

## Worship Assistants

	<u><i>This Week</i></u>	<u><i>Next Week</i></u>
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Sue Holster	Kathy Robinson
<b>Coffee Hour</b>	Stephen's Angels	Stephen's Angels
<b>Communion Asst.</b>	Randy or Kari Van Natta	Vicki Romang
<b>Lector</b>	Sarah Lonsdorf	Kathy Robinson
<b>Organist/Pianist</b>	Delores Kessel	Sharon Hopp
<b>Preaching/Presiding</b>	Pastor Karoline Schwantes	Pastor Karoline Schwantes
<b>Projection</b>	Lydia Lenoble	Shauna Robinson
<b>Special Music</b>	Vocal Choir	
<b>Usher</b>	Verlyn Oelke	Darrin Koehler
<b>Video</b>	Elizabeth Lenoble	Lydia Lenoble

### Staff

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

### Music Staff

<b>Director of Music</b>	Delores Kessel
<b>Director of Combined Adult Choir</b>	Jim Lenselink
<b>Director of Bell Choir</b>	Darlene Johnson

### Executive Committee

<b>Pastor</b>	Karoline Schwantes: <a href="mailto:prkaroline@sslcwausau.com">prkaroline@sslcwausau.com</a>
<b>Past President</b>	Sue Holster: <a href="mailto:sueholster@gmail.com">sueholster@gmail.com</a>
<b>Council President</b>	Dick Holster: <a href="mailto:Dick@Holsterconstruction.com">Dick@Holsterconstruction.com</a>
<b>Council Vice President</b>	Vicki Romang: <a href="mailto:vicki.romang.sslc@gmail.com">vicki.romang.sslc@gmail.com</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Jim Von Rueden: <a href="mailto:vonbaron7@gmail.com">vonbaron7@gmail.com</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	Betsy Utecht: <a href="mailto:emutecht@gmail.com">emutecht@gmail.com</a>
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.sslcwausau.com">www.sslcwausau.com</a>
<b>Facebook:</b>	Wausau St. Stephen Lutheran Church <a href="https://www.facebook.com/wausausslc">https://www.facebook.com/wausausslc</a>



## St. Stephen Lutheran Church

512 McClellan Street

Wausau, Wisconsin 54403-4882

715-845-7858

The Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

February 16, 2025

*Welcome to worship in Jesus' 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: *We Come to the Hungry Feast* #479

**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**

**VOCAL CHOIR**

**FIRST LESSON** (Pew Bible pg. 628) *Jeremiah 17:5-10*

**PSALM** (read responsively) (Pew Bible pg. 424) *Psalms 1*

**SECOND LESSON** (Pew Bible pg. 935) *1 Corinthians 15:12-20*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** (please stand) Hymnal pg. 142

**The 3rd Sunday of every month we will have a NOISY OFFERING.** Please bring in your coins and let's 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, February 16th	9:00 am 10:15 am 12:00 pm 12:00 pm 7:00 pm	Worship Trust Fund Committee Mtg. Worship Telecast on Spectrum Channel 980 Worship Telecast on TDS Channel 14 AA
Monday, February 17th  Presidents' Day	3:00 pm 6:30 pm 6:30 pm 7:00 pm	Worship Telecast on Spectrum Channel 980 Grief Share Property Committee Mtg. Dartball
Tuesday, February 18th	10:00 am 5:00 pm 10:30 pm	Worship Telecast on Spectrum Channel 980 Joint Task Force Mtg. Worship Telecast on Spectrum Channel 980
Wednesday, February 19th	5:30 pm 5:30 pm 6:30 pm	Bell Choir Confirmation Choir Practice
Thursday, February 20th	8:30 am 6:00 pm 6:00 pm	Quilting Al-Anon Special Olympics <b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b>
Sunday, February 23rd	9:00 am 10:15 am 12:00 pm 12:00 pm 7:00 pm	Worship Mtg. with Pastor Cath Mode Worship Telecast on Spectrum Channel 980 Worship Telecast on TDS Channel 14 AA

# St. Stephen Weekly

*The Sixth Sunday after Epiphany*

*February 16th, 2025*

**On Sunday, February 9th**, 56 people attended the 9am Worship Service.

**Today we welcome Elsie Lorraine Zastrow into membership** at St. Stephen Lutheran Church through the sacrament of Holy Baptism. Her parents are David & Elizabeth Zastrow and her sponsors are Jake & Melissa Toldness.

**Pastor Catherine Mode will be here at St. Stephen on Sunday, February 23rd** during the fellowship time after the service. She will be bringing her experience and thoughts about the life cycle of any church and will also be discussing how people adapt to change. Pastor Mode is a retired pastor from the Fox Valley and also has had training and experience seeing congregations through mergers and other divisive times within the life of most any congregation. Good Shepherd, Pilgrim, and St. Stephen (GPS) have all signed up to have Pastor Mode as our "coach" representative from the synod in our discussions of shared ministries. Please plan to be at the fellowship time on February 23rd to hear her common sense approach to our GPS discussions.

**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 more information, please contact Shirley Ostrem at 715-359-5531 or email [sjostrem2113@outlook.com](mailto:sjostrem2113@outlook.com).

**Did you notice the table in back of church?** The Angels are gathering food to refill First Presbyterian's food pantry. There are so many in our community that are struggling to make ends meet (especially during these colder months). Your donations are greatly appreciated. God bless you!

**The Homeless Hygiene Drive will kick off on February 23rd** and will run through March 16th. Donations collected here stay here in Marathon County at four local organizations: Community Center for Hope, Granite House, Open Door, and The Neighbors' Place. We will be collecting new, unused hygiene and cleaning supplies. You can drop them off at the boxes located at participating locations. St. Stephen, Good Shepherd, Immanuel, and Pilgrim Lutheran Churches are all collection sites. The most urgent needs for our community include: baby hygiene products such as baby wash, baby lotion, and diaper cream, and laundry soap, dish soap, body soap, shower gel, 2-in-1 shampoo or shampoo and conditioner individually, trash bags, deodorant, lotions, wet wipes, toilet paper, paper towels, disposable razors (smaller packs as they can't be opened and distributed), tampons and maxi pads. Any cleaning supplies are greatly appreciated such as bleach, toilet bowl cleaner, glass cleaner, soap, floor cleaner, etc. If you'd prefer to make a monetary donation please contact Shauna Robinson.

*GOSPEL LESSON (Pew Bible pg. 838)*

*Luke 6:17-26*

**SERMON**

*Pastor Karoline Schwantes*

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

Hymn of the Day: *Light Dawns on a Weary World*

**#726**

The **SACRAMENT** of **HOLY BAPTISM** (see insert)

**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**

**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.**

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: *Jesus, the Very Thought of You*

#754

*(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: *Canticle of the Turning*

#723

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace.

Live in hope.

**Thanks be to God.**

The Postlude

**FEBRUARY 2025 MEMORIALS**

**In loving memory of Judith “Judy” Spear**

Capital Campaign -- \$400

from Family & Friends

**In loving memory of Darlene Yolitz**

Capital Campaign -- \$230

from Family & Friends

**Capital Campaign**

In loving memory of Judy Spear –

Kelly Brown

In honor of our 30th Anniversary –

Rick & Bonnie Effinger

In loving memory of Judy Spear –

Deb Gleason

In loving memory of Judy Spear –

The Kasten Family

In loving memory of my Husband, Delbert “Pete” Peterson –

Doris Peterson

**Current Expense Fund**

In loving memory of family –

Kay Preller

**Library Fund**

In loving memory of Lillian Gritzmacher –

Tim Gritzmacher

**Quilting Fund**

In loving memory of Darlene Yolitz –

Sarah Lonsdorf

These are the memorials received through Monday, February 10th. 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!