



St. Stephen Lutheran Church

**7800 Erie Street
Sylvania, OH 43560
www.ststephenlutheran.church
419-885-1551**

February 8, 2026 10:30 A.M.

Fifth Sunday After Epiphany

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Stand

Confession and Forgiveness

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, \ddagger one God,
the Creator of heaven and earth,
the Word who spoke life into being,
the Wind stirring the waters.

C Amen

P Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Mighty God, lover of justice,
**C you call us to life in community,
but we have served our own interests
at the expense of our neighbors.**
We have sown deceit where honesty was needed.
**We say the right words,
but our hearts are far from you.**
Turn us to seek your face.
**Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ,
that we may do justice, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God.**
Amen.

P The former things have passed away,
and new things God now declares:
Like a spring of water that never fails,
God covers you in the righteousness of Christ,
and forgives your sin in \ddagger Jesus' name.
May the Spirit give you strength to live for others,
and bless you with the gift of peace.

C Amen.

Opening Hymn

"Gather Us In" ELW 532



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
 bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,
 light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
 call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
 now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in, the
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas - sion, give us to eat the
 Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
 make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
 lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
 fire . . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen

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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

Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

FIRST READING: Isaiah 58:1-12

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

SECOND READING: Psalm 112:1-10

¹ Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the LORD and have great delight in God's commandments!
² **Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.**
³ Wealth and riches will be in their house, and their righteousness will last forever.
⁴ **Light shines in the darkness for the upright; the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**
⁵ It is good for them to be generous in lending and to manage their affairs with justice.
⁶ **For they will never be shaken; the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**
⁷ They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; their heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.
⁸ **Their heart is established and will not shrink, until they see their desire upon their enemies.**
⁹ They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever; they will hold up their head with honor.
¹⁰ **The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine away; the desires of the wicked will perish.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL

According to Matthew 5:13-20

p. 786

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

the gospel is read

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sit

SERMON

Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY

“GOD’S WORK OUR HANDS” ACS 1000

1 God's work, our hands: work - ing to - geth - er,
 2 God's work, our feet: trav - 'ling to - geth - er,
 3 God's work, our voice: sing - ing to - geth - er,
 4 God is at work in and a - round us:

build - ing a fu - ture, re - pair - ing the world,
 fol - low - ing Je - sus to plac - es un - known,
 prais - ing, pro - claim - ing to all who will hear,
 seed - lings are sprout - ing and bread's on the rise!

rais - ing up homes, plant - ing new gar - dens,
 walk - ing as friends, march - ing for free - dom,
 pray - ing for peace, shout - ing for jus - tice,
 Washed and set free, hum - bled and hon - ored,

feed - ing the hun - gry and shelt - 'ring the cold.
 run - ning the race with God's fu - ture the goal.
 claim - ing God's love for the lost and the least.
 gift - ed by grace, we re - spond in God's love.

Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name,
 Bless, God, our feet as we fol - low your way,
 Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name,
 Bless, God, our lives as we an - swer your call,

shar - ing the good news of your gos - - pel.
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - - pel.
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - - pel.
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - - pel.

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

Music: EARTH AND ALL STARS, David N. Johnson, 1922–1987

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Music © 1968 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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: "Merciful God,"

C "Receive our prayer."

Pastor concludes with:

P Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we
 commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us
 in Christ Jesus our Savior.

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 majesty,
no eye has seen, no ear has heard
what you have prepared for those who love you,
yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy.
Use what we have gathered
to feed us with the reign of God come near,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
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.

Communion Hymn

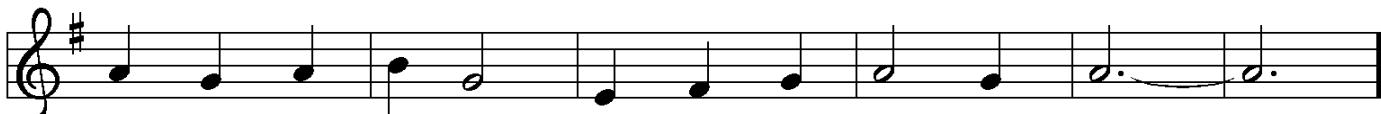
"Christ Be Our Light" ELW 715



1 Long-ing for light, we wait in dark-ness. Long-ing for
2 Long-ing for peace, our world is trou-bled. Long-ing for
3 Long-ing for food, man-y are hun-gry. Long-ing for
4 Long-ing for shel-ter, man-y are home-less. Long-ing for
5 Man-y the gifts, man-y the peo-ple, man-y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
hope, man-y de-spair. Your word a-lone
wa-ter, man-y still thirst. Make us your bread,
warmth, man-y are cold. Make us your build-ing,
hearts that yearn to be long. Let us be ser-vants

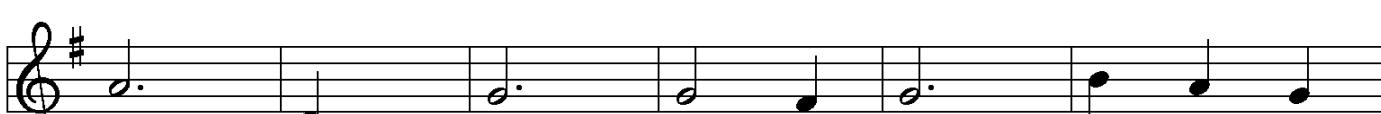


your ho-ly peo-ple, light for the world to see.
has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv-ing voice.
bro-ken for oth-ers, shared un-til all are fed.
shel-ter-ing oth-ers, walls made of liv-ing stone.
to one an-oth-er, signs of your king-dom come.

Refrain



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark-ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath-ered to-day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell

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Stand

Sending Forth

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

Prayer

**Radiant God,
we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.
In the sacrament of his body and blood
you have drawn us to your heart.
Send us from this table with delight,
that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love,
and bear witness to all we have seen and heard,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

Meal Prayer

Benediction

P May the triune God,
who has put a new song in your mouth
And tuned your heart from praise
☩ bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

Closing Song

“God of Wonders”

“God of Wonders” Words and Music by Marc Byrd and Steve Hindalong ©2000 New Spring/Storm Boy Music, Meaux Mercy
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DEPARTURE BID

A Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.
C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE