

Worship Assistants

This Week

Assisting Minister Sue Holster
Coffee Hour Linda Salzman/Mary Beth Tolley
Communion Asst. _____
Lector Dick Holster
Organist/Pianist Delores Kessel
Preaching/Presiding Lay Leader Kathy Robinson
Projection Lydia Lenoble
Special Music Combined Choir
Usher Verlyn Oelke
Video Elizabeth Lenoble

Next Week

Kathy Robinson

Ron & Dawn Felch
Kathy Robinson
Beth Lind
Pastor Karoline Schwantes
Shauna Robinson

Darrin Koehler
Lydia Lenoble

Staff

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

Music Staff

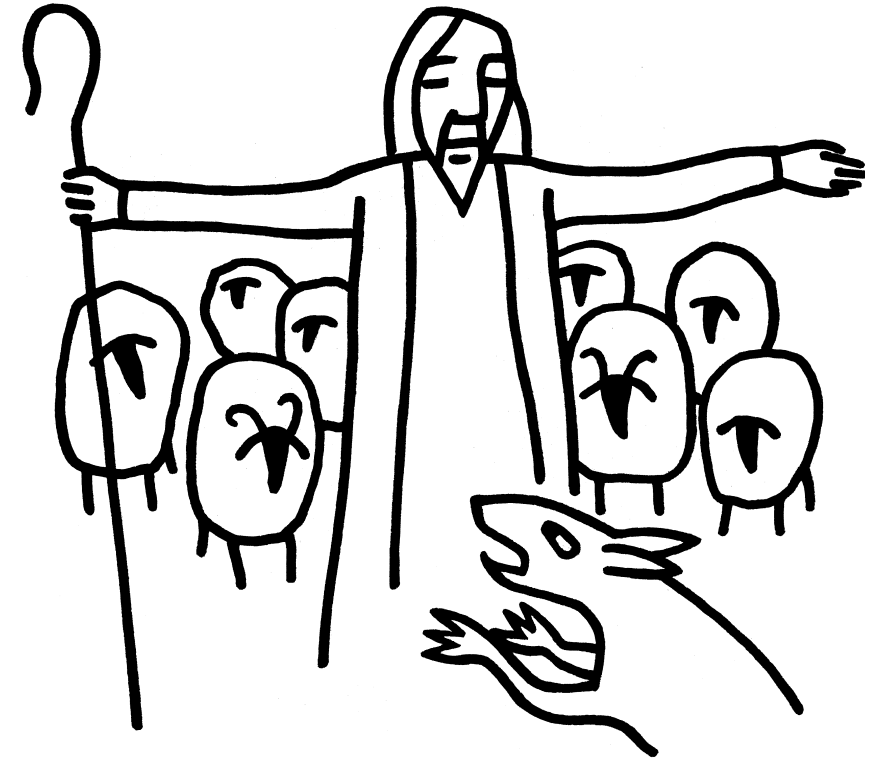
Director of Music Delores Kessel
Director of Combined Adult Choir Jim Lenselink
Director of Bell Choir Darlene Johnson

Executive Committee

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

Website: www.sslwausau.com

Facebook: Wausau St. Stephen Lutheran Church <https://www.facebook.com/wausausslc>



St. Stephen Lutheran Church

512 McClellan Street

Wausau, Wisconsin 54403-4882

715-845-7858

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 21, 2024

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.

Hearing assistance (via our Loop system) is available for those with hearing aids. Head phones are located in the back of the church.

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

THANKSGIVING for BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, 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!**

Please STAND for the HYMN

Hymn: *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!* **#369**

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. 140**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The congregation is SEATED

COMBINED CHOIR *"Touch that Soothes and Heals"*

FIRST LESSON (*Pew Bible pg. 887*) *Acts 4:5-12*

The Good Stewards Committee is asking for food donations for the little free pantry outside of the church. We can use things like canned meat, peanut butter, pasta, hamburger helper, cereal, etc. We just ask that it not be in a glass container or contain carbonation. There are two plastic containers in the chapel area labeled for food donations. If you have any questions feel free to reach out to Shauna Robinson or anyone else on the Good Stewards Committee. Thank you!

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.

Our 2 co-ed bathrooms are located in the hallway by the church office.

THIS WEEK AT ST. STEPHEN CHURCH

Sunday, April 21st	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, April 22nd	3:00 pm 5:30 pm	Worship Telecast on Spectrum Channel 980 Bell Choir
Tuesday, April 23rd	10:00 am 10:30 pm	Worship Telecast on Spectrum Channel 980 Worship Telecast on Spectrum Channel 980
Wednesday, April 24th	6:30 pm	Combined Choir Practice
Thursday, April 25th	8:30 am 6:00 pm 6:30 pm	Quilting Al-Anon Lenten Art Journaling Bible Study
Saturday, April 27th	8:00 am—3:00 pm	Rummage Sale
Sunday, April 28th	8:00 am—11:00 am 9:00 am 12:00 pm 12:00 pm 7:00 pm	Rummage Sale Worship Worship Telecast on Spectrum Channel 980 Worship Telecast on TDS Channel 14 AA

St. Stephen Weekly

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 21st, 2024

On Sunday, April 14th, 50 people attended the 9am Worship Service.

The Wausau Lyric Choir presents their Spring Concert, Harmonies of Her Voice, celebrating women composers, on Sunday, April 21st at 3pm at Wausau East High School. Free will donations will be accepted and welcomed.

The women of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church have invited us to come and share our quilting skills with them on Tuesday, April 23rd from 9am until noon with a coffee break at 10:30am. We hope you are able to attend!

The Church Rummage Sale is Saturday, April 27th and Sunday, April 28th. Have you looked through your storage closets, basements, and garages for any treasures you might want to donate? Wall hangings, lamps, kitchen appliances, office supplies, games, and jewelry are all items we love to see donated. We are especially in need of **BOOKS AND PUZZLES!!!** Remember, no clothes, large furniture, or TV's or DVD's. Thank you! We are also having a bake sale during the rummage sale. If you are interested in donating baked goods, please have them to church on Friday, April 26th by 3pm (you can drop them off in the upstairs kitchen). The Angels will be packaging and pricing on Friday.

The Good Stewards Committee is busy planning the next Community Dinner which will be held on Sunday, April 28th. We are asking congregation members to help out by either baking or buying cookies for us to include with the meals. Please bring the cookies to church with you on Sunday, April 28th. We will have a place in the back of the Sanctuary for you to leave the cookies. We also need volunteers to help prepare and serve the dinner. If you would like to help, there is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the hallway across from the office. If you have any questions, please contact Shauna Robinson. Thanks!

We have been invited to participate in a Shoe Drive to raise funds for youth attending the Youth Gathering in New Orleans. Donations of gently worn, used and new shoes will be accepted. We will be collecting shoes from now until May 2, 2024. For more information, please see the bulletin board near the church office, or ask Pastor Karoline or Shauna Robinson. The donation bin will be outside the church office next to the bulletin board! In the US alone, over 600 million pairs of shoes are thrown away per year. The materials used to manufacture a pair of shoes are created from chemical compounds that will create health hazards if left to disintegrate openly or in landfills. By donating your gently worn, used, and new shoes, your shoes are given a second chance to make a difference. All donated shoes will be redistributed to microenterprise partners through Funds2Orgs, a for profit social enterprise, and used in developing nations for impoverished people to start their own businesses.

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

SECOND LESSON (Pew Bible pg. 990)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (please stand)

GOSPEL LESSON (Pew Bible pg. 872)

SERMON

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

Hymn of the Day: *Shepherd Me, O God*

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, "God of grace," the congregational response is, "**hear our prayer.**"

PEACE is shared

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

OFFERING

COMBINED CHOIR

OFFERTORY HYMN

**Let ev'ry creature rise and bring peculiar honors to our king;
angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud amen.**

Psalm 23

1 John 3:16-24

Hymnal pg. 142

John 10:11-18

Lay Leader Kathy Robinson

#780

"Spirit, Open My Heart"

#434 (verse 5)

OFFERING PRAYER

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.**

BENEDICTION

Announcement of **MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES**

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

Hymn: *God Be with You Till We Meet Again*

#536

DISMISSAL

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

The Postlude

APRIL 2024 MEMORIALS

In loving memory of Jane Stotmeister
Current Expense Fund -- \$312
Family & Friends

Building Improvement and Maintenance Fund

In loving memory of our Mother, Phyliss Ament –
Lyle & Caroline Ament

In loving memory of our Grandma, Jane Stotmeister –
Angel Fremming and Hanna Rhyner

In loving memory of my Husband, Roger on his March 4th Birthday Anniversary and my Sister, Lucille Bedish –
Darleen Fust

In loving memory of Bill Lonsdorf, Lucille Bedish, and Elaine Hoppe –
Shirley Kasten

In loving memory of Lucille Bedish –
Mary Beth Tolley

In loving memory of my Nephew, Kevin Prieve and my Parents, Harold Prieve and Loretta Prieve Lodholz –
Mary Beth Tolley

Current Expense Fund

In loving memory of my Sister, Deb Johnson, who passed away on April 25, 2023 –
Jane Seubert

Seidel Meyer Pastoral Ministry Fund

In loving memory of Harold & Sue Kratwell, Kenneth & Sadie Borth, and Norman & Bertha Zietlow –
Sandy & Ron Borth and Family

World Hunger

In honor of my family members –
Shirley Kasten

These are memorials received through Monday, April 15th. If you would like a memorial placed in the May bulletins and June newsletter, it needs to be to the office by Monday, May 13th. Thank you!