

St. Stephanus Lutheran Church

Preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ for 133 Years

C • O • N • N • E • C • T • I • N • G



with Jesus Christ and Each Other

Nov. 12, 2023

Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Pentecost



From the Organist

The earliest known appearance of the ten-stanza text of "Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray" is in a 1695 publication, where it is headed by the words "Uber die Worte: Wachtet und Betet!" ("On the words: watch and pray!"). This text urges the Christian to prepare or make ready, to watch, and to pray so that the "evil time" may not unexpectedly overtake the Christian soul, reflecting our readings over these last few weeks of the Church year. The tune, "Straff mich nicht in deinem Zorn", was composed by Johann Rosenmüller (1617-84), an up-and-coming church musician and school music in Leipzig, who in 1653, was named successor to the cantor of St. Thomas School, a position J.S. Bach would assume seventy years later. But his world fell apart in 1655 when he was arrested. Rosenmüller did not stay in jail for long, though; he either escaped or was released pending trial and fled to Hamburg. While there he prepared a petition asking for clemency.

He also asked poet Johann Georg Albinus, whom he had known in Leipzig, to write a poem that supported his position. Albinus responded with a hymn based on Psalm 6 that began "Straf mich nicht in deinem Zorn" ("Punish me not in Your wrath"). Rosenmüller composed a musical setting of it and enclosed it with the petition. Variations on this tune, to which today's Hymn of the Day is set, will serve as our prelude today.

Music in the Service:

513: The Clouds of Judgment Gather

663: Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray

514: The Bridegroom Soon Will Call Us

Prelude: Variations on "Straf mich nicht" - Johann Christian Kittel / Gottfried August Homilius

Postlude: Postlude on "Llangloffan" - John S. Dixon



Today's Altar flowers are given by: Lennea Lopez to Erin and Sophie Baker and Denise Peterson for all their work in the food distribution.

The November 5th service and potluck with our Eritrean church family for All Saints' Day was wonderful! There will be another opportunity to be in community with them on November 18th. There will be an Eritrean Hospice Kit Event in the morning and a St. Stephanus one in the afternoon, with a joint luncheon hosted by St Stephanus between events.

Starting Nov. 5-19th, there will be a toy drive for the family living in the parsonage house. Donations of new or gently used toys can be brought and put in the donation box in the lobby. The children are two boys-ages 3 and 7, and a girl-age 5. Thank you for helping out this family!



Concordia Academy Open House is Nov. 14, 6:00-8:00 PM

Concordia Academy's high school open house on November 14, 6:00 - 8:00 PM, gives prospective students and families a great chance to see how CA honors God through excellence in academics, arts, athletics, and more! Meet teachers and students, take a tour, learn about programs, and see if CA is the right fit. Please RSVP at www.concordiaacademy.com/openhouse.

Another open house is scheduled for February 8.

Concordia Academy Presents *Elf The Musical*

Concordia Academy presents *Elf The Musical* on November 17-19 and 24-26. Based on the cherished 2003 New Line Cinema hit, *Elf The Musical* is a hilarious fish-out-of-water comedy following Buddy the Elf in his quest to find his true identity. Ticket prices range from \$8 to \$14, and all seating is reserved. For additional details and ticket orders, go to www.concordiaacademy.com/elf.



On **November 19th**, there will be a voter's meeting after service, along with a snack potluck. Bring yourselves and an easy to clean up finger food to share while we take care of church business.

On the third Sunday of each month, our church collects your pocket change for “mites for missions”. 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.

Subscribe to our “YouTube” channel!

Did you know when you subscribe to our “YouTube” channel you can get a notification each time we post a video? Subscribing is easy - all you need is a **Gmail account** to log-in! Once you're logged in you're also able to join us in the comments on Sunday morning, sharing the peace with others, requesting prayers, and being in fellowship. Need help? Contact Megan Hoffman or Dan Savard.

Looking for a Thanksgiving worship service? Bethel Lutheran is having one on Tuesday, Nov. 21, at 6:30 PM

Holiday Meals for Youth Experiencing Homelessness

Support youth this holiday season by partnering with Face to Face. For youth experiencing homelessness and other challenges, eating a special meal can be an encouraging bright spot during the holiday season. On **Wednesday, November 22nd**, a meal will be served in celebration of Thanksgiving. Then on **Friday, December 22nd**, a soul-food themed meal will be available in celebration of the winter holidays. All food donations must be dropped off at SafeZone by 11:30am on the day of the meal. The SafeZone address is 130 7th Street East, Saint Paul, MN 55101.

Sign-up Link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C4DACA23AAFBCE8-45618808-face>

Guest Speaker on Sunday, December 3rd, from International Association for Refugees

Attend worship & Bible listening hour to hear Bethany Ringdal talk about faith and how God's hand is at work in the Jonathon House. Come and learn what is a refugee, how is a refugee different than an asylum seeker and how are both of these different than other immigration processes. Learn more about the mission at the Jonathon House.

Would you like \$250 to purchase supplies to help a cause or need?

There are only 2 months left in 2023 to apply for a Thrivent Action Grant. Some members of St. Stephanus have used these grants to purchase supplies to make hospice kits and newborn kits for Global Health Ministries. Members have used them to purchase warm clothes for refugee families, food to stock the pantry closet at the Ronald McDonald House, meals for special events at church, gifts to distribute to our shut-ins while caroling, clothing and personal care items for the homeless, etc. If you are a member of Thrivent, you are allowed to apply for two grants every year. If you are not a member, there is a way you can apply for a grant. It takes less than 10 minutes to apply for a grant. If you would like a suggestion on how to use a grant or would like assistance in applying and/or forming a team, please speak to Emmy Treichel or Cherie Fleischhacker.

Prayer Requests
Healing and Comfort

Karen Arnold
Rich Carter
Karen Trudeau
Deb Holtz

Blessings/Guidance

Camp Omega
Concordia University

Shut-ins

Lorraine & Karen Byland
Ron & Mary Bisping
Larry Clemmensen

Week Ahead

SUNDAY, Nov. 12

9:30 AM Traditional Worship
10:45 AM Bible Study
10:45 AM Sunday School

MONDAY, Nov. 13

TUESDAY, Nov. 14

WEDNESDAY, Nov. 15

THURSDAY, Nov. 16

4:00 PM Food distribution

FRIDAY, Nov. 17

SATURDAY, Nov. 18

SUNDAY, Nov. 19

9:30 AM ✝ Contemporary Worship
10:45 AM Voter's Meeting

✝ Communion Service



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ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:

Clarice Anderson

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OFFICE HOURS:

Monday to Friday 8 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

Submit prayer requests at

<https://forms.gle/JLDCstJFWRbu25PT7>

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.

Coming soon



Budget Meeting

The PPC met and has decided to hold the Voters meeting on **Sunday November 19** after the service. General church business and annual Budget will be discussed.

Upcoming Birthdays,

Feasts & Commemoration

Nov. 12:

Nov. 13:

Nov. 14 *Emperor Justinian, Christian Ruler & Confessor of Christ*

Nov. 15: Kate Cao, Kaye Nuechterlein

Nov. 16:

Nov. 17: Jackie Spiess

Nov. 18:

Nov. 19: *Elizabeth of Hungary*



Serving in today's worship

Lector: Dan Baker

Communion Assistants:

Greeter: Judy Brinkman, Keith Rennerfeldt

Cantor: Bill Johnson