

St. Stephanus Lutheran Church

Preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ for 130 Years

C • O • N • N • E • C • T • I • N • G



with Jesus Christ and Each Other

April 4, 2021
Easter Sunday

We are open again for worship with a few restrictions at this time. A complete list can be found at: saintstephanus.org

Here are a few highlights for you to be aware of:

In person worship is **maxed at 50 people**, and **all in-person attendees** will need to register themselves, and their families **ahead of time** using this link: <https://bookapew.com/app/mn/sslc/>

- Masks and physical distancing will be required. Hand sanitizer will be located at multiple locations throughout the building.
- Arrows and signs will be used to maintain a single direction entrance and exit flow of the building.
- Bulletins will not be printed, please print your own and bring with you. If you are not able to print one please contact the office so that the Pastor can get one for you. Thank you. We hope to lift this at some point in the future, but for now it is staying.

Special note from Pastor Thompson

Because of the special events during the services this week (new communicants for Maundy Thursday, 2 Baptisms on Easter Sunday) we are anticipating more than 50 people to be in attendance.

We are still in need of volunteers to provide cleaning post-service. Please contact Pastor Thompson and let him know if you are willing.

Please remember to follow our procedures to come into the church (through the Lafond doors) and exit (through the door to Grotto unless the use of the lift is required). Again, we are asking for people not to stay in the Sanctuary after the service, but to have conversations outside, especially as the weather turns nice. Thank you.

Communion

This Sunday, Easter Sunday, we will celebrate The Lord's Supper together online. You will be able to participate in our normal way over YouTube.

How are we going to do this?

We ask that you prepare bread and wine (or grape juice) in your own home and set aside a place for them before the service. At the time of the Words of Institution, you are welcomed to speak them together with me and then receive the body and blood of Jesus. If you are in a family, you may distribute to each other using the words "The body of Christ for you" and "The blood of Christ for you." If you are by yourself, you may also join in speaking those words aloud to yourself and receiving the gift of Christ for you. For those who have not been instructed in the reception of the Lord's Supper, we invite you to share a blessing reflected from one of the readings, such as, "You are a temple of the Holy Spirit in whom God dwells" or "The grace of Jesus Christ lives in you" while making the sign of the cross on their head. If you feel like baking it yourself, we sent a recipe out at Christmas and would gladly send you it again if requested at saintstephanus@comcast.net or pastor@saintstephanus.org.

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.

The cross stands empty to the sky.

Let streets and homes with praises ring.

Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

This hymn by Brian Wren was written for Easter Sunday, 1968 for a church in Essex, England where he was preaching on that day. Easter that year fell just ten days after the assassination of Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., and Dr. Wren wrote the hymn to "express an Easter hope out of that terrible event, in words which could be more widely applied, and wrote 'Christ is alive!' because our available hymns spoke of Easter as a glorious event long ago, far away, and high above." Like the Easter hymns "Christ the Lord is Risen Today" and "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today" this hymn speaks of a celebration, not of a historical observation but the celebration of the current event because Christ IS Risen, and our response is to sing this good news.

The tune TRURO was initially set to the words "Now to the Lord a noble song" in *Psalmody Evangelica*, a 1789 collection of Psalm and hymn tunes for "Churches, Chapels, and Dissenting Meetings in England, Scotland, and Ireland." The tune is named for a city in Cornwall with its notable Anglican cathedral. The opening phrase is an inversion of a tune from the same period also set to an Isaac Watts text, ANTIOCH ("Joy to the World").

A setting of this hymn can be seen here: <https://youtu.be/JuWK5R6wagc> and will also serve as today's postlude.

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing!

"Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear! Repeat their song of glory here." We will sing these words in our closing hymn today. Thank you to those who gave of their time and talent to assist in repeating the song of glory: Jim Radtke, John Schonebaum, Owen Schonebaum, Dale Trapp, Bill Johnson, Lois Thur, and Jackie Spiess. Thank you also to Dan and Sharon Savard for your patience and help with recording, and an extra helping of thanks to Jim for putting the session together.

"Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!"

~The Organ Bench~

There will be NO Bible study today or next Sunday (April 11).

Alter flowers given by: Jodi and Jeff Wussler in honor of granddaughter Amelia's baptism today and in memory of Jodi's dad Vince Sura who celebrates his birthday in heaven on April 5th.



Altar Flowers

Please look at the new flower chart and let Clarice (office) know what date you would like to have flowers signed up in your name along with 1 or 2 bouquets. We will begin receiving flowers **after Easter**. Due to COVID there is no pen for you to use.



On the third Sunday of each month, our church collects your pocket change for “mites for missions”. If you need a mite box please contact the church office and let me know how many boxes you would like. **If your mite box is full and you would like to drop it off or if you need a new mite box mailed to you please contact the church office to arrange a time.** These mites are important and go towards mission projects as well as provide aid to those seeking a Lutheran High School education, assisting seminary students with food/clothing, or help expand outreach to ethnic women and families to name just a few ways that your mites help the LWML reach the world. Thank you for your support.

Endowment Funds Available - Once again the St. Stephanus Endowment Fund has been blessed and we are able to accept applications for funds. Consideration will be given to all applications that "advance the mission of the Church". If you have questions about the endowment process and would like an application form please contact Lynne Heuton at lmheuton@gmail.com .



LWML Spring Rally

For freedom Christ has set you free! (Gal. 5:1) Join us on April 10 from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. for a Bible study and mission talk with Rev. Dr. Joshua Miller, Pastor at Jehovah Lutheran Church in St. Paul, MN. Pastor Miller will lead us in a study of Galatians 5:1-6, 13-15 and talk with us about an opportunity for mission and mercy in the St. Paul Midway neighborhood. This event will be virtual, and can be accessed through Emmaus Lutheran Church's website, Facebook page, and the link below. Please note that one does not need

Facebook to watch the event. Just click on the link, and it will take you right to the event. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Nick Kooi at [651-424-6294](tel:651-424-6294) or pastornkooi@gmail.com

Stay Connected!

Have you found us on Facebook yet? During this season of being apart we're trying to engage members and congregational friends in prayer and conversation together through various Facebook posts. We invite you to join us:

<https://www.facebook.com/SaintStephanusLCMS>

Basic Needs Drive! Happening Now!

Did you know that Ramsey County has a 10% food insecurity rate? That's about 54,220 people who do not have reliable access to a sufficient quantity of affordable, nutritious food. We believe that also includes access to basic needs for personal hygiene and household cleaning supplies. During the 2021 Lenten season we will be hosting a drive to create small and large boxes of basic need materials that will be given out during Feeding the Dream giveaways this Spring.

Packing for May Distribution: **Sunday, April 25th, 2-4P.M.**

Email Lynn Thompson at goodluna07@gmail.com to reserve your volunteer space for each day!



Concordia Academy At-Home Gala Is Free for Everyone!

On April 17, Concordia Academy's annual Dinner Auction becomes an At-Home Gala! This free, 45-minute, online event features entertainment by Triple Espresso's Bob Stromberg, touching stories from CA families, games of chance, and fun surprises. CA is excited to welcome attendees from all over the country, so spread the news to all the Beacons fans that you know. Visit www.concordiaacademy.com/gala for all the details, including how to register for this free event.

Register for Concordia Academy Camps

This summer, Concordia Academy offers over 30 sports, arts, and STEM summer camps for elementary, middle, and high school students. New offerings include Cardboard Creations, Coding, Stop Motion Animation, and Sweet Treats & Healthy Eats! Go to www.concordiaacademy.com/camps to get details and register.

Prayer Requests
Healing and Comfort

Lois Bruss
 Corine Goodrich

Blessings/Guidance

Baptisms of:

Amelia Ann Rose &
 Eden Yonas

First communion students:

Christopher Schonebaum
 Christian Wussler
 Nora Brown
 Rahiem Ruddock
 Rich & Miriam Carter
 Concordia Academy

Shut-ins

Lisa Bisping

Week Ahead

EASTER SUNDAY, April 4

9:30 AM Worship In-Person and Online

MONDAY, April 5

TUESDAY, April 6

WEDNESDAY, April 7

7:15 PM Youth Group on Zoom

THURSDAY, April 8

FRIDAY, April 9

SATURDAY, April 10

SUNDAY, April 11

9:30 AM Worship In-Person and Online

11 AM Sunday School & Bible Study on Zoom



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 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

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

Worship Service Stream at
www.saintstephanus.org

Click the logo for
 Online Giving:



March 15-28 Contributions

General-\$10,997.07	20x5-\$5.00
Concordia Academy-\$30.00	Lenten -\$3.00
Missions Fund-\$10.00	
Total - \$11,045.07 (\$7,250.00/week - \$31,400/month)	

Upcoming Birthdays, Feasts & Commemoration

April 4:

April 5:

April 6: *Lucas Cranach & Albrecht Dürer, Artist*

April 7: Alandra Banaei

April 8:

April 9: Eileen Vierow, Simon Heck

April 10:

April 11:



April monthly group contact person:

Mark Lageson, Terry & Michelle Sistad, Cheryl Smith, Gordy & Janet Spielman, Andrew & Hanna Temme, Ana Thompson, Andrew & Lynn Thompson, Dale Trapp, Maye Ann Weckwerth, Becky Wehrmann, Brittany Willard, Courtney Willard, Jeremiah & Ruth Ann Willard, Trent 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.