# May 19, 2024 Pentecost Sunday



\*Congregation is invited to stand as able

Please be aware that video cameras are in use during our hybrid (combined) Worship Service and that images are being shared with the online participants.

You can receive our weekly email/letter with events and information, ways to grow in faith, opportunities for service and worship, as well as ways to support the ministry of the congregation by submitting your email address to <a href="mailto:office@ststephenlc.org">office@ststephenlc.org</a> or by calling the office at 717-766-2168 and providing your email and/or your mailing address.

Fifty days after Easter, we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. Crossing all boundaries that would separate us, the Spirit brings the wideness of God's mercy to places we least expect it—to a crowd of strangers of different lands and tongues, to dry bones, to our weak hearts. Jesus promises his disciples that they will be accompanied by the Holy Spirit, and that this Spirit reveals the truth. We celebrate that we too have been visited with this same Spirit. Guided by the truth, we join together in worship, and then disperse to share the fullness of Christ's love with the world.

#### **Announcements**

#### **Our Mission**

We respond to Christ's love by feeding those who hunger in body, mind, and spirit.

# **Prelude**

## Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

# \*Thanksgiving for Baptism

Blessed be the holy Trinity,  $\oplus$  one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy. **Amen.** 

Look, here is water! Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water! Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.** 

Look, here is water! Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

- 1 Come down, O Love divine; seek thou this soul of mine and visit it with thine own ardor glowing; O Comforter, draw near; within my heart appear and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.
- Oh, let it freely burn, till worldly passions turn to dust and ashes in its heat consuming; and let thy glorious light shine ever on my sight, and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.
- 3 Let holy charity mine outward vesture be, and lowliness become mine inner clothing-true lowliness of heart, which takes the humbler part, and o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.
- 4 And so the yearning strong, with which the soul will long, shall far outpass the pow'r of human telling; no soul can guess Love's grace till it become the place wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.

Text: Bianco da Siena, d. 1434; tr. Richard F. Littledale, 1833-1890

#### \*Apostolic Greeting

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

# \*Kyrie (Cantor)



#### \*Canticle of Praise



- 1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for ev er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho-ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth: Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove; Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise. on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand. Je-sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa-ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise. Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand. For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

# \*Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Mighty God, you breathe life into our bones, and your Spirit brings truth to the world. Send us this Spirit, transform us by your truth, and give us language to proclaim your gospel, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

## Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

# The First Lesson (Lector)

Acts 2:1-21

Originally Pentecost was a Jewish thanksgiving-type festival celebrated seven weeks after Passover. On this particular Pentecost, however, the Holy Spirit is poured out upon the entire community of believers just as Jesus had promised and the scriptures had prophesied. Empowered by the Spirit, the entire community bears witness to God's activity in multiple languages.

A reading from the book of the Acts of the Apostles, the 2nd chapter

<sup>1</sup>When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup>And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup>Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. <sup>4</sup>All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

<sup>5</sup>Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup>And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. <sup>7</sup>Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? <sup>8</sup>And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? <sup>9</sup>Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup>Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, <sup>11</sup>Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." <sup>12</sup>All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" <sup>13</sup>But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

<sup>14</sup>But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. <sup>15</sup>Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. <sup>16</sup>No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.

18 Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy.

19 And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

20 The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

21 Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'"

Word of God. Word of Life. Thanks be to God.

Psalm (Cantor) Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

<sup>24</sup>How manifold are your <sup>1</sup> works, O LORD! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full <sup>1</sup> of your creatures. <sup>25</sup>Yonder is the sea, great and wide, with its swarms too man- <sup>1</sup> y to number, living things both small and great. <sup>26</sup>There go the ships I to and fro, and Leviathan, which you made for the I sport of it. <sup>27</sup>All of them | look to you to give them their food in due season. <sup>28</sup>You give it to them; they | gather it; you open your hand, and they are filled I with good things. <sup>29</sup>When you hide your face, <sup>1</sup> they are terrified; when you take away their breath, they die and return | to their dust. <sup>30</sup>You send forth your Spirit, and they <sup>1</sup> are created; and so you renew the face of the earth. <sup>31</sup>May the glory of the LORD en- | dure forever; O LORD, rejoice in | all your works. <sup>32</sup>You look at the earth I and it trembles; you touch the mountains | and they smoke. <sup>33</sup>I will sing to the LORD as long | as I live; I will praise my God while I have my being. <sup>34</sup>May these words of <sup>I</sup> mine please God. I will rejoice I in the LORD. <sup>35b</sup>Bless the LORD, <sup>|</sup> O my soul. Hal- | lelujah!

# The Second Lesson (Lector)

Romans 8:22-27

By pouring the Holy Spirit into our hearts, God gives us the promised first fruit of eternal life so that we await God's future in hope. In the meantime, the Spirit also intercedes for us by carrying the prayers of our weak human hearts to God.

A reading from St. Paul's epistle to the Romans, the 8th chapter.

<sup>22</sup>We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; <sup>23</sup>and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. <sup>24</sup>For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? <sup>25</sup>But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

<sup>26</sup>Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. <sup>27</sup>And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

Word of God. Word of Life. Thanks be to God.

## \*Gospel Acclamation



# \*Gospel Reading

John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

While speaking to his disciples before his death, Jesus refers to the Holy Spirit as "the Helper" and describes the difference the Spirit will make in their lives and in the world.

A reading from the Gospel according to St. John, the 15th chapter. Glory to You O Lord.

[Jesus said,] <sup>26</sup>"When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. <sup>27</sup>You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.

<sup>16:4b</sup>"I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. <sup>5</sup>But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' <sup>6</sup>But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. <sup>7</sup>Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. <sup>8</sup>And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: <sup>9</sup>about sin, because they do not believe in me; <sup>10</sup>about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; <sup>11</sup>about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

<sup>12</sup>"I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. <sup>13</sup>When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. <sup>14</sup>He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. <sup>15</sup>All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you."

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to You O Christ.

Sermon Rev. Joel Petruschke

<u>\*Hymn of the Day</u> "O Spirit of Life" Hymn#405

- O Spirit of life, O Spirit of God, in ev'ry need you bring us aid, proceeding forth from heaven's throne, from God, the Father and the Son; O Spirit of life, O Spirit of God.
- O Spirit of life, O Spirit of God, increase our faith in our dear Lord; unless your grace the power should give, none can believe in Christ and live; O Spirit of life, O Spirit of God.
- 3 O Spirit of life, O Spirit of God, make us to love your sacred word; the holy flame of love impart, that charity may warm each heart; O Spirit of life, O Spirit of God.
- 4 O Spirit of life, O Spirit of God, enlighten us by that same word; teach us to know God's radiant love, lead us to Christ who reigns above; O Spirit of life, O Spirit of God.

Text: Johann Niedling, 1602-1668; tr. John C. Mattes, 1876-1948, alt.

# \*Sacrament of Holy Baptism

#### **PRESENTATION**

The candidate for baptism, sponsor, and parents gather with the minister at the font.

P: In baptism our gracious heavenly Father frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church, the body of Christ. Living with Christ and in the communion of saints, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

The sponsor presents the candidate.

I present Jameson Sloan for baptism.

The presiding minister addresses the candidate who is able to answer for himself:

Jameson Sloan, called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to be baptized into Christ?

The candidate responds: I do.

The presiding minister addresses the assembly:

People of God, do you promise to support *Jameson* and pray for him in his new life in Christ? **We do.** 

#### The assembly stands.

#### PROFESSION OF FAITH

The presiding minister addresses the candidate for baptism. The assembly may join in the responses.

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church. Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

#### Response:

I renounce them.

The presiding minister addresses the candidate and the assembly.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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.

#### THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

At the font, the presiding minister begins the thanksgiving:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

#### **BAPTISM**

The presiding minister baptizes the candidate. . .

Jameson Sloan, I baptize you in the name of the Father, (water is poured on the candidate's head.)

and of the Son, (water is poured on the candidate's head a second time.)

and of the Holy Spirit. (water is poured on the candidate's head a third time.)

Amen.

Blessed be God, the source of all life, the word of salvation, the spirit of mercy.

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your child new birth, cleanse him from sin, and raise him to eternal life.

Laying both hands on the head of the newly baptized, the minister prays:

Sustain Jameson with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Amen.

The presiding minister marks the sign of the cross on the forehead of the baptized. Oil prepared for this purpose may be used. As the sign of the cross is made, the minister says:

Jameson Sloan, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Amen.

#### WELCOME

A lighted candle may be given to the newly baptized as a representative of the congregation says:

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

The minister and the baptismal group face the assembly. A representative of the congregation leads the assembly in the welcome.

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: We respond to Christ's love by feeding those who hunger in body, mind, and spirit.

Join us in giving thanks and praise to God

and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

The congregation may show a sign of its welcome to the newly baptized.

#### \*Prayers of Intercession

Congregational response after each petition:

AM: ...God of Grace. C: Hear our prayer.

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church universal, for its ministries, and for the spread of the gospel. Shower your Spirit upon Sunday school students, confirmands, and the newly baptized (*especially*). God of grace, **hear our prayer**.

For the earth, our precious home. We give thanks for the diversity of plant and animal life on our planet. Empower us by your Spirit to be wise and faithful stewards of all you have made. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

For the nations and those who govern. Give those in authority understanding hearts, that they work together to bring justice and peace on earth. Grant all who vote in elections wisdom and discernment. God of grace, hear our prayer.

For those in need around the world: for victims of crimes, for victims of sexual abuse and exploitation, for those who are incarcerated. For all who suffer in any way. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

For this congregation and its ministries: for those who plan and lead worship, for acolytes and communion servers, for readers and tech ministers, for all who prepare and clean our worship space. May our worship be pleasing in your sight. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

We remember the faithful departed. Give us thankful hearts for those who have gone before us in the faith. At the last day, breathe new life into our dry bones, that we might feast forever with all the saints in light. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **Amen.** 

#### \*Peace

P: The Peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us show a sign of that peace!

#### Offering

(Please refer to the back of the bulletin for various options to give.)

The offering, whether in person or through digital means, is an act of worship. Worship, at its core, is a reverent love and devotion accorded to God. We give because God loves us first, and we are called to love God and neighbor as a result. The offering is one way we show our love of God.

The offerings are used to carry out the ministry of the church, to share the Good News, to provide pastoral care, to worship as a community, and to create an environment where Jesus encounters people and their lives are transformed. All of these things continue to take place. Thank you for your generosity.

#### **Anthem**

# \*Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711

#### \*Offertory Prayer

Let us pray.

Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. **Amen.** 

#### Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ. (Zoom participants—please prepare your elements for communion.)

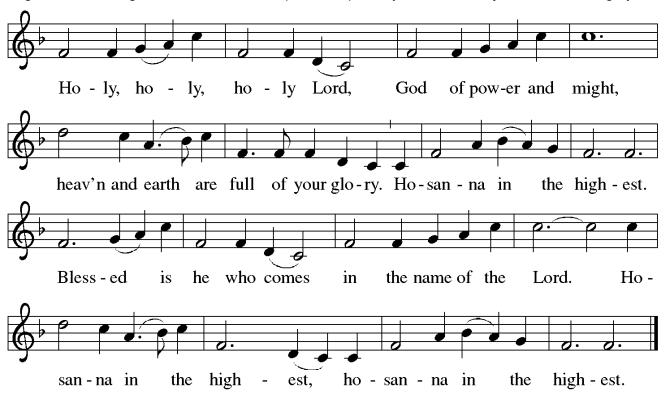
# \*The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

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

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. Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection, you pour out the fire of your Spirit, uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age. Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night in which he was handed over, 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.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

#### Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

# Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

# Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. **Amen.** 

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

#### \*Invitation to Communion

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

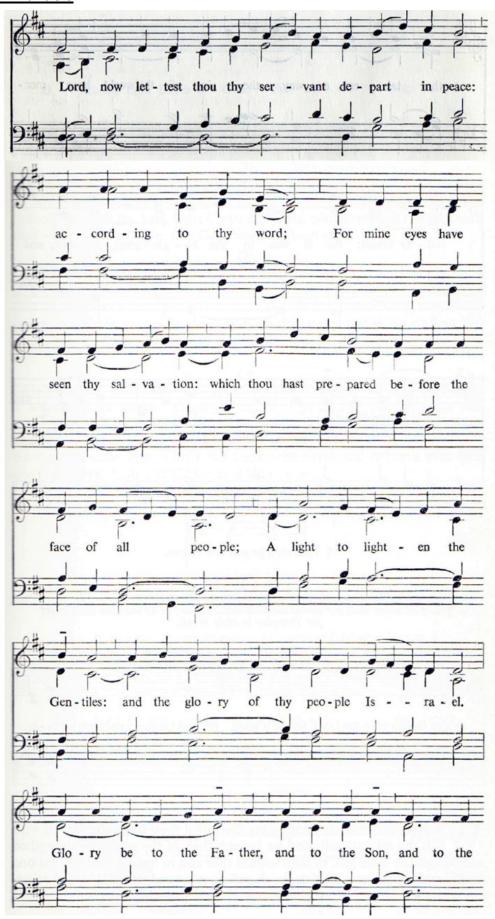


#### \*Communion of the Faithful

#### \*Post Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in His grace. Amen

# \*Post Communion Canticle





# \*Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

Shepherding God,

you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. **Amen.** 

# Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

#### \*Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and  $\oplus$  give you peace. **Amen.** 

# \*Sending Hymn

"God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind"

Hymn#400

- 1 God of tempest, God of whirlwind, as on Pentecost descend! Drive us out from sheltered comfort; past these walls your people send! Sweep us into costly service, there with Christ to bear the cross, there with Christ to bear the cross!
- 2 God of blazing, God of burning, all that blocks your purpose, purge! Through your church, Christ's living Body, let your flaming Spirit surge! Where deceit conceals injustice, kindle us to speak your truth, kindle us to speak your truth!
- 3 God of earthquake, God of thunder, shake us loose from lethargy! Break the chains of sin asunder, for earth's healing set us free! Crumble walls that still divide us; make us one in Christ our Lord, make us one in Christ our Lord!

4 God of passion, God unsleeping, stir in us love's restlessness!
Where the people cry in anguish, may we share your heart's distress.
Rouse us from content with evil; claim us for your kingdom's work, claim us for your kingdom's work!

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923

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#### Dismissal

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad. Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

#### **Postlude**

We thank our choir members and worship helpers who served today.

There are several ways to make your offering:

Go to www.StStephenLC.org and click on the DONATE button (or the Giving tab for more options.)

Text your offering dollar amount to 717-685-6947. Text "help" for options.

Set up regular electronic offerings by contacting our office manager, at 717-766- 2168, Monday through Thursday from 9am – 2pm, or by email at office@StStephenLC.org.

Mail in your check, made payable to St. Stephen Lutheran Church. Our address is:

30 W. Main St., PO Box 266, New Kingstown, PA 17072.

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