

Sunday, February 9, 2025 Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

The fifth Sunday after Epiphany continues to highlight unlikely instruments and circumstances appointed to reveal God's glory. "Who will go for us?" God asks. A person of unclean lips, a former persecutor of the church

of God, and three fishermen who couldn't catch a thing. More surprising still, perhaps, is that we are also called.

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.

Worshipping. 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 In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C Amen.**

P God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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 God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **C Amen.**

GATHERING SONG: *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.

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



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



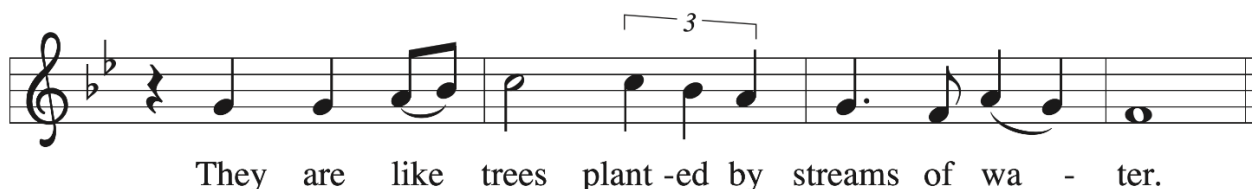
Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.

The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: “Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!”

Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: “Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.” Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I; send me!” And he said, “Go and say to this people: ‘Keep listening, but do not comprehend; keep looking, but do not understand.’ Make the mind of this people dull, and stop their ears, and shut their eyes, so that they may not look with their eyes, and listen with their ears, and comprehend with their minds, and turn and be healed.”

Then I said, “How long, O Lord?” And he said: “Until cities lie waste without inhabitant, and houses without people, and the land is utterly desolate; until the LORD sends everyone far away, and vast is the emptiness in the midst of the land. Even if a tenth part remain in it, it will be burned again, like a terebinth or an oak whose stump remains standing when it is felled.” The holy seed is its stump. The word of the Lord. **C Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 138



I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with | my whole heart; before the gods I will | sing your praise.

**I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your steadfast | love and faithfulness; for you have glorified your name and your word a-
bove all things. R**

When I called, you | answered me; you increased my | strength within me.

All the rulers of the earth will praise | you, O LORD, when they have heard the words | of your mouth.

They will sing of the ways | of the LORD, that great is the glory | of the LORD.

The LORD is high, yet cares | for the lowly, perceiving the haughty | from afar. R

Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you | keep me safe; you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right | hand shall save me.

You will make good your pur- | pose for me; O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works | of your hands. R

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

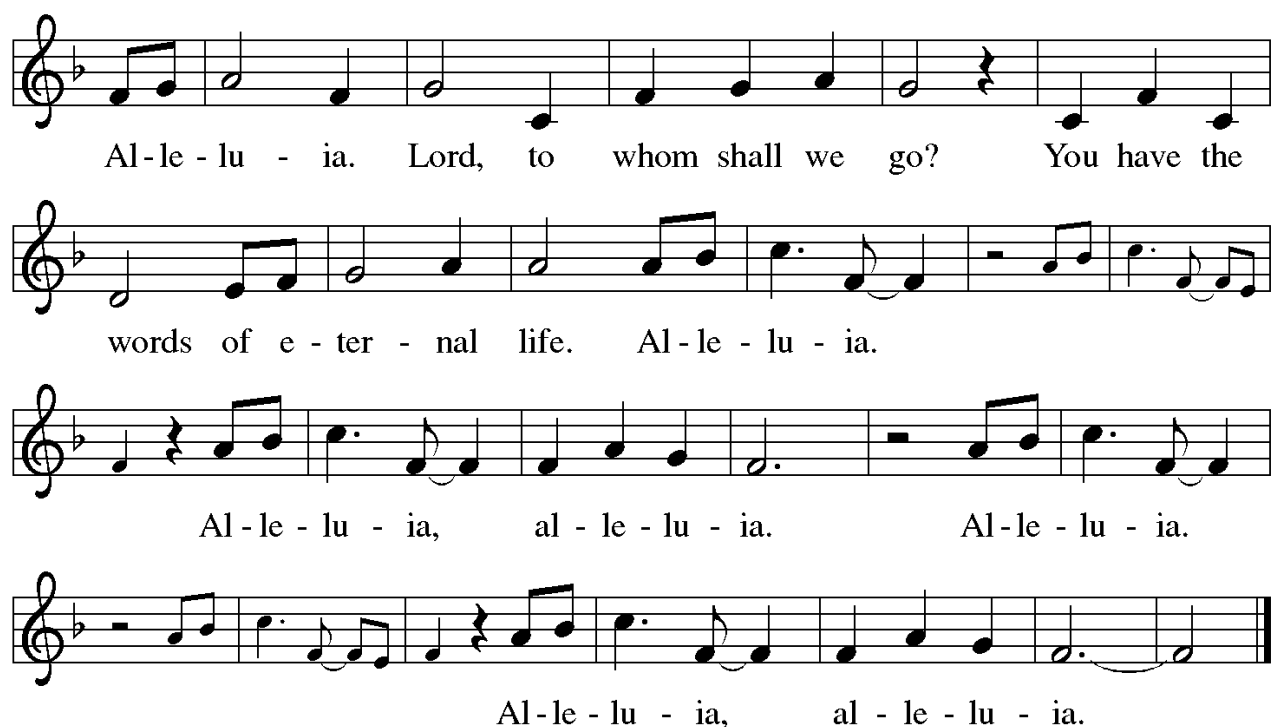
A reading from 1 Corinthians.

Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe. 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: Luke 5:1-11

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

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

P Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets." When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people." When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him. The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Here I Am, Lord* (ELW 574)



1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky,	I have heard my peo - ple cry.
2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain,	I have borne my peo - ple's pain.
3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame,	I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin	my hand will save.
I have wept for love of them.	They turn a - way.
I will set a feast for them.	My hand will save.



I, who made the stars of night,	I will make their dark-ness bright.
I will break their hearts of stone,	give them hearts for love a - lone.
Fin-est bread I will pro-vide	till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?"
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?"



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

APOSTLES' 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 God of surprising abundance, you call your people to enter deeply into the world. Equip us to respond to your call, gather up what we have, and offer it to all. God of grace, **C hear our prayer.**

A Open the hearts of all leaders, especially those who serve in the armed forces, that they respond to their commission with wisdom and patience. Ensure that all who serve

are kept safe in body, mind, and spirit. We pray for an end to all war and armed conflict. God of grace, **C hear our prayer.**

A Fill with your compassionate presence all who are suffering from addiction, mental illness, injury, or illness of any kind. Draw helpers to their side so that they find relief from their burdens. God of grace, **C hear our prayer.**

A Call our faith communities to do marvelous things. Bless the labor and efforts of this congregation, that we may be a sign of your presence in the world. God of grace, **C hear our prayer.**

A We thank you for those who have courageously gone before us in the faith. May we too show a deep trust in you throughout our lives. 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

Doris Shurman 2/14

Mason Griffin 2/14

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: *Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness* (ELW 843)



- 1 Praise the One who breaks the dark-ness with a lib - er - at - ing light;
- 2 Praise the One who blessed the chil-dren with a strong yet gen-tle word;
- 3 Praise the one true love in - car - nate: Christ, who suf-fered in our place;



praise the One who frees the pris-'ners, turn-ing blind-ness in - to sight.
praise the One who drove out de - mons with a pierc-ing, two-edged sword.
Je - sus died and rose for man - y that we may know God by grace.



Praise the One who preached the gos - pel, heal-ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease,
Praise the One who brings cool wa - ter to the des-ert's burn-ing sand;
Let us sing for joy and glad-ness, see-ing what our God has done.



calm-ing storms and feed - ing thou-sands with the ver - y bread of peace.
from this well comes liv - ing wa - ter quench-ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
Praise the one re - deem-ing glo - ry; praise the One who makes us one.

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. 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 -
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 Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, 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.

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: *You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore* (ELW 817)




1 Tú has ve - ni - do a la_o - ri - lla, no has bus -
1 You have come down to the lake - shore seek - ing
2 You know full well what I have, Lord: nei - ther
3 You need my hands, my ex - haus - tion, work - ing
4 You who have fished oth - er wa - ters; you, the

ca - do ni_a sa - bios ni_a ri - cos; tan só - lo
nei - ther the wise nor the wealth - y, but on - ly
trea - sure nor wea - pons for con - quest, just these my
love for the rest of the wea - ry— a love that's
long - ing of souls that are yearn - ing: O lov - ing




quie - res que yo te si - ga.
 ask - ing for me to fol - low.
 fish nets and will for work - ing.
 will - ing to go on lov - ing.
 Friend, you have come to call me.

Refrain / Estribillo



Se - ñor, me has mi - ra - do a los o - jos; son - ri - en - do,
 Sweet Lord, you have looked in - to my eyes; kind-ly smil - ing,



has di - cho mi nom-bre. En la a-re - na he de - ja - do mi
 you've called out my name. . . . On the sand I have a-ban-doned my



bar - ca; jun-to a ti bus-ca - ré o - tro mar.
 small boat; now with you, I will seek oth-er seas.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Let us pray. Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ, we pray,

C Amen.

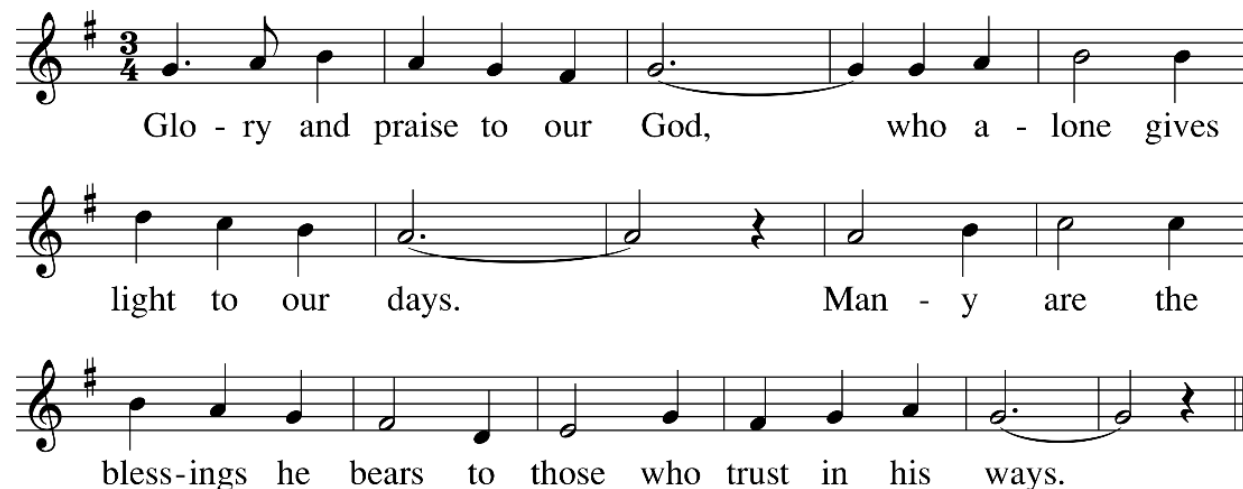
+SENDING+

BLESSING

P The Spirit of the triune God ☩ bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love. C Amen.

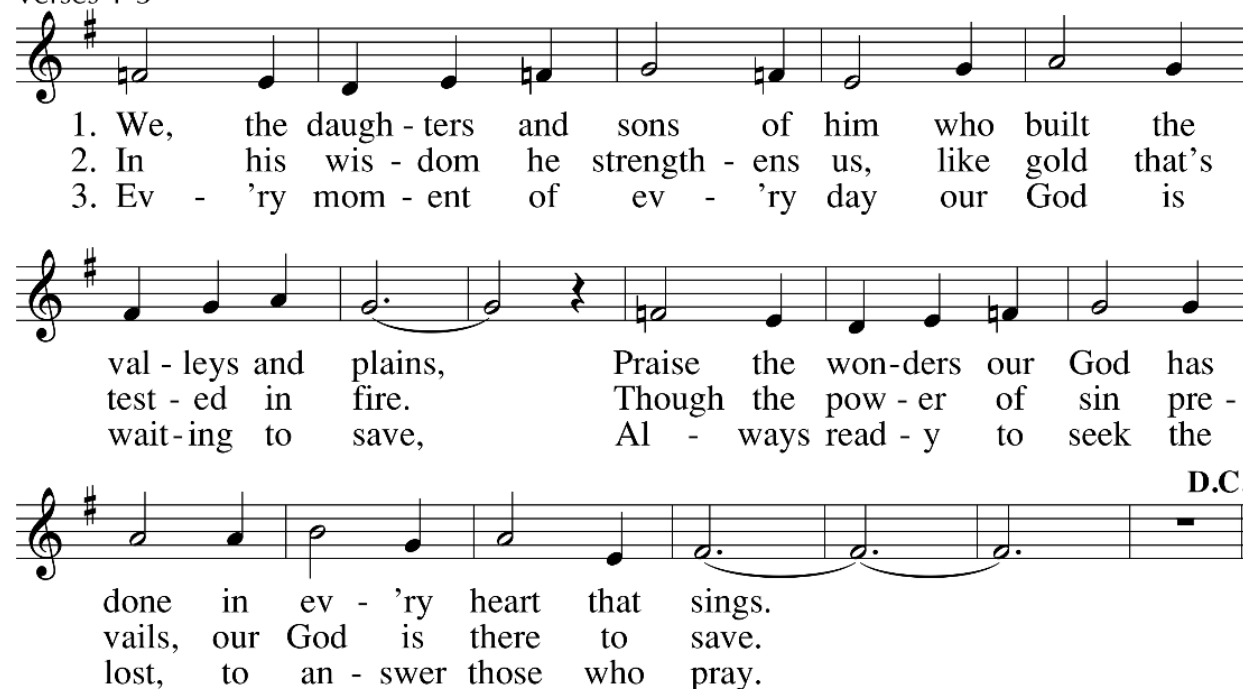
SENDING SONG: *Glory and Praise to our God* by Dan Schutte vv.1-3

Refrain



Glo - ry and praise to our God, who a - lone gives
light to our days. Man - y are the
bless-ings he bears to those who trust in his ways.

Verses 1-3



1. We, the daugh - ters and sons of him who built the
2. In his wis - dom he strength - ens us, like gold that's
3. Ev - 'ry mom - ent of ev - 'ry day our God is
val - leys and plains, Praise the won - ders our God has
test - ed in fire. Though the pow - er of sin pre -
wait - ing to save, Al - ways read - y to seek the
done in ev - 'ry heart that sings.
vails, our God is there to save.
lost, to an - swer those who pray.

D.C.

Verse 4



4. God has wa - tered our bar - ren land and spent his
mer - ci - ful rain. Now the riv - ers of life run
full for an - y - one to drink.

D.C.

DISMISSAL

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

Upcoming Commemorations

**Cyril, monk, died 869; Methodius, bishop, died 885; missionaries to the Slavs ~
Friday, February 14, 2025**

These two brothers from Thessalonika, Greece, were monks and were sent to bring Christianity to the Slavic people. In the course of their work they created a written language, inventing the Cyrillic alphabet for it, and translated the Bible and the liturgy.

Announcements for the week of *February 9, 2025*



Gail Agarenzo 2/1
Gina Humann 2/1
Doris Shurman 2/14
Mason Griffin 2/14
Christel LaVorgna 2/24
Allison Agarenzo 2/27

~ Welcome Pastor Nale and thank you for leading us in worship this morning.

~ It's Superbowl Sunday! Every year here at St. Stephen's we have our own Superbowl. Each team has a container. Give your donation for the team you're rooting for and one even if you don't care. This year our donations will be given to support the Boys and Girls Club of Hicksville. ~ Joan Hagner

~This year's Synod Assembly is scheduled for May 2-3 at the Melville Marriot. Ideally, 2 lay leaders from each church should attend. We're looking for one volunteer to attend with Barbara Barcavage. Early registration ends on February 11 so please reach out to Barbara or the church office as soon as possible if you're interested.

~ We welcome items for our newsletter but please have them in by Wednesday, February 12th.

~ WELCA will meet at St. David's in Massapequa Park on Wednesday, February 19th. Anyone with questions should reach out to Joyce Anderson at daisyjoyce7@yahoo.com.

~ Donations are needed for Lutheran Social Services. During the months of February and March we will be collecting diapers (both baby and adult sizes) to bring over to LSS. They are in greater need of baby sizes 4, 5, and 6. Thank you in advance for anyone that can help out.

~ Please join us for the coffee hour.

~ 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 (February 10th - February 16th)

Today	Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
	9:30 am Holy Communion
	10:00am H.S.S
Monday	7:00 pm Bible Study
Tuesday	7:00 pm Back to Basics
Wednesday	7:00 pm Back to Basics II
Next Sunday,	Sixth Sunday after Epiphany
	9:30 am Holy Communion

SERVING AT WORSHIP TODAY

Sunday, 9:30 AM

ASSISTING MINISTER:	Jane Ebersberger
LECTOR:	Christel LaVorgna
ACOLYTE:	Gavin Barone
USHERS:	John Musi
ACCOMPANIST	Mason Griffin
GREETER:	Cliare Parrett
AUDIO/VISUAL:	Tyler LaVorgna
ALTAR GUILD:	Beth Feeney & Jane Ebersberger

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
Kevin Barcavage
Dottie Eberhardt
Roger Engert
Rick Mosebach
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)
John Peck (nephew of Christel LaVorgna)
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)
Martina Schmid (former member of the congregation)
John Sheridan (friend of Bob and Nan Maurer)