

January 19, 2025 Second Sunday after Epiphany

The Sundays after Epiphany continue to celebrate the revelation of God's glory to us as it was made known to the magi and to those on Jordan's banks at Jesus' baptism—today using wedding imagery. Our God rejoices over God's people as those being married rejoice over one another. By the power of the Spirit there are gifts galore for everyone. In Christ Jesus the best wine is saved for last. Taste and see.

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.*

ST. STEPHEN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
270 South Broadway + Hicksville NY 11801
Church Office: 516-931-0710
Mason Griffin, Minister of Music
Michelle Burkhardt, Parish Administrator (*email ststephenoffice@msn.com*)
Church Website www.ststephenshicksville.com
Join us on Facebook: St. Stephens Lutheran Church, Hicksville, NY 11801

+GATHERING+

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. C Amen.

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Pause for silent reflection.

P Most merciful God, C **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Through your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and through him God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. C Amen.

GATHERING SONG: City of God by Dan Schutte

Verses 1, 2



1. A-wake from your slum-ber! A - rise from your
2. We are sons of the morn-ing; we are daugh-ters of




sleep! A new day is dawn - ing
day. The One who has loved us



for all those who weep. The peo - ple in
has bright-ened our way. The Lord of all

dark - ness have seen a great light. The Lord of our
kind - ness has called us to be a light for his

long - ing has con - quered the night.
peo - ple to set their hearts free.

Refrain 

Let us build the cit - y of God. May our tears be

turned in - to danc - ing! For the Lord, our light and our

love, has turned the night in - to day!

Verse 3

3. God is light; in him there is no

dark - ness. Let us walk in his light, his

chil - dren, one and all.



O com-fort my peo - ple; make gen-tle your



words. Pro - claim to my cit-y



the day of her birth.

D.S.

Verse 4



4. O cit-y of glad-ness, now lift up your



voice. Pro - claim the good tid - ings



that all may re - joice!

D.S.

GREETING

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

KYRIE

Refrain



Ky-ri-e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.



- 1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
- 2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
- 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
- 4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for
 hun - gry and the poor; that
 friends and fam - i - ly; for
 wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
 we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
 life and for love, for our work and our play,
 nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



Refrain

let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. Lord God, source of every blessing, you showed forth your glory and led many to faith by the works of your Son, who brought gladness and salvation to his people. Transform us by the Spirit of his love, that we may find our life together in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. C **Amen.**

+WORD+

FIRST READING: Isaiah 62:1-5

A reading from Isaiah.

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give.

You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate; but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your land Married; for the LORD delights in you, and your land shall be married. For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your builder marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you. The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 36:5-10



We feast up - on the a-bun-dance of your house, O LORD.

Your love, O LORD, reaches | to the heavens, and your faithfulness | to the clouds.

Your righteousness is like the strong mountains, your justice like | the great deep; you save humankind and ani- | mals, O LORD. R

How priceless is your | love, O God! All people take refuge under the shadow | of your wings.

They feast upon the abundance | of your house; you give them drink from the river of | your delights.

For with you is the | well of life, and in your light | we see light.

Continue your lovingkindness to | those who know you, and your favor to those who are | true of heart. R

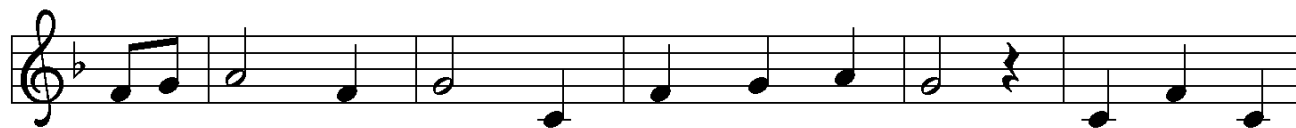
SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says "Let Jesus be cursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit.

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses. 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 2:1-11

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

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

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, “They have no wine.” And Jesus said to her, “Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.” His mother said to the servants, “Do whatever he tells you.” Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, “Fill the jars with water.” And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, “Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.” So they

took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, “Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.” Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him. The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

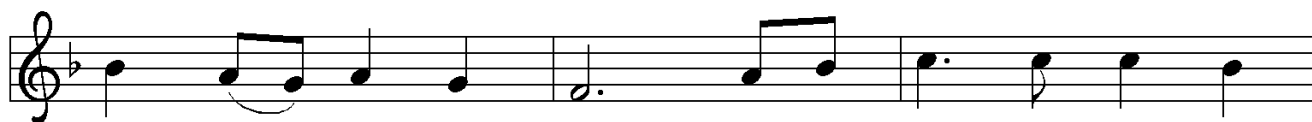
HYMN OF THE DAY: *All Are Welcome* (ELW 641)



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



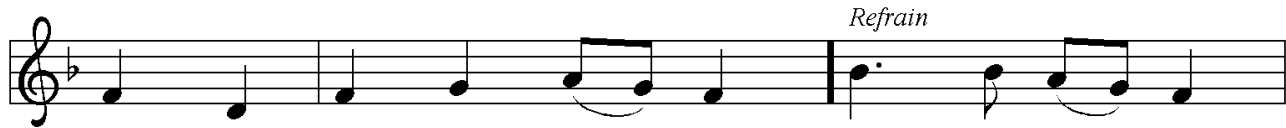
live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how
 true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to
 wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where
 stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and
 heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



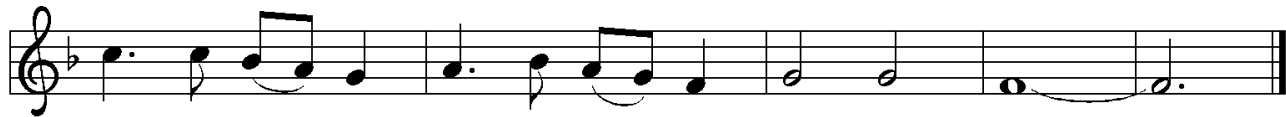
hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
 dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
 peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
 live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
 words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



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
 stran - ger 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.

APOSTLE'S CREED

A With the whole Church, we confess our faith.

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I 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 he will come to judge the living and the dead. I 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. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A Please respond, hear our prayer.

A Giver of gifts, you form each member of the church to serve. Inspire us to boldly use gifts of welcome and healing, service and teaching, leading and preaching, for the sake of your work in the world. God of grace, **C hear our prayer.**

A Voice of the oppressed, you call prophets throughout time. We remember the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., a voice for racial and economic justice and for peace. Guide our nation in continuing to heed your prophetic call. God of grace, **C hear our prayer.**

A God of steadfast love, as Jesus celebrated at Cana, nurture marriages and relationships in mutual care; in times of separation or divorce hold tenderly broken hearts and broken dreams. Be present to all who are sick, grieving or in any need. God of grace, **C hear our prayer.**

A Wellspring of life, in living and dying we trust in you. We give thanks for the saints. Guide us in our living until, at last, we rest in you. God of grace, **C hear our prayer.**

A We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people. **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

Anisa Belle Ruiz 1/20

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: Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful by Marty Haugen

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the
brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the



prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,
and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

P Let us pray. 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. **C Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

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

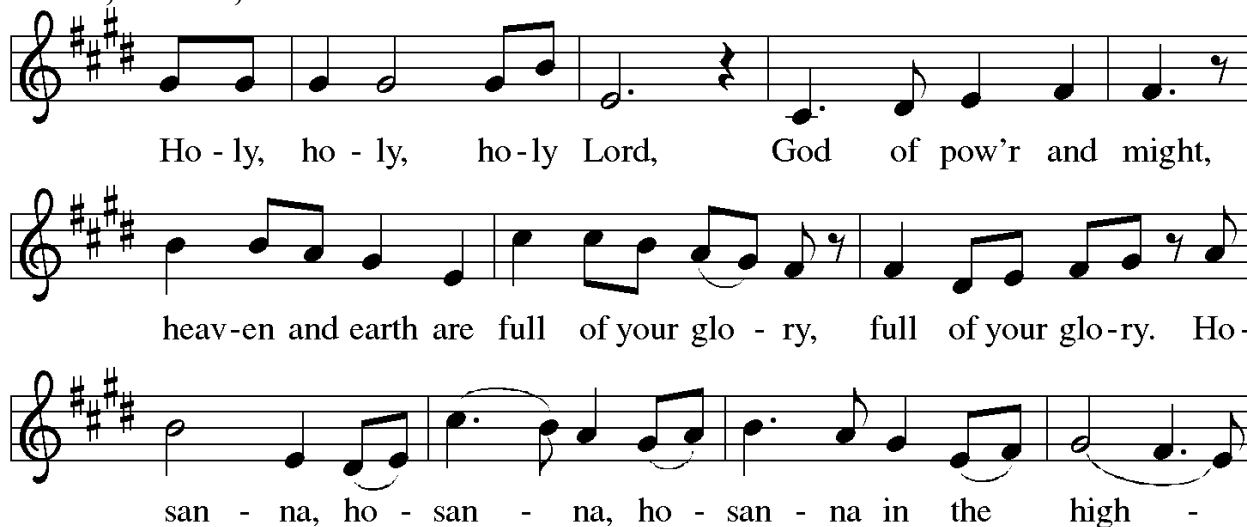
P Lift up your hearts. **C We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

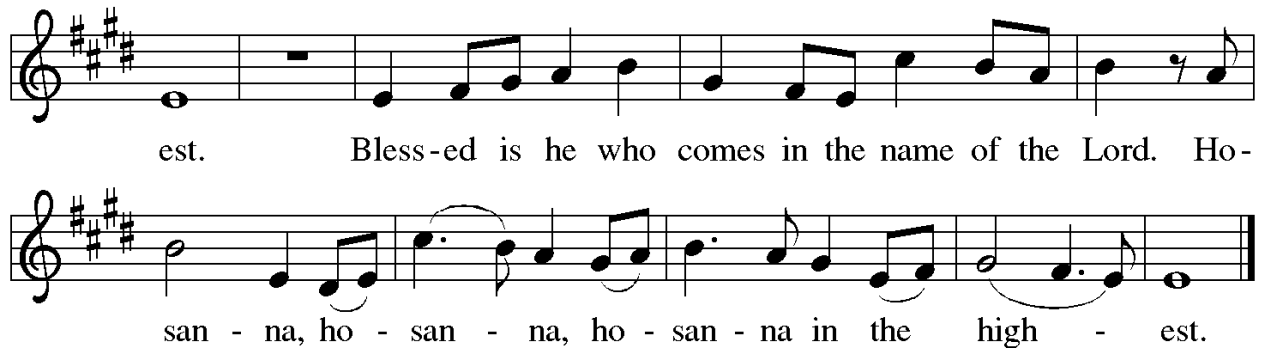
PREFACE

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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 -



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

P You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

P We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

P In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

P Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

P For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. **C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

P Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

P To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever. **C Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

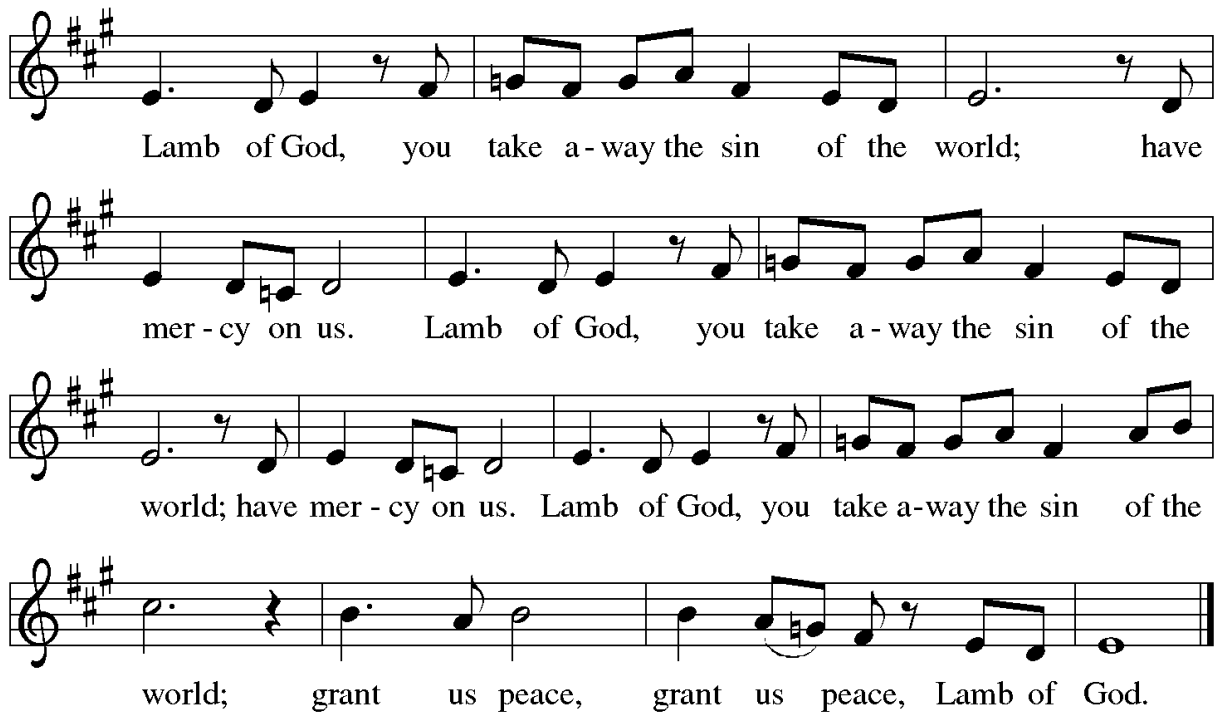
P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

C Our Father, who art in heaven...

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

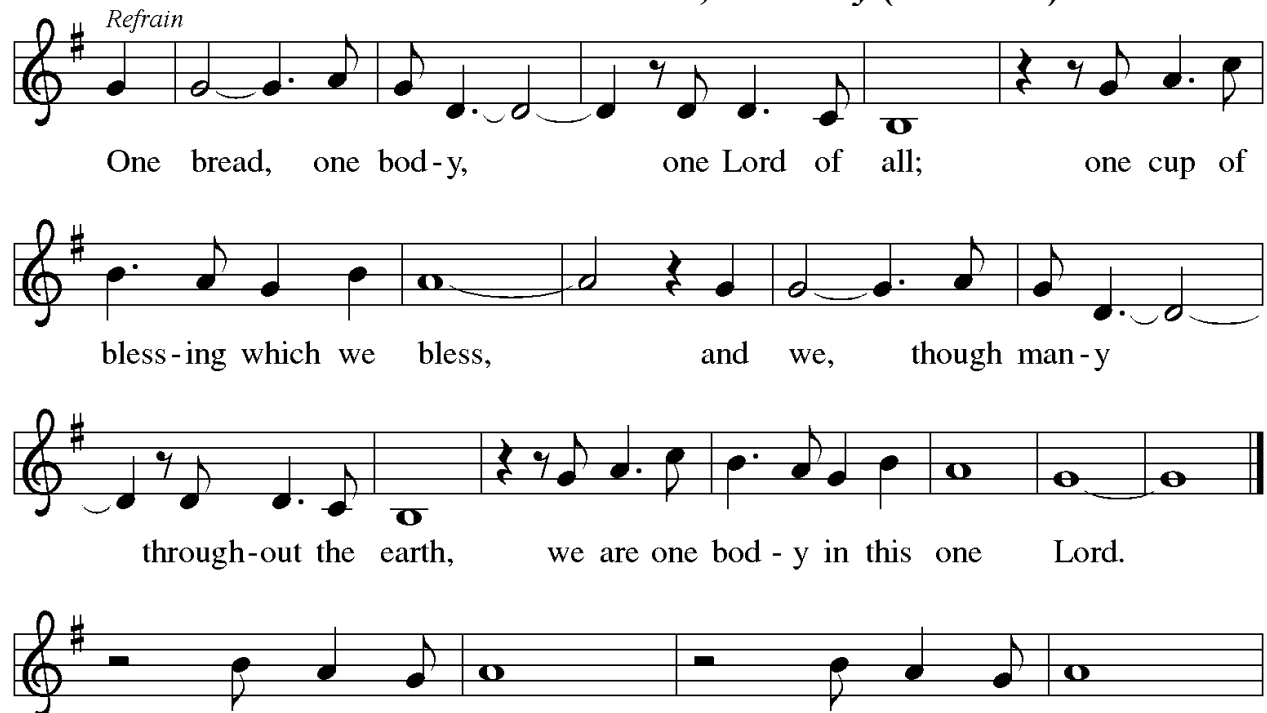
P Come to the banquet, for all is now ready. C **Thanks be to God.**

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: *One Bread, One Body* (ELW 496)



Refrain
One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all; one cup of
bless-ing which we bless, and we, though man-y
through-out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.

| | | | | |
|---|------------|-------------|------------|------------|
| 1 | Gen - tile | or Jew, | ser - vant | or free, |
| 2 | Man - y | the gifts, | man - y | the works, |
| 3 | Grain for | the fields, | scat-tered | and grown, |



wom - an or man, no more.
 one in the Lord of all.
 gath - ered to one for all.

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; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **C Amen.**

+SENDING+

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

BLESSING

P The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus. **C Amen.**

P The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **C Amen.**

P The God of all grace † bless you now and forever. **C Amen.**

SENDING SONG: *Bind Us Together* (WOV 748)

Refrain
 Bind us to - geth - er, Lord, bind us to - geth - er with cords that
 can - not be bro - ken. Bind us to - geth - er, Lord,

Dm Gm C F

bind us to - geth - er, Lord; bind us to - geth - er in love.

F C⁷ F F C⁷ F

1 There . . is on - ly one God. There . . is on - ly one King.
 2 You are the fam-'ly of God. You are the prom-ise di - vine.

F C⁷ F F C⁷ F B^b/C *Refrain*

There . . is on - ly one Bod-y; that . . is why we can sing;
 You are God's cho-sen de - sire, you are the glo-rious new wine.

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Live in hope. C Thanks be to God.

Comments from the Cloud of Witnesses

Many of Christ's miracles, although at first obscure, have become clearer in the course of time. Then, those who saw the event from the very beginning narrated what had taken place: Jesus then made wine from water. But now, as well as then, Jesus continues to change our weak and unstable wills into that which is better. For there are, I affirm, people who differ in nothing from water: they are cold, weak, and never stand firm. Let us bring those who are so afflicted to the Lord, that he may change their will to the quality of wine: that they no longer simply flow away, but that they be steadfast, and that they become to themselves and to others a source of comfort.

—*John Chrysostom*

Upcoming Commemorations

Henry, Bishop of Uppsala, martyr, died 1156 ~ Sunday, January 19, 2025

When Erik, King of Sweden, determined to invade Finland for the purpose of converting the people there to Christianity, Henry went with him. Henry is recognized as the patron saint of Finland.

Agnes, martyr, died around 304 ~ Tuesday, January 21, 2025

Agnes was a girl of about thirteen living in Rome. The details of her martyrdom are not clear, but she gave witness to her faith and was put to death as a result, most likely by the sword. The church has honored her as one of the chief martyrs of her time.

Conversion of Paul ~ Saturday, January 25, 2025

The week of prayer begun by the remembrance of Peter's confession now comes to an end as we recall the pivotal moment in the life of the other pillar of the early church, the apostle Paul. His encounter with the risen Christ turned him from persecutor of the followers of Christ to one of their leaders.

Announcements for the week of *January 19, 2025*

~ Thank you Pastor Nale for leading us in worship this morning.

~ Please join us for the coffee hour.

~ 2025 Offering Envelopes ~ If you haven't taken your envelopes yet, please remember to *take them today*. Help St. Stephen's save on postage!

~ 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 (January 20th - January 26th)

| | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Today | Second Sunday after Epiphany |
| | 9:30 am Holy Communion |
| Tuesday | 7:00 pm Back to Basics |
| Wednesday | Property Committee meeting |
| Thursday | 6:30 pm Executive Board meeting |
| | 7:00 pm Council Meeting |
| Next Sunday, | Third Sunday after Epiphany |
| | 9:30 am Holy Communion |

SERVING AT WORSHIP TODAY

Sunday, 9:30 AM

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| ASSISTING MINISTER: | Jane Ebersberger |
| LECTOR: | Laureen Aiello |
| ACOLYTE: | Gavin Barone |
| USHERS: | Rick Mosebach & Rich Humann |
| ACCOMPANIST | Mason Griffin |
| GREETER: | Maureen O'Brien |
| AUDIO/VISUAL: | Tyler LaVorgna |
| ALTAR GUILD: | Beth & Jane |

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
Ilona Riggers

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

Rich Carlstrom (friend of the Staton family)
Cheryl Glasini (friend of the Ahlers-Pendas family)
John Judge (friend of Jane Ebersberger)
Ellen Motoi (friend of Maureen O'Brien)
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)