

St. Stephanus Lutheran Church

Preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ for 129 Years

C • O • N • N • E • C • T • I • N • G



with Jesus Christ and Each Other

April 19, 2020

Second Sunday of Easter

He is Risen! Alleluia!

Although we won't have weekly services at church for the foreseeable future, there will still be a stream of regular Sunday worship available on Sunday morning! Please visit our website www.saintstephanus.org for more details.

Pastor Thompson has started a **Tuesday Bible Study** at noon and 7pm, and a return to **Bible Study on Sunday morning** at 11am. Links to the Bible Study can be found on the website at www.saintstephanus.org/adult, along with worship services and other information. We are using Zoom, which is extremely easy to use. You don't need to be able to speak or have video, you can just come listen in. Let us Shelter in the Word together in this time.

"This joyful Eastertide away with sin and sorrow! My love, the Crucified has sprung to life this morrow." George Ratcliffe Woodward (1848-1934), an Anglican priest, poet, and translator who also compiled several collections of hymns, penned the lyrics of today's closing hymn. The tune, "Vruechten" originated as a 17th century Dutch folk tune, and was the tune to which Woodward intended the hymn to be sung. So, in the true universal nature of Christian hymnody and worship, we are singing a British hymn to a Dutch tune in a service from a German Lutheran church in Minnesota. Paul, in 1 Corinthians 15, states in clear terms the meaning and impact of the Resurrection, and this is also the basis of Woodward's hymn. Today, as we continue the season of Easter, and focus on the joy of the season, we can gladly sing the summary of 1 Corinthians 15:12-22 in our closing hymn "Had Christ, who once was slain, not burst His three-day prison, our faith had been in vain. But now has Christ arisen, arisen, arisen; but now has Christ arisen!

The related organ music for the week is a setting of the hymn by Dale Wood (1934-2003), and can be found at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=58QHsw8NjRg>

Thank you to the Festival Choir for taking time to record hymns for our Easter Celebration: Jackie Spiess, Lois Thur, Jim Radtke, and John Schonebaum. Also to Dan Savard for your patience and skills in doing the recording.

~The Organ Bench

The office will be remaining open at this time. Feel free to call or email with your questions, concerns, and prayer requests, messages and emails.

Portals of Prayer for April-June have arrived in the office. If you would like one mailed to you, please contact the church office.

You are welcome to mail in your contribution straight to the church—the church's address can be found on the next page. Reminder: there was an email sent out that included instructions on how to go to our website and get to the VANCO site to sign up for one time, weekly or monthly electronic giving.

A large and significant thank you to those of you who have worked so hard to bring the continuation of worship into our homes. For the musicians of St. Stephanus, Amy Gundermann (and Tom, Kayla, Noah and Eva) and Bruce Anderson as they continue to bring their musical gifts to bear for us. Extra thanks as well for those who sang their musical parts in our hymns this last week, for John Schonebaum (who has been soloing for several weeks!), Jim Radtke, Jackie Spiess and Lois Thur. Thanks to those who are learning to record themselves on phones and share in our readings this last week as well - Katie Miller, Terianne Bender, Dale Trap, Jay Schlechte, Sheila Schlechte and Erica Moore. Again and again, we give thanks for Dan Savard and his technical and technological abilities that have helped make gathering together possible even as we're apart.

In Jesus,

Pastor Thompson & Megan Hoffman

Need Help | Give Help

We've updated our mask form to include some other needs people might have. We want to remind you that we might be apart, but you are not alone.

Click here to let us know how we can bless you, and how you can help bless others! <https://forms.gle/GeJTRdhHWNWQaZjV8>

Questions: Contact Megan Hoffman, sslcyouth@gmail.com

Chalk the Church (Sidewalks)!

To help us continue to celebrate Easter, and remind us that we are connected as a family of God here in this place. We'd like to invite you to come, one household at a time, this weekend and help to cover our sidewalks in messages of God's love, fun pictures, and help spread some joy to our neighborhood.

The details:

Bring your own chalk, or we'll have some you can take use and take home with you available too.

You must sign-up using this link (to ensure we're abiding by social distancing): [Chalk the Church sign-ups!](#)

Bring a non-perishable food items to help fill our Little Pantry!

Questions: Contact Megan Hoffman, sslcyouth@gmail.com

Virtual Home Visits!

We so miss seeing you all, gathered together in worship. During this season of social distancing Megan is doing virtual home visits for families with kids & youth. Depending on the age of the kids we'll read a story from the children's bible, and a picture book, and check-in and pray together. Or for older students we'll check-in, and do a short devotion, and pray. You can sign-up for your visit using this [calendar link](#).

Questions: Contact Megan Hoffman, sslcyouth@gmail.com

Parents Post-Bedtime Check-in!

Parents or other care-giving adults we'd love to spend some time connecting with you, and give you an opportunity to connect with other parents. We'll be hosting two gatherings on Zoom next week - links are below, join us for one or both! Click the link below to join us (password is: SSLCrents)

[Monday at 8:30pm](#)

[Thursday at 8:30pm](#)

Questions: Contact Megan Hoffman, sslcyouth@gmail.com

Prayer Requests

Healing and Comfort

Blessings/Guidance

All students & teachers / online learning

Paul & Kristin Humber

Shut ins

Sharen Kappes

Week Ahead

SUNDAY, April 19

Online services at www.saintstephanus.org

MONDAY, April 20

TUESDAY, April 21

WEDNESDAY, April 22

THURSDAY, April 23

FRIDAY, April 24

SATURDAY, April 25

SUNDAY, April 26

Online services at www.saintstephanus.org



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VICAR: Yohannes Ghebru
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ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:
Clarice Anderson
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WORSHIP LEADERS: Bruce Anderson
Amy Gundermann

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT:
Wayne Warnest
Admasu Mekonen

OFFICE HOURS:
Monday to Friday 9 AM to 1 PM
Bulletin Deadline: 11 AM Wed

3/30 - 4/13 Contributions:

Current - \$11,237.94

Caring & Sharing - \$1,000.00

Easter - \$75.00

Total - 12,312.94 (\$6,717.00 needed weekly)

Upcoming Birthdays, Feasts & Commemoration

April 19:

April 20: Karen Siegel, *Johannes Bugenhagen, Pastor*

April 21: David Zinter, *Anselm of Canterbury,*

Theologian

April 22:

April 23: Ethan Cao, Jaz Muhammad

April 24: *Jobann Walter, Kantor*

April 25: *St. Mark, Evangelist*

April 26: Michael Bauch



BLESSINGS
ON YOUR
BIRTHDAY

April contact person: Joan Baker

Mark Lageson, Terry & Michelle Sistad, Cheryl Smith, Janet & Gordon Spielman, Andrew & Hanna Temme, Andrew & Lynn Thompson, Dale Trapp, Mary Ann Weckwerth, Becky Wehrmann, Jeremiah & Ruth Ann Willard, David & Mickey Zinter, Greg Zinter

Our Mission Statement:

To proclaim the gospel through word and sacrament to our membership, our communities and our world.

Our Vision:

Connecting people with Jesus Christ and each other through worship, learning and service.

Bible readings are located at www.saintstephanus.org under the "WORSHIP" tab.

Worship Service Stream at www.saintstephanus.org