

Worship Assistants

	<u><i>This Week</i></u>	<u><i>Next Week</i></u>
Assisting Minister	Kathy Robinson	Sue Holster
Coffee Hour	Stephen's Angels	_____
Communion Asst.	Ron & Dawn Felch	Darrin Koehler
Lector	Kathy Robinson	Dick Holster
Organist/Pianist	Phil Giese	Beth Lind
Preaching/Presiding	Pastor Karoline Schwantes	Pastor Karoline Schwantes
Projection	Shauna Robinson	Lydia Lenoble
Special Music	_____	_____
Usher	Verlyn Oelke	Darrin Koehler
Video	Elizabeth Lenoble	Elizabeth 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@sslcwausau.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.sslcwausau.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 Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 26, 2025

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. Headphones 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

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life. **Amen.**

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Merciful God, **you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.**

God proclaims these words of assurance: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine." In Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God. **Amen.**

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

Hymn: *Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing* #886

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/Glory to God in the Highest Hymnal pg. 139

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The congregation is **SEATED**

FIRST LESSON (Pew Bible pg. 379) Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

PSALM (read responsively) (Pew Bible pg. 433) Psalm 19

SECOND LESSON (Pew Bible pg. 933) 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (please stand) Hymnal pg. 142

GOSPEL LESSON (Pew Bible pg. 835) Luke 4:14-21

The 3rd Sunday of every month we will have a NOISY OFFERING. Please bring in your coins and lets make some noise! Each week the Noisy Offering will be designated to a local charity.

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 family restrooms are located in the hallway by the church office.

A changing table has been installed in the family restroom that is in the hallway closest to the church office.

THIS WEEK AT ST. STEPHEN CHURCH

Sunday, January 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
Monday, January 27th	3:00 pm 7:00 pm	Worship Telecast on Spectrum Channel 980 Dartball
Tuesday, January 28th	10:00 am 10:30 pm	Worship Telecast on Spectrum Channel 980 Worship Telecast on Spectrum Channel 980
Wednesday, January 29th	5:30 pm 5:30 pm 6:30 pm	Bell Choir Confirmation Choir Practice
Thursday, January 30th	8:30 am 6:00 pm	Quilting Al-Anon
Sunday, February 2nd	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 Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 26th, 2025

On Sunday, January 19th, 48 people attended the 9am Worship Service.

The Annual Meeting of St. Stephen Lutheran Church will be held on Sunday, February 9th, 2025, immediately following worship.

The February newsletter is available for pick up on the counter in the reception area for those of you who do not receive it via email.

A new Grief Share Group will be starting at St. Stephen on February 3rd from 6:30 to 8:30 pm facilitated by Shirley Ostrem and Jane Seubert. Grief Share is a 13 week DVD-based course designed to support and help move people through the grief process. For information, please contact Shirley Ostrem at 715-359-5531 or email sjostrem2113@outlook.com.

We have partnered with Good Shepherd in hosting a Community on Call week at Good Shepherd. The week we are signed up for is February 9th thru the 15th. We need volunteers who are willing to stay overnight if it is activated. It could potentially be done in two shifts, but they need people to make it happen. You **MUST** be 18 years old to volunteer; this is not our rule but the Wausau Police Department for the safety of all involved. Last year it was only activated twice, however this year we have currently been activated three times. It is not a guaranteed need but if you are willing to help and be a body either on call or you can commit, please talk to Shauna or see the sign-up sheet at the front desk. There will be a training session prior to the on-call week.

The Marty Bus is in need of men's size 3x long sleeve shirts, 5x short and long sleeve shirts, and LG, XL and 3X sweatpants and/or thermals. If you can assist in purchasing any of these items or if you have them to donate, please talk to Shauna Robinson. If you would like to make a monetary donation towards purchasing these items, please put a note in the memo line of your check as well as talk to Shauna so the money gets put towards Good Stewards Fund. Thank you!

We have reached the end of the month and the items that have been accumulating for Bridge Street Mission have been growing in number. The table in the back of church will remain through this week for anyone who has decided to donate an item (or 2). The list remains as follows: pillows and zip pillow covers, nail clippers, men's deodorant and lotions, plastic soap boxes, and chap stick. Thank you for your support.

Next Sunday the Angels begin a food drive to help refill the food pantry at First Presbyterian Church (our neighbor). This pantry is open 2 times a month serving 100 families. Canned meats, veggies, or fruits are the items they are most in need of. Also needed are soups, baked beans, instant potatoes and stuffing mixes, cereal (hot & cold) and cake mixes with canned frosting. Please help our neighbors who are in need.

SERMON

Pastor Karoline Schwantes

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

Hymn of the Day: *Let Streams of Living Justice*

#710

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/NOISY OFFERING (3rd Sunday of every month)

VOLUNTARY

OFFERTORY HYMN

#465 (refrain only)

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 (*If you would prefer communion in the pew, please let an usher know.*)

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: *The King of Love My Shepherd Is* #502
(*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: *The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve* #551

DISMISSAL

Go in peace.
Live in hope.
Thanks be to God.

The Postlude

JANUARY 2025 MEMORIALS

Building Improvement and Maintenance Fund

In loving memory of Caroline Kuehl –
Family & Friends

In loving memory of our Son, Brandon Pippenger –
Jay & Patty Pippenger

Capital Campaign

In loving memory of Jerry Hoppe and Ralph Kohnhorst –
Kelly Brown

In memory of loved ones –
Charlie & Joyce Fromfeld

In loving memory of Merritt & Shirley Gleason whose Wedding Anniversary would be on January 28th –
Deb Gleason

In loving memory of my Cousin, Jeff Markstrum –
Mary Beth Tolley

Current Expense Fund

In loving memory of Caroline Kuehl –
Family & Friends

These are the memorials received through Monday, January 13th. If you would like a memorial placed in the February bulletins and March newsletter, it needs to be to the office by Monday, February 17th. Thank you!