

# SAINT STEPHENS

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## UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



JULY 20, 2025 | 9:00 AM | SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE OR WHERE YOU ARE ON  
LIFE'S JOURNEY, YOU'RE WELCOME HERE!

## SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

We do not have Sunday School during the summer months. During the Time for All Ages, children will receive a snack and an activity sheet.

Use the bookmarks available to mark the pages for today's hymns. Go through the bulletin with your children and circle the things in which they might be interested (Children's time, hymns, helping with the offering). Mark the bulletin with symbols for when it is time to be quiet and listen, join in the hymn, read a prayer aloud, etc.

**Busy Bags** are available in the church entryway. Quite often, children can absorb what is going on in church if their hands are occupied and their minds do not have to focus so much on "behaving." It takes a great deal of energy and concentration for a child to stay quiet and still. Please use the busy bags to occupy their hands so they are free to listen. Nudge them when it is time for a hymn and ask them to sing along with you. Encourage them to come forward for the *Time for All Ages* and to participate in presenting the offering.

### POINTS TO PONDER PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Richard Rohr:

*We do not think ourselves into new ways of living, we live ourselves into new ways of thinking.*

### Quick and Easy Electronic Giving!!

To give an offering one time to the church, to a special offering, or to set up regular giving, text **"SAINTSTEPHENS" to 73256** to give using your mobile device. This number will never send unsolicited texts to you. To cancel further messages, text STOP. If you need assistance with text giving, text HELP. Standard text message and data rates may apply. **OR Scan the QR Code** to be connected to our website.



### Stay in the loop!

**Sign up for text alerts to stay updated on all upcoming events and church news. To join, text "Join" and your email to 715-255-1232.**

## PRELUDE

### GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the embracing fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Christ is in our midst! How will you bid him welcome?

**We will throw open the doors to our hearts.**

**We will delight in his presence.**

When God shows up, surprising things can happen.

**We will make ourselves ready.**

**We will lay down our burdens and set aside our distractions.**

Here we receive good news: Nothing is too wonderful for God!

**So let us laugh and sing, rest and listen, dance and praise—**

**Let us worship God!**

\*OPENING HYMN      *“God, Speak to Me, That I May Speak”* (vs. 1, 2 & 4)  
Bulletin Pg 6

### \*PASSING THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### TIME FOR ALL AGES

#### LESSON FROM THE EPISTLES

Colossians 1:15-28

<sup>15</sup>He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, <sup>16</sup>for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup>He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. <sup>18</sup>He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. <sup>19</sup>For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, <sup>20</sup>and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

<sup>21</sup>And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, <sup>22</sup>he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him, <sup>23</sup>provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a minister of this gospel.

<sup>24</sup> I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. <sup>25</sup> I became its minister according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, <sup>26</sup> the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. <sup>27</sup> To them God chose to make known how great among the gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. <sup>28</sup> It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

#### THE GOOD NEWS

Luke 10:38-42

Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

This is the Good News. In this truth we find eternal life.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### MESSAGE

### ***ORDER FOR THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM***

#### INTRODUCTION

\*HYMN OF THE DAY

*"As I Descend in the Waters"*

Bulletin Pg 7

#### QUESTIONS FOR THE PARENTS AND SPONSORS

#### CONGREGATIONAL ASSENT

Jesus Christ calls us to make disciples of all nations and to offer them the gift of grace in baptism. Do you, who witness and celebrate this sacrament, promise your love, support, and care to Scarlett as she lives and grows in Christ?

**We promise our love, support, and care.**

#### PRAYER OVER THE WATER

#### ACT OF BAPTISM

#### PRESENTATION

*"I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry"*

#75

#### PRAYER FOR THE BAPTIZED

#### PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES, CANDLE & SHELL

BENEDICTION

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

MISSION FOCUS

Back Bay Mission Trip

CALL TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

\*PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

*"God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending"* vs. 2

#606

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Holy Spirit of God,

**We bring our gifts to your altar and place them into your care.**

**Use them for your work through this congregation.**

**In Jesus' name we pray.**

**Amen.**

\*OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

\*CLOSING HYMN

*"Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult"*  
(vs. 1, 3 & 5)

#357

\*BENEDICTION

As our worship service ends, our worship through service begins anew.

May God our Creator who crowns each of us with glory and honor,

Christ Jesus who bears our pain and shows us the Way,

And the Holy Spirit who gives us light and life,

Go with you and fill you with strength, courage, hope, and love.

**Amen.**

Go in peace. Share the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

\*RESPONSE

*"Let Us Now Depart in Thy Peace"*

#444

Words and Music: New Mexican folk song; adapt. Lee Hastings Bristol, 1961

Adaptation © 1961 Concordia Publishing House

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**Let us now depart in thy peace, blessed Jesus.**

**Send us to our homes with God's love in our hearts.**

**Let not the busy world claim all our loyalties.**

**Keep us ever mindful, dear Lord, of thee. Amen.**

POSTLUDE



# 114 Cuando desciendo a las aguas

*As I Descend in the Waters*

$\text{♩} = 146$  Bm7 D/A G D Em7 Em/A A Em/D D

Em/A A D Em7 A7 D

Cuan - do des - cien-do a las a - guas  
As I de - scend in the wa - ters,

Em7 A7 Em7 A7sus

sien-to un po - der que me e - le - va, y por Tu gra - cia di - vi -  
I feel your pow-er up - lift me, and through your grace flow-ing round

A7 Em A7 D

-na a - ho - ra soy cria - tu ra nue - va.  
me, I now have be - come a new be - ing.

Em A7 D

Cuan - do des - cien-do a las a - guas sien - to un  
As I de - scend in the wa - ters, my heart is

Em7 A7 Em7

gran re - go - ci - jo. Tú das a - lien - to a mi  
filled with re - joic - ing; in - to my soul you breathe

A7(9)sus A7 Em A7 D

al - ma; Tu es - pí - ri - tu es - tá con - mi - go.  
new life, Your Spir - it now lives with - in me.

Bm Bm/A G D/F#

Cuan - do des - cien - do a las a - guas,  
As I de - scend in the wa - ters,

Em7 G/F# D/G A7sus A7 Em/D D

sé que Je - sús me a - ma.  
I know that Je - sus loves me.

## THANK YOU!

**Musicians** today are Darlene Johnson and Tiffany Bucheger.

**Livestream** is sponsored by Mike & Sue Kunkel in honor of our granddaughter, Amara Lazare, for her many blessings throughout the year.

**Technical Director:** Jody Meyer

The family of Saint Stephens celebrates the baptism of Scarlett Mae Leistikow as she begins her Christian journey among us!



**Next Week Worship will  
be held at Kitchenette  
Park at 9 AM! Please  
join us for fellowship  
and fun and sign up on  
kiosk to bring a dish to  
pass!**



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## DINNER @ FIVE



A COMMUNITY TABLE AT SAINT STEPHENS

Dinner at 5 on will resume tomorrow! The elevator will still not be in use but our dinner will be safely delivered to those in the Kuck Lounge who cannot make it down to the Fellowship Hall for any reason. Thank you