

Worship Assistants

This Week

Assisting Minister	Mary Beth Tolley
Coffee Hour	_____
Communion Asst.	Kathy Robinson
Lector	Mary Beth Tolley
Organist/Pianist	Delores Kessel
Preaching/Presiding	Pastor Karoline Schwantes
Projection	Shauna Robinson
Special Music	Combined Vocal Choir
Usher	Darrin Koehler
Video	Lydia Lenoble

Next Week

Kathy Robinson

Jim Von Rueden
Sarah Lonsdorf
Phil Giese
Pastor Karoline Schwantes
Arianna Andersen

Lloyd Zimmel
Samantha Andersen

Staff

Pastor	Karoline Schwantes
Administrative Assistant	Nancy Henke
Assistant Treasurer	Bill Dunker
Worship Service Custodian	Dave Skola
Worship Service Custodian	Mary Beth Tolley
Worship Service Custodian	Gail Wolfe
Cleaning Custodian	Michelle Pregont
Maintenance Custodian	Cecil Wold

Music Staff

Director of Music	Delores Kessel
Head Organist	Beth Lind
Director of Combined Adult Choir	Jim Lenselink
Director of Bell Choir	Darlene Johnson

Executive Committee

Pastor	Karoline Schwantes: prkaroline@sslcwausau.com
Past President	Lloyd Zimmel: wzimmer@gmail.com
Council President	Kathy Robinson: krobinson91063@gmail.com
Council Vice President	Sue Holster: sueholster@gmail.com
Treasurer	Verlyn Oelke: verlynoelke@gmail.com
Secretary	Vicki Romang: vicki.romang.sslc@gmail.com



St. Stephen Lutheran Church

512 McClellan Street
Wausau, Wisconsin 54403-4882
715-845-7858

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 19, 2023

Welcome to worship in Jesus's name! We hope that you will hear a word of encouragement during this service which will convey the fullness of God's love for you.

At St. Stephen, all are welcome at the Lord's Table! Ushers will lead you forward for communion at the rail. Grape juice is offered in the center ring of the tray at the rail, and gluten free wafers are also available at the rail if you desire that option.

The Prelude

RINGING of the BELLS

Please **STAND** for the **HYMN**

Processional Hymn: *God, Whose Almighty Word* #673

Announcement of **MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES**

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS (stand, sit, or kneel as you feel comfortable)

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace. **Amen.**

Let us acknowledge before God and one another our need for repentance and God's mercy.

Holy God, we confess to you our faults and failings. Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word; we take for ourselves instead of giving to others; we spoil rather than steward your creation; we cause hurt though you call us to heal; we choose fear over compassion. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, as we seek to follow in your way of life. **Amen.**

Hear the good news: God so loved the world that God gave his only Son, so that all may receive life. This promise is for you! God embraces you with divine mercy, forgives you in Christ's name, and revives you in the Spirit's power. **Amen.**

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

Hymnal pg. 138

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The congregation is **SEATED**

COMBINED VOCAL CHOIR

"Tune Our Hearts to Sing"

FIRST LESSON (Pew Bible pg. 226)

1 Samuel 16:1-13

PSALM (read responsively) (Pew Bible pg. 435)

Psalm 23

SECOND LESSON (Pew Bible pg. 951)

Ephesians 5:8-14

LENTEN GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (please stand)

Hymnal pg. 142

GOSPEL LESSON (Pew Bible pg. 871)

John 9:1-41

THIS WEEK AT ST. STEPHEN CHURCH

Sunday, March 19th	9:00 am 12:00 pm 12:00 pm 7:00 pm	Worship Worship Telecast on Spectrum Channel 980 Worship Telecast on TDS Channel 14 AA
Monday, March 20th	3:00 pm 5:30 pm 6:30 pm 7:00 pm	Worship Telecast on Spectrum Channel 980 Bell Choir Property Committee Mtg. Dartball
Tuesday, March 21st	10:00 am 10:30 pm	Worship Telecast on Spectrum Channel 980 Worship Telecast on Spectrum Channel 980
Wednesday, March 22nd	12:15 pm 5:30 pm 6:30 pm 7:00 pm	Mid-Week Lenten Soup Service @ SSLC Soup Supper @ Pilgrim Mid-Week Lenten Service @ Pilgrim Combined Choir Practice
Thursday, March 23rd	8:30 am 6:00 pm	Quilting Al-Anon
Sunday, March 26th	9:00 am 12:00 pm 12:00 pm 7:00 pm	Worship Worship Telecast on Spectrum Channel 980 Worship Telecast on TDS Channel 14 AA

St. Stephen Weekly

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 19th, 2023

On Wednesday, March 8th, 24 people attended the 12:15 pm Lenten Service. On Sunday, March 12th, 37 people attended the 9am Worship Service.

Thank-you! Thank-you! The food drive for Peyton's Promise was a success. We were expecting around 4 boxes of supplies, but we ended up with 6 boxes plus numerous bags as well as packages of larger items. It was a good thing that they drove a Suburban to pick up our donations! The Angels are so grateful for your willingness to donate to this organization that helps so many and is encouraging local youth to take part in sharing and volunteering.

Lent/Holy Week—Mid-week Lenten Soup Services will be held at St. Stephen at 12:15pm in the Downstairs Auditorium and at Pilgrim at 6:30pm with a Soup Supper at 5:30pm. **If you are interested in helping set-up, clean-up, and/or make soup, bread, or dessert for the 12:15pm service at St. Stephen, there is a sign-up sheet on the counter in the reception area.** On Palm Sunday, April 2nd, St. Stephen and Pilgrim will each have their own separate services. Ours will be at 9am. On Maundy Thursday, April 6th, there will be a Potluck Supper at Pilgrim at 5:30pm and St. Stephen members are invited as guests. It will be held in the Fellowship Hall. There will a worship service at Pilgrim following the potluck at 6:30pm. On Good Friday, April 7th there will be a service at St. Stephen at 12:15pm and a service at Pilgrim at 6:30pm. And on Easter Sunday, April 9th there will be a service at St. Stephen at 8:30am and a service at Pilgrim at 10:30am. The change in service times for Easter Sunday is to allow the choir to sing at both churches.

If you are interested in hosting Coffee Hour (or just bringing in treats) there is a sign-up sheet is on the table in the lounge.

2022 contribution statements are still available. You can receive one by completing a form available in the back of the church and by the church office. If you prefer, you can email Bill Dunker at bdunker@sslwcausau.com and give the following information: name, address, and envelope number (if you know it). If you do not have email, you can call the church office at 715-845-7858 to request a form. You can indicate that you want a tax statement and just give your name. Completed forms can be mailed in, dropped off at the office, or put in with the offering. Tax statements will be mailed to you. If you have questions, you may call the church office at 715-845-7858.

SERMON

Pastor Karoline Schwantes

Please **STAND** for the **HYMN** of the **DAY**

Hymn of the Day: *Lead Me, Guide Me*

#768

APOSTLES' CREED

We have been made God's people through our baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**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

The Assisting Minister ends each petition with, "Merciful God," the congregational response is, "receive our prayer."

PEACE is shared

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

OFFERING

VOLUNTARY

OFFERTORY HYMN

#885

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

OFFERING PRAYER

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Hymnal pg. 144

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.

SANCTUS

Hymnal pg. 144

COMMUNION

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

LAMB OF GOD

Hymnal pg. 146

Hymn during Communion: *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound* #779

(Eucharistic Ministers may come forward for a communion kit at this time.)

BLESSING

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICTION

Please **STAND** for the **HYMN**

Hymn: *Be Thou My Vision* #793

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve in love.

Thanks be to God.

The Postlude

MARCH 2023 MEMORIALS

In loving memory of Arlene Loeffel

Building Improvement/Maintenance Fund — \$1075

Family & Friends

Banner Fund

In loving memory of Arlene Loeffel –

Sarah Lonsdorf

Building Improvement/Maintenance Fund

In memory of loved ones –

Charlie & Joyce Fromfeld

In loving memory of my Husband, Roger Fust on his March 4th Birthday Anniversary –

Darleen Fust

In loving memory of Arlene Loeffel –

Deanne Kimbel

Current Expense Fund

In loving memory of Jerry Preller and Perry Barr –

Kay Preller

In loving memory of Robert Abt –

Ben & Peggy Roble

Tuck Pointing Fund

In loving memory of Audrey Ruechel –

Bert and Son, Ron Ruechel

These are memorials received through Monday, March, 13th.

If you would like a memorial placed in the April bulletins and May newsletter, it needs to be to the office by Monday, April 17th. Thank you!