



St. Stephen's Lutheran Church

HOLY COMMUNION

Transfiguration of Our Lord
March 2, 2025

You are welcome here! As a Reconciling in Christ congregation of the ELCA, we believe that the gospel is God's gift to all people, shared unconditionally and without regard to race, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, socio-economic or family status, age, physical or mental abilities, outward appearance, or religious affiliation. We seek racial equality and justice. In this way, we live into the truth written in Ephesians (2:14)—that Christ breaks down the dividing walls between us and makes us one.

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Prelude: *Prelude in d minor*

Pachelbel

Welcome

Joys & Concerns

**** Confession and Forgiveness**

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
our creator,
our protector,
our wellspring of life.

Amen.

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,
 you speak blessing and compassion into the world.
 Forgive us for the ways we act
 with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.
 We ignore the needs of our neighbors;
 we resist your call to oppose injustice;
 we give in to scarcity and fear;
 we assume the worst about one another.
 Cleanse us from our faults
 and release us from their grasp.
 Show us your lovingkindness.
 Restore our hearts and repair your world,
 that we may live in Christ's ways.
 Amen.

God proclaims these words of assurance:
 "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.
 I have called you by name. You are mine."
 In ☩ Christ, you are forgiven.
 In the Spirit, you are made free.
 Refreshed by the waters of mercy,
 live anew as beloved children of God.
 Amen.

**** Gathering Hymn**

Beautiful Savior

ELW 838

1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,

** Please stand as you are able. Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.

Son of God and Son of Man!
 robed in the spar - kling stars on spring;
 bright the of God and Son of Man!

Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,
 Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,
 Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er
 Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,

light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
 he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.
 than all the an - gels in the sky.
 now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904
 Music: SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU, Silesian folk tune, 19th cent.

** Please stand as you are able. **Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.**

** Greeting

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

** Kyrie

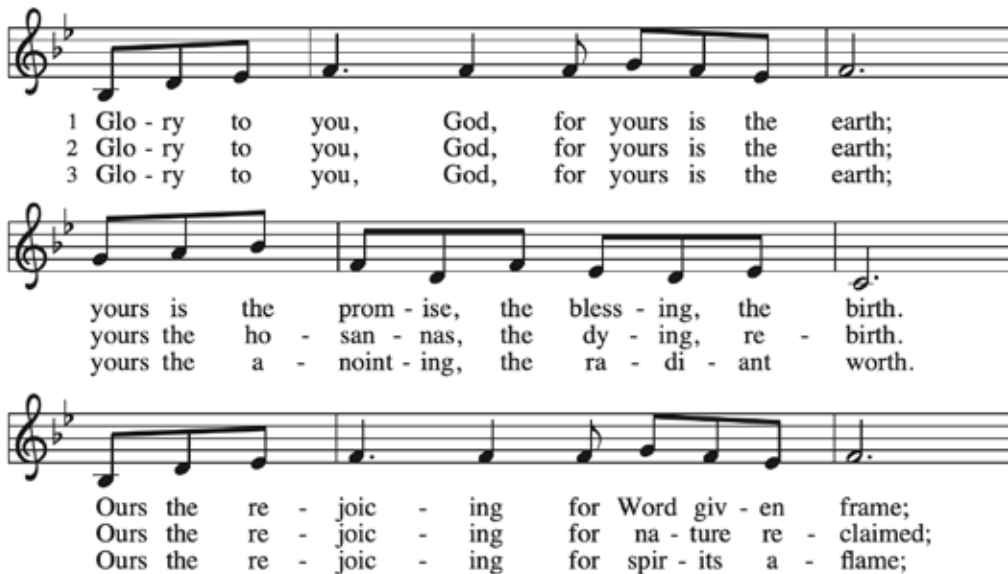


Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

** Hymn of Praise



1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;

yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.
yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.
yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.

Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;
Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;
Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;

** Please stand as you are able. Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.

ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.

Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;

yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

**** Prayer of the Day**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Holy God, mighty and immortal, you are beyond our knowing, yet we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. Transform us into the likeness of your Son, who renewed our humanity so that we may share in his divinity, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

**** Please stand as you are able. Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.**

Word

God speaks to us in scripture, preaching and song.

First Reading

Exodus 34:29-35

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 99

¹The LORD is king; let the peoples tremble!
He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!

²**The LORD is great in Zion;
he is exalted over all the peoples.**

³Let them praise your great and awesome name.
Holy is he!

⁴**Mighty King, lover of justice,
you have established equity;
you have executed justice
and righteousness in Jacob.**

⁵Extol the LORD our God;
worship at his footstool.
Holy is he!

⁶**Moses and Aaron were among his priests,
Samuel also was among those who called on his name.
They cried to the LORD, and he answered them.**

⁷He spoke to them in the pillar of cloud;
they kept his decrees,
and the statutes that he gave them.

⁸**O LORD our God, you answered them;
you were a forgiving God to them,
but an avenger of their wrongdoings.**

** Please stand as you are able. Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.

Extol the LORD our God,
and worship at his holy mountain;
for the LORD our God is holy.

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

Word of God, Word of Life.
Thanks be to God.

**** Gospel Acclamation**



**** Gospel**

Luke 9:28-36

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.
The Gospel of the Lord.

Glory to you O Lord.
Praise to you O Christ.

**** Gospel Acclamation**

Please see gospel acclamation above.

Sermon

The Rev. Susan Loney

** Please stand as you are able. **Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.**

** Hymn of the Day

Dazzling Presence on the Mountain

ACS 917



1 Daz - zling pres - ence on the moun - tain: hu - man eye had
2 From this moun - tain of mys - tic splen - dor to the cross Christ
3 From the heights of new cre - a - tion, Christ be - holds his
4 Let our praise ring from each moun - tain, in - to deep - est



nev - er seen such a won - der, such re - splen - dence,
press - es on; here no Mo - ses nor E - li - jah,
world, re - deemed; as with Pe - ter and com - pan - ions,
val - leys pour, where, with lives of grate - ful ser - vice,



heav'n and earth in cloud con - vene.
on - ly thieves Christ's wings a - dorn.
brings us now to sights un - seen.
we a - dore Christ ev - er - more.



"This is my Son, the be - lov - ed," thun - d'rous voice from
"Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy," was one's pen - i -
Jus - tice, mer - cy, and com - pas - sion: these the booths he
To the Son, God's own be - lov - ed, and the Spir - it



cloud ex - claimed. Word made flesh to heal cre - a - tion,
ten - tial sigh. With trans - fig - ur - ing as - sur - ance,
bids us build, that the earth he loves may flour - ish
end - less - ly, may the church's praise be lift - ed



to dis - ci - ples God pro - claimed.
Christ re - joins his fer - vent cry.
as each life with grace is filled.
to the bless - ed Trin - i - ty.

Text: Paul E. Hoffman, b. 1956

Music: WAVERLY, Karen E. Black, b. 1960

Text and music © 2015 Augsburg Fortress

** Please stand as you are able. Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.

**** Statement of Faith**

As a sign of our love for each other and God's whole creation, let us proclaim together St. Stephen's Welcome Statement.

As a Reconciling in Christ congregation of the ELCA,
we believe that the gospel is God's gift to all people,
shared unconditionally and without regard to
race, sexual orientation, gender identity,
gender expression, socio-economic or family status,
age, physical or mental abilities, outward appearance,
or religious affiliation.

We seek racial equality and justice.

**In this way we live into the truth written in Ephesians –
that Christ breaks down the dividing walls between us
and makes us one.**

**** Prayers of the People**

Each portion of the prayer ends with:

Response: God of grace, receive our prayer.

Meal

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Offering

Each week we give thanks to God for what God has given us: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. A financial gift to St Stephen's supports the work of the congregation in our community.

**** Please stand as you are able. Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.**

**** Offering Song**

Welcome Table

ACS 969

1 I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel-come ta - ble,
2 I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey,
3 I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er,

I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel-come ta - ble, some of these days.
I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon-ey, some of these days.
I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er, some of these days.

I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel-come ta - ble,
I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey,
I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er,

** Please stand as you are able. Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.

I'm goin' - a eat at the wel - come ta - ble, some of these days.
 I'm goin' - a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey, some of these days.
 I'm goin' - a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er, some of these days.

Text: African American spiritual
 Music: WELCOME TABLE, African American spiritual; arr. Mark Hayes, b. 1953
 Arr. © 2003 Augsburg Fortress

**** Offering Prayer**

God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens,
 and your abundance to the depths of the seas.
 Bless what we offer to your service:
 our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts.
 Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity,
 now and always.
Amen.

**** Dialogue**

The Lord be with you.
 Lift up your hearts.
 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**And also with you.
 We lift them to the Lord.
 It is right to give our thanks and
 praise.**

**** Preface**

** Please stand as you are able. **Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.**

**** Holy, Holy, Holy**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and



God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your



glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the



Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

**** Please stand as you are able. Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.**

** Thanksgiving at the Table

** Lord's Prayer

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

Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the



world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

** Please stand as you are able. Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.

Communion

Holy Communion is a free gift of God's grace and love. Everyone is welcome to share in this meal. Come forward, take an empty cup from the table, then kneel or stand along the Communion rail. If you require GF wafers, please tell the minister. Our chalices contain red wine and amber-colored juice. As you return to your seat, place your used cup in the receptacle at the end of the first row of pews. If you wish to receive words of blessing, simply tell the minister.

Communion Hymn

Let Us Break Bread Together

ELW 471

1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;
2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;
3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;

let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.
let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.
let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.

** Please stand as you are able. Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.

Refrain

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing

sun, O Lord, have mer-cy on me.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: BREAK BREAD TOGETHER, African American spiritual

** Please stand as you are able. **Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.**

**** Communion Blessing**

**** Post Communion Prayer**

Together, let us pray.

Nourishing God,

at this table you have refreshed us
with holy gifts of food and drink.

Strengthen us for service,

and send us out to embody your good news

of liberation and healing for the sake of the world.

In the name of Christ we pray,

Amen.

Announcements

Sending

We are sent into the world to serve.

**** Blessing**

The Spirit of the triune God

✙ bless you with joy,

anoint you with compassion,

and send you in love.

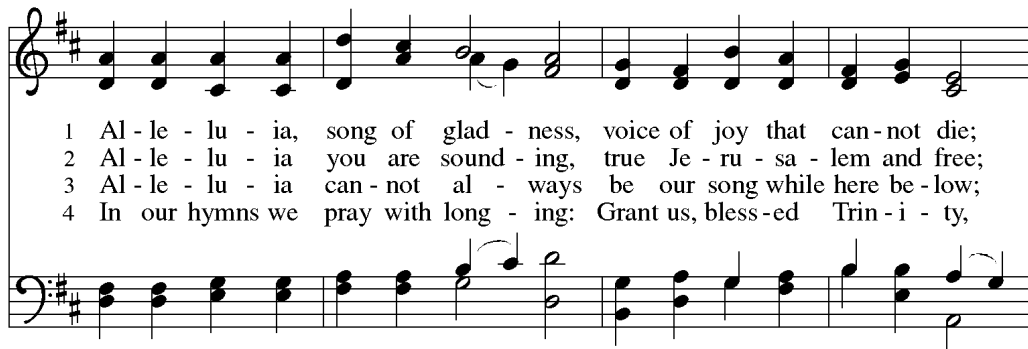
Amen.

**** Please stand as you are able. Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.**

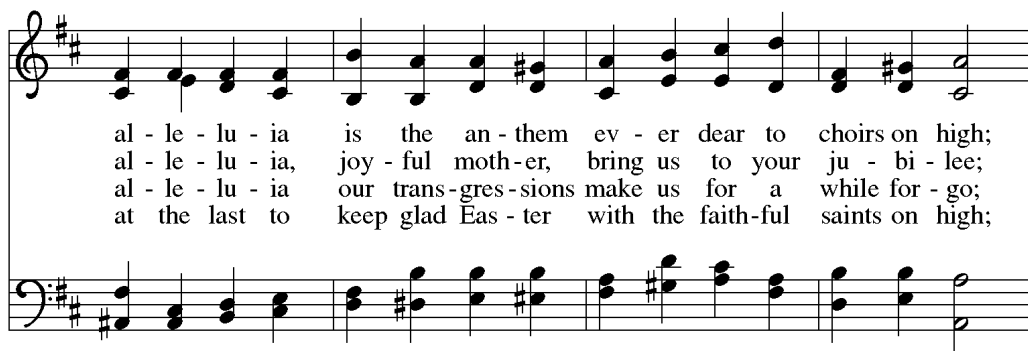
** Sending Hymn

Alleluia, Song of Gladness

ELW 318



1 Al - le - lu - ia, song of glad - ness, voice of joy that can - not die;
2 Al - le - lu - ia you are sound - ing, true Je - ru - sa - lem and free;
3 Al - le - lu - ia can - not al - ways be our song while here be - low;
4 In our hymns we pray with long - ing: Grant us, bless - ed Trin - i - ty,



al - le - lu - ia is the an - them ev - er dear to choirs on high;
al - le - lu - ia, joy - ful moth - er, bring us to your ju - bi - lee;
al - le - lu - ia our trans - gres - sions make us for a while for - go;
at the last to keep glad Eas - ter with the faith - ful saints on high;



in the house of God a - bid - ing thus they sing e - ter - nal - ly.
here by Bab - y - lon's sad wa - ters mourn - ing ex - iles still are we.
for the sol - emn time is com - ing when our tears for sin shall flow.
there to you for - ev - er sing - ing al - le - lu - ia joy - ful - ly.

Text: Latin hymn, 11th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.
Music: PRAISE, MY SOUL, John Goss, 1800–1880

** Please stand as you are able. Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.

**** Dismissal**

Go in peace,
To Love, To Invite, To Serve.
Live in hope.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude: *Etude - "Prelude"*

Kapustin

*Flowers are given by Michele Torchia & Rick Feltman
in memory of our Dad, Frank Torchia*

**** Please stand as you are able. Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.**

Participants in Today's Service

Pastor:

The Rev. Susan Loney
pastor@ststeph.org

Music Director:

Claudio Espejo

Assisting Minister/Lector:

William Sperati

Usher:

John Gordon

Altar Guild:

Sally Dudderar

Ministers:

The people of St. Stephen's

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

Text the word "welcome" to 855-965-5200 to receive our weekly e-newsletter.

May God go with you today and every day.

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