

Worship Assistants

This Week

Assisting Minister Sarah Lonsdorf
Coffee Hour
Communion Asst. Jim Von Rueden
Lector Sarah Lonsdorf
Organist/Pianist Beth Lind
Preaching/Presiding Pastor Karoline Schwantes
Projection Shauna Robinson
Special Music
Usher Lloyd Zimmer
Video Lydia Lenoble

Next Week

Sue Holster

Gail Wolfe
Verlyn Oelke
Delores Kessel
Pastor Karoline Schwantes
Shauna Robinson
Bell Choir
Verlyn Oelke
Lydia Lenoble

Staff

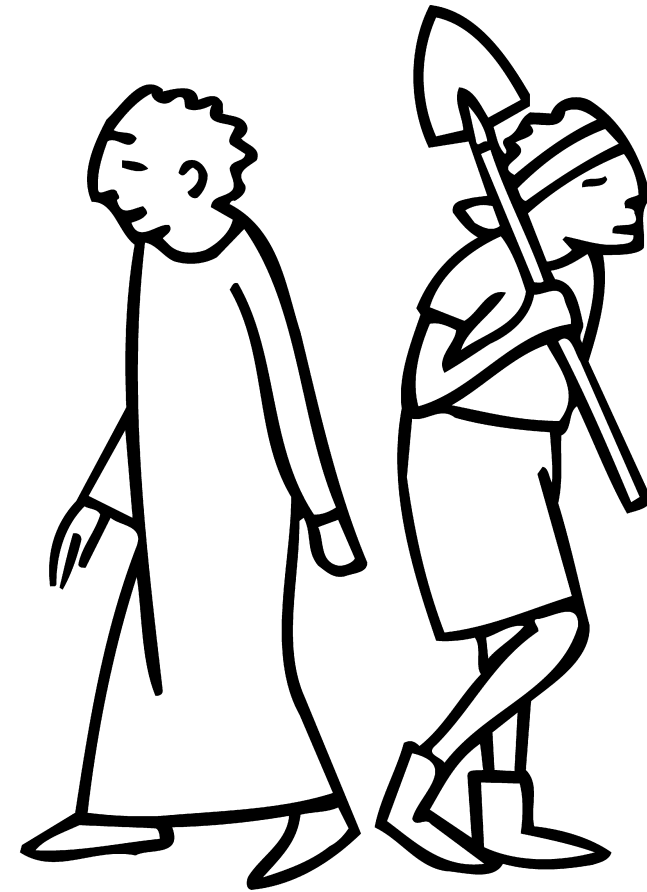
Pastor Karoline Schwantes
Administrative Assistant Nancy Henke
Assistant Treasurer Bill Dunker
Worship Service Custodian Dave Skola
Worship Service Custodian Gail Wolfe
Cleaning Custodian Michelle Pregont
Maintenance Custodian Cecil Wold

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 Zimmer: wlzimmer@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 Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 1, 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 Is Here!* **#526**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be God, the one who forms us, Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete. **Amen.**

Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

Steadfast and faithful God, **you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world’s violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

Beloved in Christ, God’s justice stretches beyond all understanding. God’s compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us. In Christ, you are already and always forgiven. **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.

HYMN OF PRAISE/This is the feast of victory for our God **Hymnal pg. 149**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The congregation is **SEATED**

FIRST LESSON (Pew Bible pg. 685) *Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32*

PSALM (read responsively) (Pew Bible pg. 436) *Psalms 25-1:9*

SECOND LESSON (Pew Bible pg. 954) *Philippians 2:1-13*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (please stand) **Hymnal pg. 151**

GOSPEL LESSON (Pew Bible pg. 802) *Matthew 21:23-32*

SERMON *Pastor Karoline Schwantes*

THIS WEEK AT ST. STEPHEN CHURCH

Sunday, October 1st	9:00 am 12:00 pm 12:00 pm 7:00 pm	Worship/Blessing of the Quilts Worship Telecast on Spectrum Channel 980 Worship Telecast on TDS Channel 14 AA
Monday, October 2nd	11:00 am 3:00 pm 5:30 pm 7:00 pm	Staff Mtg. Worship Telecast on Spectrum Channel 980 Bell Choir Dartball
Tuesday, October 3rd	10:00 am 10:30 pm	Worship Telecast on Spectrum Channel 980 Worship Telecast on Spectrum Channel 980
Wednesday, October 4th	5:30 pm 6:30 pm	Confirmation Combined Choir Practice
Thursday, October 5th	8:30 am 6:00 pm	Quilting Al-Anon
Saturday, October 7th	8:00 am—12:00 pm 9:00 am	LWR Ingathering Stephen’s Angels
Sunday, October 8th	9:00 am 10:15 am 12:00 pm 12:00 pm 7:00 pm	Worship/Whitmore Baptism Trust Fund Committee Mtg. Worship Telecast on Spectrum Channel 980 Worship Telecast on TDS Channel 14 AA

St. Stephen Weekly

The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 1st, 2023

On Sunday, September 24th, 56 people attended our 9am Worship Service.

Coats for Kids—Coats, jackets, hooded sweatshirts, mittens, hats, scarves, snow pants, sweatpants, and socks/ underwear (new in package) will be needed again for the change in weather entering our fall and winter seasons. The Good Stewards Committee is looking for donations of these items to be donated to the Wausau and DC Everest School Districts. There will be a table in the lounge area where you can place clean, gently used, or new items. All sizes are needed (including adult sizes for the older kids). We appreciate anything you are able donate. Questions, please contact Shauna Robinson or Nancy Prigge. Thank you!

A big THANK YOU to everyone who donated items for Lutheran World Relief. We were able to assemble 46 school kits, 53 personal care kits, 7 fabric kits, 6 blankets, and 145 quilts (18 quilts were donated locally). Your generosity makes it possible for others to stay warm, attend school, and maintain dignity.

LWR Ingathering—The kits and mission quilts that are being assembled for Lutheran World Relief from St Stephen and other area churches will be gathered and loaded for shipment on **Saturday, October 7th, from 8 am to noon.** This Ingathering will take place at 143 West Thomas Street just west of the railroad crossing on Thomas Street. St. Stephen has a long, proud history of not only making large numbers of quilts and kits for LWR but also volunteering our time and efforts to make sure these materials get to where they can do the most good. Please plan ahead and **save this date** for helping this great cause. Many hands do make light work! You can contact Verlyn Oelke at 715 359-8274 or 715 551-0546 with any questions.

Confirmation begins on Wednesday, October 4th from 5:30pm until 7pm. We're planning on a similar model as last year, meeting every other week from 5:30pm until 7pm at St. Stephen, and during Advent and Lent meeting weekly at Good Shepherd for worship. If you have a student ready for confirmation, please contact Pastor Karoline.

Mark your calendars, Saturday Crafternoons are back! Bring a craft to work on and have some fellowship on a Saturday afternoon from 1-4pm, October 14th, November 18th, and December 16th.

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.

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

Hymn of the Day: *By Your Hand You Feed Your People*

#469

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

#182

OFFERING PRAYER

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Hymnal pg. 152

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. 153

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. 154

Hymn during Communion: *Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways*

#772

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

BLESSING

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICTION

Announcement of **MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES**

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

Hymn: *What God Ordains Is Good Indeed*

#776

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. God is at work in you.
Thanks be to God.

The Postlude

OCTOBER 2023 MEMORIALS

No memorials were received through Monday, September 25th.

If you would like a memorial placed in the October bulletins and November newsletter, it needs to be to the office by Monday, October 16th. Thank you!