



# **St. Stephen Lutheran Church**

**7800 Erie Street**

**Sylvania, OH 43560**

**[www.ststephenlutheran.church](http://www.ststephenlutheran.church)**

**419-885-1551**

**September 27, 2026 10:30 A.M.**

## *Lectionary 26*

### **Prelude**

### **Welcome and Announcements**

*Stand*

### **Confession and Forgiveness**

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who pours love into our hearts  
and healing upon the Earth.

**C Amen.**

P Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,  
let us confess our sin to God.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P Compassionate God,

**C we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness  
in the world and in our own hearts.**

**Creation groans from overuse.**

**Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.**

**Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.**

**Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love  
to others.**

**Turn our hearts back to you.**

**Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.**

**Renew us to live as your holy people,  
following the way of Jesus Christ.**

**Amen.**

P Hear this good news:

We have peace with God through † Jesus Christ,

In whom there is no condemnation,

but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.

Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

**C Amen.**

.

My hope is built on nothing less  
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame  
But wholly trust in Jesus' Name

Christ alone  
Cornerstone  
Weak made strong in the Saviour's love  
Through the storm He is Lord  
Lord of all

When darkness seems to hide His face  
I rest on His unchanging grace  
In every high and stormy gale  
My anchor holds within the veil  
My anchor holds within the veil

Christ alone  
Cornerstone  
Weak made strong in the Saviour's love  
Through the storm He is Lord  
Lord of all

When He shall come with trumpet sound  
Oh may I then in Him be found  
Dressed in His righteousness alone  
Faultless stand before the throne

Christ alone  
Cornerstone  
Weak made strong in the Saviour's love  
Through the storm He is Lord  
Lord of all

*“Cornerstone”* Words & Music: Edward Mote, Eric Liljero, Jonas Myrin, Reuben Morgan, William Batchelder Bradbury ©  
2011 Hillsong Music Publishing (Admin. by EMI Christian Music Publishing) CCLI License 450446 CCLI #6158927

**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 (LORD HAVE MERCY)

*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

God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

**FIRST READING:** Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

p. 753

A The Word of the Lord.  
C **Thanks be to God.**

**SECOND READING:** Psalm 25:1-9

p. 953

- <sup>1</sup> To you, O LORD,  
I lift up my soul.  
<sup>2</sup> **My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,  
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**  
<sup>3</sup> Let none who look to you be put to shame;  
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.  
<sup>4</sup> **Show me your ways, O LORD,  
and teach me your paths.**  
<sup>5</sup> Lead me in your truth and teach me,  
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.  
<sup>6</sup> **Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love,  
for they are from everlasting.**  
<sup>7</sup> Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;  
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.  
<sup>8</sup> **You are gracious and upright, O LORD;  
therefore you teach sinners in your way.**  
<sup>9</sup> You lead the lowly in justice  
and teach the lowly your way.

A The Word of the Lord.  
C **Thanks be to God.**

**THE HOLY GOSPEL**

According to Matthew 21:23-32

p. 801

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*the gospel is read*

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Sit*

**SERMON**

**MARILYN SCURALLI**

**RECOVENANTING****HYMN OF THE DAY****“BORNING CRY”**

I was there to hear your borning cry,  
I'll be there when you are old.  
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,  
to see your life unfold.  
I was there when you were but a child,  
with a faith to suit you well;  
In a blaze of light you wandered off  
to find where demons dwell."  
"When you heard the wonder of the Word  
I was there to cheer you on;  
You were raised to praise the living Lord,  
to whom you now belong.  
If you find someone to share your time  
and you join your hearts as one,  
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme  
from dusk 'till rising sun.  
In the middle ages of your life,  
not too old, no longer young,  
I'll be there to guide you through the night,  
complete what I've begun.  
When the evening gently closes in,  
and you shut your weary eyes,  
I'll be there as I have always been  
with just one more surprise.  
I was there to hear your borning cry,  
I'll be there when you are old.  
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,  
to see your life unfold.

*“Borning Cry”* Words and Music by John Ylvisaker © 1985 John Ylvisaker reprinted under LicenSing U2996

## APOSTLE'S CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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 ✝

*Sit*

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

*Pastor concludes each petition with: "Hear us, O God."*

**C**     ***"Your mercy is great."***

*Pastor concludes with:*

**P**     Grant us the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and  
whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

**C**     **Amen.**

## Sharing of the Peace

If you are in our sanctuary please wave or give a peace sign to those around you. If you are worshipping online, please type a greeting of peace to others.

*Stand*

*If you wish to contribute to St. Stephen's ministry you can give electronically with the QR code on the blue folder in each aisle, place offerings in the offering box in the Narthex or mail your offerings to 7800 Erie St., Sylvania, OH 43560.*

## LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

God of creation,  
you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.  
All blessings are from you;  
make us generous with what we have.  
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts  
in service to you and in love to our neighbors,  
today and always.  
Amen.

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into  
temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and  
the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

*Sit*

### **COMMUNION:**

*All people who believe in Jesus Christ are welcome to come and receive Christ's body and blood. Regardless of your church background or affiliation, you are welcome to come forward. We will begin with those seated on the pulpit side of the congregation then those seated on the keyboard side then those that are in the back section. You may come down the center aisle to receive the bread. Choose an individual cup (red is wine, white is grape juice) to receive and place your empty glass in the bowl as you return to your seat using the side aisles. Gluten free wafers are available upon request.*

*If you do not wish to receive communion, but wish to receive a blessing, please come forward and keep your hands at your sides.*



1 Bap - tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, cleansed by the  
 2 Bap - tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, dead in the  
 3 Bap - tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, marked with the



blood of Christ our king: heirs of sal - va - tion, trust - ing his  
 tomb with Christ our king: one with his ris - ing, freed and for -  
 sign of Christ our king: born of the Spir - it, we are God's



prom - ise, faith - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.  
 giv - en, thank - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.  
 chil - dren; joy - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.

Text: Michael Seward, b. 1932

Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune

Text © 1982 Jubilate Hymns, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.

All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

Stand

## Sending Forth

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ bless you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

## Prayer

**Sustaining God,  
 With this bread and cup,  
 you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.  
 By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.  
 Make us living signs of your liberation, healing and love,  
 following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.  
 Amen.**

## Benediction

- P The God of love  
draw you into full accord and one mind,  
in the body of Christ Jesus.
- C **Amen.**
- P The God of hope  
grant you strength and joy in all circumstances  
through the interceding of the Spirit.
- C **Amen.**
- The God of grace.  
✠ bless you now and forever.
- C **Amen.**

## Closing Song

## ***“Rock of Ages”***

On Christ the solid Rock I stand  
All other ground is sinking sand  
Great is Your faithfulness  
Great is Your love oh God

My hope is built on nothing less  
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness  
Great is Your faithfulness  
Great is Your love oh God

Rock of ages You will stand  
Our foundation 'til the end  
Never failing God unchanging  
Rock of ages You will stand

When darkness seems to hide Your face  
I rest on Your unchanging grace  
Great is Your faithfulness  
Great is Your love oh God

In every high and stormy gale  
My anchor holds within the veil  
Great is Your faithfulness  
Great is Your love oh God  
Rock of ages You will stand  
Our foundation 'til the end  
Never failing God unchanging  
Rock of ages You will stand

## **DEPARTURE BID**

A     Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

C     **Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**

MUSIC REPRINTED UNDER THE FOLLOWING LICENSES, OR AS LISTED: 1993 GIA Publications, Inc.; Augsburg Fortress License #44951  
Hope Publishing Co. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-702495.; CCLI License #450446; Licensing #601168 ✠  
Liturgy components reprinted under the following or as listed Lutheran Book of Worship and Sundays and Seasons: Augsburg For-  
tress License #44951