sup> hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob <sup>1</sup> is our stronghold.

**C** <sup>8</sup> **Come now, regard the works <sup>1</sup> of the Lord,  
what desolations God has brought up-<sup>1</sup> on the earth;**

**L** <sup>9</sup> behold the one who makes war to cease in <sup>1</sup> all the world;  
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the <sup>1</sup> shields  
with fire.

**C** <sup>10</sup> **“Be still, then, and know that <sup>1</sup> I am God;  
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted <sup>1</sup> in the earth.”**

**L** <sup>11</sup> The Lord of <sup>1</sup> hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob <sup>1</sup> is our stronghold.

*Spoken after the psalm is sung:*

**Amen.**

**SECOND READING****Colossians 1:11-20**

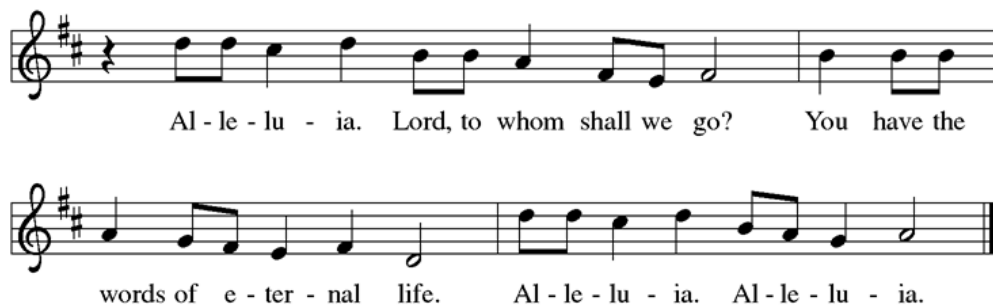
*An early Christian hymn praises the mystery of the political, personal, and mystical Christ, the one who was present at creation and is eternally reigning with God.*

<sup>11</sup> May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully <sup>12</sup> giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. <sup>13</sup> He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, <sup>14</sup> in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. <sup>15</sup> He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, <sup>16</sup> for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup> He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. <sup>18</sup> He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. <sup>19</sup> For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, <sup>20</sup> and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

R      The Word of the Lord.

C      Thanks be to God.

*The assembly stands.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**GOSPEL:     Luke 23:33-43**

*Amid scoffing and slander from those who sarcastically call him Messiah and king, Jesus reveals that to be Messiah and king is to give one's life for others. Here he uses his power to welcome a despised sinner to paradise but puts his own death into God's hands.*

P        The holy gospel according to Luke, the twenty - third chapter.

C        **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>33</sup> When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. <sup>34</sup> [[Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."]] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. <sup>35</sup> And the people stood by watching, but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" <sup>36</sup> The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine <sup>37</sup> and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" <sup>38</sup> There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews." <sup>39</sup> One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" <sup>40</sup> But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? <sup>41</sup> And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." <sup>42</sup> Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingdom." <sup>43</sup> He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."

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.*

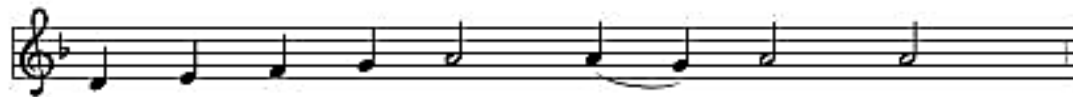
*The assembly stands.*



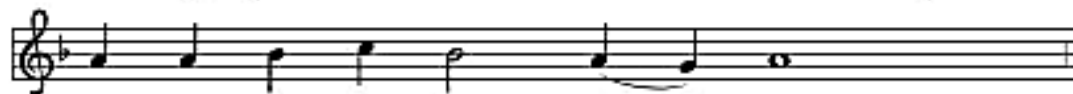
1 You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shep - herd.  
 2 Clothed in light up - on the moun - tain,  
 3 You, who walk each day be - side us,  
 4 Wor - thy is our earth - ly Je - sus!



You, Lord, are both prince and slave.  
 stripped of might up - on the cross,  
 sit in pow - er at God's side,  
 Wor - thy is our cos - mic Christ!



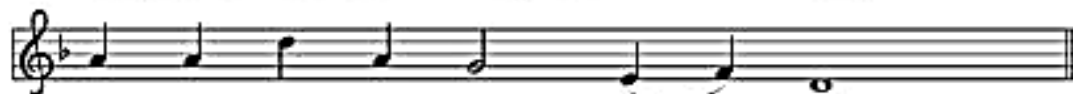
You, peace - mak - er and sword - bring - er  
 shin - ing in e - ter - nal glo - ry,  
 You, who preach a way that's nar - row,  
 Wor - thy your de - feat and vic - t'ry;



of the way you took and gave.  
 beg - gared by a sol - dier's loss,  
 have a love that reach - es wide,  
 wor - thy still your peace and strife.



You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;  
 you, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;  
 You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;  
 You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;



you, whom we both scorn and crave.  
 you, who are both gift and cost.  
 you, who are our pil - grim and guide.  
 you, who are our death and life.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993

Music: PICARDY, French folk tune, 17th cent.

Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc., [giamusic.com](http://giamusic.com). All rights reserved.

## **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.*



+ MEAL +

Stephen Saint

@Stephen-Saint

## OFFERING

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

.



**venmo**

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

## ANTHEM     *"What You Have Done For Me" -Alonso*

I am the hungry, I am the poor,  
I am the stranger outside your door.  
So when you feed the hungry, when you clothe the poor  
I will no longer be just a stranger at your door.

(Refrain)

What you have done for the least of my children  
You have done for me.  
What you have given, with nothing left to give,  
You have given me.

Come all you blessed, come and rejoice.  
Inherit the kingdom prepared for you.  
For you are my children, called to serve.  
as keepers of the vision and speakers of the word.

(Refrain)

I will look to you when life on earth has ended.  
Those who give will receive, those who seek will find;  
so seek my face in every face  
and see the eyes of God!

(Refrain)

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

1 The trum - pets sound, the an - gels sing, the feast is  
read - y to be - gin. The gates of heav'n are o - pen wide,  
and Je - sus wel - comes you in - side.

*Refrain*  
Sing with thank - ful - ness songs of pure de - light.  
Come and rev - el in heav - en's love and light.  
Take your place at the ta - ble of the King.  
The feast is read - y to be - gin;  
the feast is read - y to be - gin.

Text: Graham Kendrick, b. 1950  
Music: Graham Kendrick

THE FEAST IS READY  
LM and 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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff ends with a comma, the second with a period, the third with a period, and the fourth with a double bar line.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. 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.

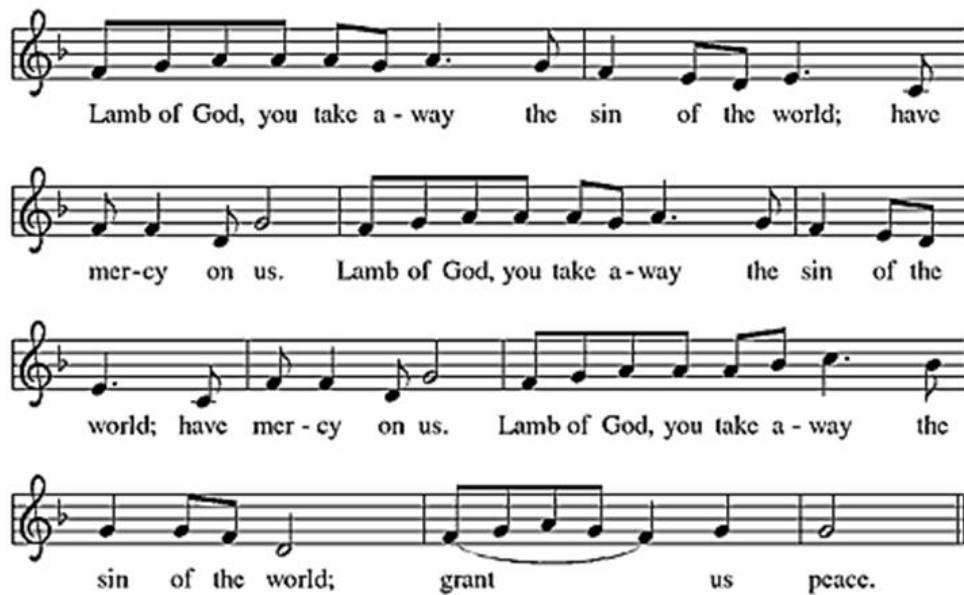
C        **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the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

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P        There is a place for you at the table of God. Come, receive the food that does not perish, a taste of life eternal.

*The assembly is seated.*

## LAMB OF GOD



## 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.*

### COMMUNION HYMNS

838 *Beautiful Savior*

637 *Holy God, Holy and Glorious*

*The assembly stands.*

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**A** Let us pray.

God of field and flower, wheat and grape, you have nourished us with the bread of heaven that gives life to the world. Strengthened by the body and blood of your Son, send us out to gather your good gifts for all who hunger and thirst, and embolden us to love and serve in Christ's name.

**C** Amen.

**+ SENDING +**

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

**P** The love of God the Sovereign strengthen you, God the Son save you, and God the Holy Spirit anoint you for the work ahead. The holy Trinity bless you **✙** and grant you a faithful and courageous heart now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*The assembly is seated.*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*The assembly stands.*



1 Soon and ver - y soon  
 2 No more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,  
 3 No more dy - in' there,  
 4 Soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon  
 no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,  
 no more dy - in' there,  
 soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon  
 no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,  
 no more dy - in' there,  
 soon and ver - y soon



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, we're goin' to see the King!



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -



jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.

Text: Andraé Crouch, b. 1945

Music: VERY SOON, Andraé Crouch

Text and music © 1976 Bud John Songs, Inc./Crouch Music, admin. EMI Christian Music Publishing

## 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. Share the harvest.

**C Thanks be to God!**

+ + +

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**Susan Warren provided today's altar flowers  
in celebration of her  
favorite husband's 75th birthday.**

### **Calendar for November 23 - November 30**

23	Sun.	9:00 am	Bible study
		9:30 am	Choir practice
		10:00 am	Worship, Christ the King Sunday
27th and 28th		Office will be closed	
30	Sun.	9:00 am	Book study
		9:30 am	Choir practice
		10:00 am	Worship, First Sunday in Advent

**Next Sunday's Readings, First Sunday in Advent:**

[Isaiah 2:1-5](#)

[Psalm 122](#)

[Romans 13:11-14](#)

[Matthew 24:36-44](#)



**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**

<b>Serving</b>	<b>November 23</b>	<b>November 30</b>
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Kirsten Ebbeson	Beth Alexander
<b>Cup Minister</b>	Loraine Sundberg	Susan Warren
<b>Cantor</b>	Simone Schuster	Rudy Hehn
<b>Lector</b>	Astrid van der Mark	Chris/ Elliot Reece
<b>Acolyte</b>	Ceilia Greeley or Graham Reece or Bastian Stover	
<b>Tech Team</b>	Caroline Collins Cindy Suhrweir	Loraine Sundberg Audrey Post
<b>Ushers</b>	Ben Bush Audrey Post	Jan Harrison Patrick Kennell
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Linda Eshleman Barbara Sullivan	Beth Alexander Linda Eshleman
<b>Counters</b>	Margaret Bowers Kirsten Ebbesen	Patricia Handschy Marylyn Larson

## 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; Craig Timm (friend of Cheryl & Steve); 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 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; Theresa Martin (friend of Cheryl Stuart), Donna Schiffer for the passing of her sister; Rocky Bevis (Margaret Bowers' boss); Allana Lochan-Tekaram (sister of Anita Sawh and Rita Ford), for hormone imbalance; Walt Steinvorth (friend of Rob Schiffer), suffering from pericarditis and vestibular neuritis and learning to cope with dizziness and severe equilibrium problems; Fatima Zaid Paul and family, mourning the death of her nephew, MarKus; For Hingst/Mongomery family and friends following the death of Ann.

***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 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>. 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/songs-of-st-stephen>.

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