



Sunday, October 27, 2024  
Reformation Sunday

*Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.*

**WELCOME!** We are glad to have you join us in worship today. Here are a few notes to help you feel more at home participating in our worship.

**Worshiping.** Today's service is printed in this bulletin. Parts in **bold** indicate responses by everyone in which you are invited to participate.

**Communion:** *Lutheran Christians believe that the Lord Jesus Christ feeds us with his true body and blood "in, with, and under" the bread and wine in the Lord's Supper. All baptized Christians who receive Communion in their own churches are welcome to receive the sacrament. Please note that the darker wine is non-alcoholic and is available from the Lector. Communion will be distributed continuously, in procession. Please come forward as directed by the ushers.*

**Music:** We've moved the music to the back of the bulletin so that every song appears on its own page. We look forward to your feedback.

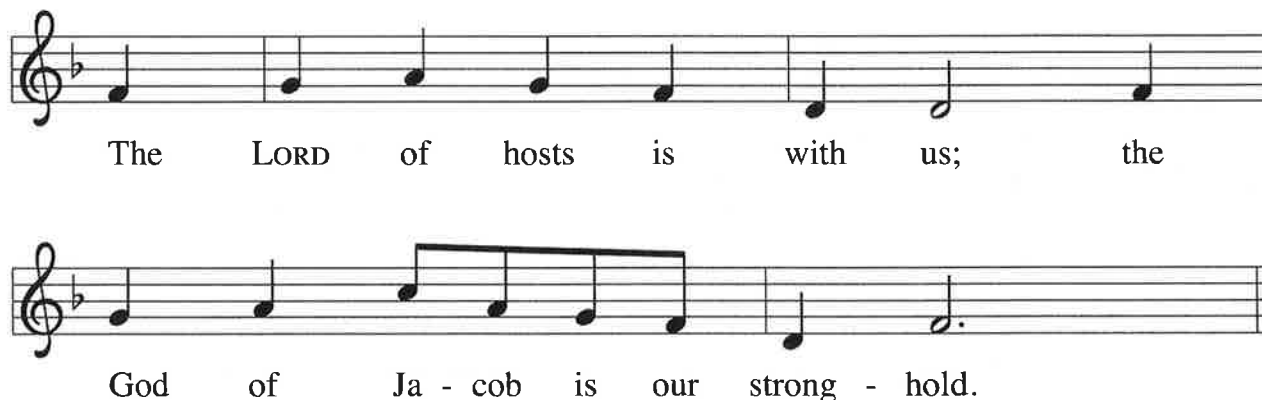
ST. STEPHEN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
270 South Broadway + Hicksville NY 11801  
Church Office: Monday through Thursday, 8am - 2pm  
Church Office: 516-931-0710  
Rev. Dr. Joann Heaney-Hunter  
Christine Goetzger-Sedlak, President of the Congregation  
Mason Griffin, Minister of Music  
Michelle Burkhardt, Parish Administrator (*email [ststephenoffice@msn.com](mailto:ststephenoffice@msn.com)*)  
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The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more. The word of the Lord. **C Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 46**



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

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

though its waters<sup>l</sup> rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble<sup>l</sup> with its tumult.

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

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

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

The LORD of<sup>l</sup> hosts is with us; the God of Jacob<sup>l</sup> is our stronghold.

**Come now, regard the works<sup>l</sup> of the LORD, what desolations God has brought up-<sup>l</sup> on the earth;**

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

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

The LORD of<sup>l</sup> hosts is with us; the God of Jacob<sup>l</sup> is our stronghold. **R**

## SECOND READING: Romans 3:19-28

A reading from Romans.

Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law. The word of the Lord. **C Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al-le - lu - ia.  
Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.  
Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## GOSPEL: John 8:31-36

P The Lord be with you. **C And also with you.**

P The holy gospel according to John. **C Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?"

Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed." The gospel of the Lord.  
**C Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY: *We All Are One in Mission* (ELW 576) ~ see page 13**

## **AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM**

P Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for Melanie, Tyler, Daniel, Sean-Paul and McKenzie, who are becoming members of St. Stephen's and affirming their baptism.

P Let us pray. Merciful God, we thank you for Melanie, Tyler, Daniel, Sean-Paul and McKenzie, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished them in the community of faith. Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. **C Amen.**

## **PROFESSION OF FAITH**

P Melanie, Tyler, Daniel, Sean-Paul, McKenzie and congregation, I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

P Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

**Response: We renounce them.**

P Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

**Response: We renounce them.**

P Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

**Response: We renounce them.**

P Do you believe in God the Father?

**C We believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**C We 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 will come to judge the living and the dead.**

P Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**C We 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.**

### **AFFIRMATION**

P Melanie, Tyler, Daniel, Sean-Paul and McKenzie, you have made public your profession of faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

**Response: We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

P People of God, do you promise to support Melanie, Tyler, Daniel, Sean-Paul and McKenzie and pray for them in their life in Christ?

**C We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

P Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life. Stir up Melanie, Tyler, Daniel, Sean-Paul and McKenzie in the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **C Amen.**

### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

A The response to our prayers is: hear our prayer.

A Challenged by God's Word in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and the whole creation.

A Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in the saving grace you freely give, both now and forever. **C Amen.**

### **PEACE**

P The peace of Christ be with you always. **C And also with you.**

P Let us offer each other a sign of peace.

**ADDITIONAL PRAYERS  
ANNOUNCEMENTS  
THIS WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS**

**BIRTHDAY SONG**

*He who began a good work in you 2x  
Will be faithful to complete it (Clap 3x)  
Will be faithful to complete it (Clap 3x)  
He who started the work will be faithful to complete it in you!*

**+MEAL+**

**OFFERING: *Be Thou My Vision* (ELW 793) ~ see page 14**

**OFFERING PRAYER**

P Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **C Amen.**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

**DIALOGUE**

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.**

**PREFACE**

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

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

**THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

P You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.

...we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

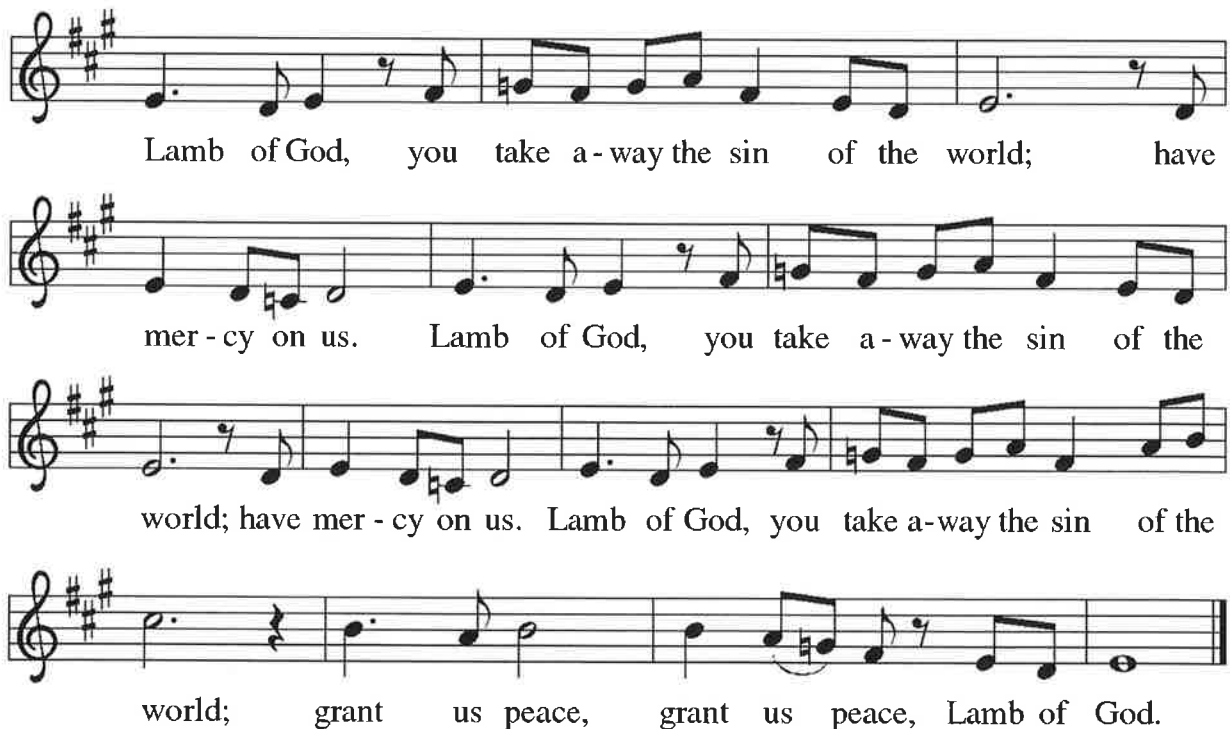
P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**C Our Father, who art in heaven...**

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P Come to the banquet, for all is now ready. **C Thanks be to God.**

**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, Lamb of God.

**SONG DURING COMMUNION: *All Are Welcome* (ELW 641) ~ see page 15**

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

P Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **C Amen.**

### **SENDING**

P The Lord be with you. **C And also with you.**

### **BLESSING**

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

P The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

P The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace. **C Amen.**

**SENDING SONG: *Sent Forth by God's Blessing* (ELW 547) ~ see page 16**

### **DISMISSAL**

A Go in peace. Share the good news. **C Thanks be to God.**

## Comments from the Cloud of Witnesses

Every renewal of the church essentially consists in an increase of fidelity to her own calling. Undoubtedly this explains the dynamism of the movement toward unity. Christ summons the church, as she goes her pilgrim way, to that continual reformation of which she always has need, insofar as she is a human institution here on earth. Consequently, if, in various times and circumstances, there have been deficiencies in moral conduct or in church discipline, or even in the way that church teaching has been formulated—to be carefully distinguished from the deposit of faith itself--these should be set right at the opportune moment and in the proper way. —*Decree on Ecumenism, Second Vatican Council*

### Upcoming Commemorations

#### **Simon and Jude, Apostles ~ Monday, October 28, 2024**

We know little about these apostles. Simon is listed as "the zealot" or Cananean in New Testament lists. Jude, also called Thaddeus, asked Jesus at the last supper why he had revealed himself to the disciples but not to the world.

#### **Reformation Day ~ Thursday, October 31, 2024**

By the end of the seventeenth century, many Lutheran churches celebrated a festival commemorating Martin Luther's posting of the Ninety-five Theses, a summary of abuses in the church of his time. At the heart of the reform movement was the gospel, the good news that it is by grace through faith that we are justified and set free.

## GATHERING SONG: A Mighty Fortress Is Our God (ELW 504)



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -  
 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -  
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -  
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who



to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and  
 ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom  
 vour us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they  
 fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe  
 God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?  
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;  
 weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,



has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might  
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,  
 in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;  
 goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.  
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.  
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.  
 they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

HYMN OF THE DAY: *We All Are One in Mission* (ELW 576)



1 We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,  
2 We all are called for ser - vice, to wit-ness in God's name.  
3 Now let us be u - nit - ed, and let our song be heard.



our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.  
Our min - is - tries are dif - f'rent; our pur - pose is the same:  
Now let us be a ves - sel for God's re - deem - ing Word.



A sin - gle great com - mis - sion com - pels us from a - bove  
to touch the lives of oth - ers with God's sur - pris - ing grace,  
We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,



to plan and work to - geth - er that all may know Christ's love.  
so ev - 'ry folk and na - tion may feel God's warm em - brace,  
our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.

OFFERING: *Be Thou My Vision* (ELW 793)



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;  
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;  
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,  
 4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:  
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.  
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:  
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,  
 Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,  
 thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,  
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.  
 raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.  
 great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.  
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

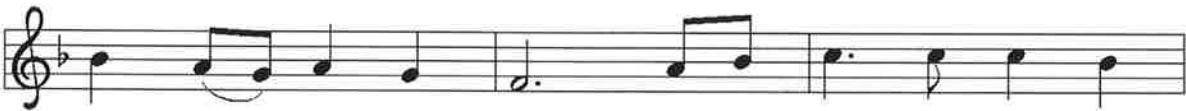
SONG DURING COMMUNION: *All Are Welcome* (ELW 641)



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly  
 2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and  
 3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and  
 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and  
 5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how  
 true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to  
 wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where  
 stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and  
 heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and  
 dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as  
 peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through  
 live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the  
 words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of  
 wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we  
 Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in  
 strang-er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an  
 laugh-ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:  
 claim the faith of Je - sus:  
 Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,  
 end to fear and dan - ger:  
 claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

SENDING SONG: *Sent Forth by God's Blessing* (ELW 547)



1 Sent forth by God's bless - ing, our true faith con - fess - ing,  
2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing to God ev - er - liv - ing,



the peo - ple of God from this dwell - ing take leave.  
the tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will face—



The sup - per is end - ed. Oh, now be ex - tend - ed  
our faith ev - er shar - ing, in love ev - er car - ing,



the fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve.  
em - brac - ing God's chil - dren, the whole hu - man race.



The seed of Christ's teach - ing, re - cep - tive souls  
With your feast you feed us, with your light now



reach - ing, shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.  
lead us; u - nite us as one in this life that we share.



Your grace shall in - cite us, your love shall u - nite us  
Then may all the liv - ing with praise and thanks - giv - ing



to work for your king - dom and an - swer your call.  
give hon - or to Christ and his name that we bear.



**Announcements for the week of  
October 27, 2024**

*Sanctuary Candle for October is given to the glory of God and in loving  
memory of*

*Sophie O' Brien by Maureen O'Brien*

\*\*\*\*\*

*Altar Flowers are given this week to the glory of God and in loving memory  
of Ed Dressler from Loretta Dressler*

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~ Everyone at St. Stephen's would like to welcome the Farris family as members of our community. May God bless them today and always.

~**Zoom Bible Study** ~ Please join us on Zoom as we study Luke on Monday evenings at 7 pm. Last class is on November 25<sup>th</sup>.

~ **Thanksgiving Holiday Food Baskets** ~ Please refer to the flyer in the narthex for details. Donations are due by Sunday, November 17<sup>th</sup>.

~**Save the Date** ~Please keep the following dates in mind: Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup> and Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>.



~ A chart on the lobby bulletin board allows us to designate weekly Sunday service altar flowers or the monthly sanctuary lamp candle as special memorial/in honor of gifts. Use the envelopes provided to forward the gift (\$25.00 for flowers; \$15.00 for candle). Be sure to include information concerning who is being honored/memorialized by your gift as well as your name, address and telephone number. You may also contact the church office at (516) 931-0710.

**PARISH CALENDAR THIS WEEK (November 3<sup>rd</sup> - November 9<sup>th</sup>)**

<b>Today</b>	<b>Reformation Sunday</b>
	9:30 am Holy Communion
	2:00pm Satsang with a Smile
<b>Tuesday</b>	7:00 pm <i>Back to Basics (AA)</i>
	7:30 pm Wholeness and Healing
<b>Next Sunday, All Saints Sunday</b>	
	9:30 am Holy Communion

## **SERVING AT WORSHIP TODAY**

Sunday, 9:30 AM

ASSISTING MINISTER: Jane Ebersberger  
LECTOR: Jaclyn Shurman  
ACOLYTE: Carmine Barone  
USHERS: Tyler LaVorgna & Kevin Barcavage  
ACCOMPANIST: Mason Griffin & Gregory Hunter  
GREETER: Maureen O'Brien  
AUDIO/VISUAL: Tyler LaVorgna  
ALTAR GUILD: Bill & Lauren Artus

### **PARISH PRAYER LIST**

*If you would like to have your name or your friend or family member's name added to the Prayer List, please call the office. Please remember to keep the office updated.*

### **PRAY FOR OUR CONGREGATION**

Bill Artus  
Dottie Eberhardt  
Roger Engert

### **PRAY FOR OUR FAMILIES**

Joe DiSalvo (cousin of Maureen O'Brien)  
James Ebersberger (brother of Jane Ebersberger)  
Jim Fritz (cousin of Lauren Artus and John Langbehn)  
William Stanton (cousin of Kellie Barone)

### **PRAY FOR OUR FRIENDS**

Cheryl Glasini (friend of the Ahlers-Pendas family)  
John Judge (friend of Jane Ebersberger)  
Jim Lowe (friend of the Staton family)  
Sarah Motyka (friend of the Maurer family)  
Megan Mudd ( friend of the Staton family)  
Betty, John & Mary Beth Ott (friends of Jane Ebersberger)  
John Sheridan (friend of Bob and Nan Maurer)