

Worship Assistants

	<u><i>This Week</i></u>	<u><i>Next Week</i></u>
Assisting Minister	Sue Holster	Mary Beth Tolley
Coffee Hour	_____	_____
Communion Asst.	_____	Darrin Koehler
Lector	Dick Holster	Verlyn Oelke
Organist/Pianist	Delores Kessel	Phil Giese
Preaching/Presiding	Lay Leader Kathy Robinson	Pastor Karoline Schwantes
Projection	Shauna Robinson	Lydia Lenoble
Special Music	Vocal Choir	_____
Usher	Verlyn Oelke	Darrin Koehler
Video	Jeff Blomquist	Elizabeth Lenoble

Staff

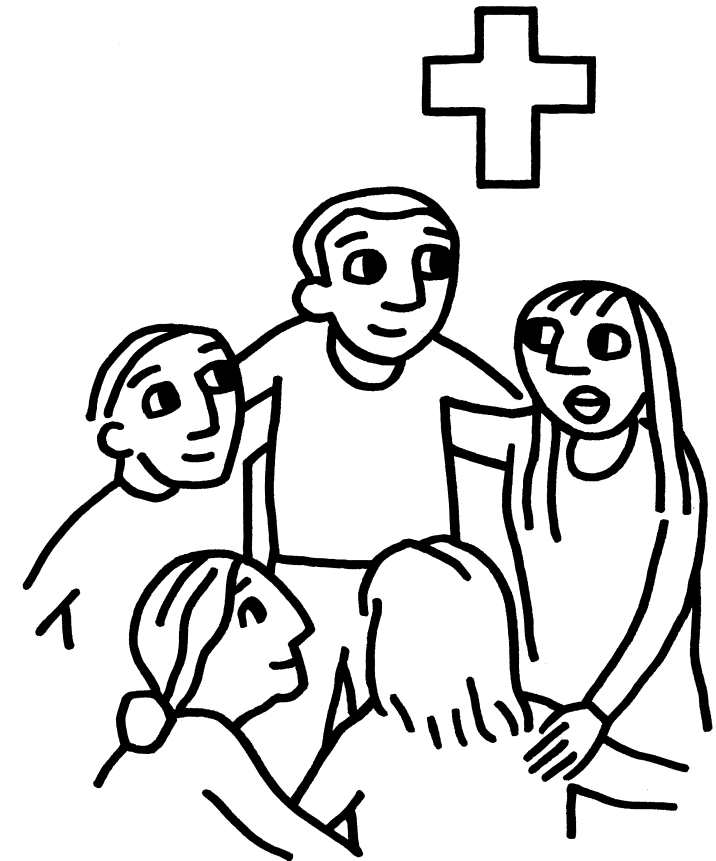
Pastor	Karoline Schwantes
Administrative Assistant	Nancy Henke
Assistant Treasurer	Mary Beth Tolley
Worship Service Custodian	Dave Skola
Worship Service Custodian	Gail Wolfe
Maintenance Custodian	Cecil Wold

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	Sue Holster: sueholster@gmail.com
Council President	Dick Holster: Dick@Holsterconstruction.com
Council Vice President	Vicki Romang: vicki.romang.sslc@gmail.com
Treasurer	Jim Von Rueden: vonbaron7@gmail.com
Secretary	Betsy Utecht: emutecht@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 Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 18, 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

*The **RINGING** of the **BELLS***

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

In the name of the One who was, who is, and who is to come. **Amen.**

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name. Baptized into you, O Living One, **make us one as you are one.**

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making. Baptized into you, O Living One, **make us one as you are one.**

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power. Baptized into you, O Living One, **make us one as you are one.**

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One. **Amen.**

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

Hymn: *Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones* **#424**

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. 147**

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

*The congregation is **SEATED***

VOCAL CHOIR *"Lord of the Dance"*

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.

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

Our 2 family restrooms are located in the hallway by the church office.

THIS WEEK AT ST. STEPHEN CHURCH

Sunday, May 18th	9:00 am 12:00 pm 12:00 pm 7:00 pm	Worship at St. Stephen Worship Telecast on Spectrum Channel 980 Worship Telecast on TDS Channel 14 AA
Monday, May 19th	3:00 pm 6:30 pm	Worship Telecast on Spectrum Channel 980 Property Committee Mtg. MEMORIAL DEADLINE FOR MAY
Tuesday, May 20th	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
Thursday, May 22nd	8:30 am 6:00 pm	Quilting Al-Anon NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
Sunday, May 25th	9:00 am 12:00 pm 12:00 pm 7:00 pm	Worship at St. Stephen Worship Telecast on Spectrum Channel 980 Worship Telecast on TDS Channel 14 AA

St. Stephen Weekly

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 18th, 2025

On Sunday, May 11th, 60 people attended the 9am Worship Service.

The office will be open on Mondays and Thursdays during the months of May through August. Nancy Henke will be working from home on Wednesdays and checking the church voicemail and her email. If you have a pastoral emergency during this time, please call Pastor Karoline Schwantes at 715-370-5514.

The new WMC (Wausau Marathon County) shelter is open. The Good Stewards Committee will be hosting guests at the new site at First United Methodist church from 6pm to 9pm on Monday May 19th. We will assist guests coming in to change clothes, store personal belongings, provide a meal, and settle in for the night. We have committed to every 3rd Monday of the month until the end of the year. If we have enough interest we can look at taking on another Monday as well. The shelter is in need of granola bars, breakfast bars, and fruit cups that the clients can grab and go when they leave in the AM. This will be an ongoing need. Please consider donating to the shelter for their grab and go breakfasts. The shelter is also in need of the following items: toilet paper, paper towels, shampoo/conditioner, lotion, combs/hairbrushes, body wash, men's boxer briefs, women's underwear, socks, sports bras, plastic utensils, plates, cups, coffee creamer, sugar packets, and 33 gallon garbage bags. Donations can be dropped off at St. Stephen Lutheran Church anytime. Please indicate it is for the shelter. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!** Contact Shauna Robinson at 608-514-4504 if you have any questions.

WSAW Diaper Drive May 12th thru May 30th – The Babies’ Place in Wausau is an organization that provides diapers for free, but they can’t do it without your help. You can drop off diapers at multiple locations, one of them being St. Stephen Lutheran Church. The Babies’ Place says they have seen 250% growth in their program this past year alone. Their need is for larger diaper sizes and pull-ups, as buying those larger sizes is more expensive than smaller ones, but donations of any size are welcome.

St. Vincent de Paul is hosting a free community Bridges out of Poverty Workshop on Friday, June 6th from 8:30am to 11:30am at NTC. The Bridges out of Poverty model is a powerful platform for building empathy and insight as well as developing relationships of mutual respect with community members experiencing poverty. This workshop is open to the public. If anyone is interested in attending, please RSVP to emueller@svdpwausau.org or call 715-298-3028 option 3.

The 3rd Sunday of every month we will have a NOISY OFFERING. Please bring in your coins and let’s make some noise! The Noisy Offering will go towards the Community Outreach Fund.

FIRST LESSON (Pew Bible pg. 895)

Acts 11:1-18

PSALM (read responsively) (Pew Bible pg. 508)

Psalms 148

SECOND LESSON (Pew Bible pg. 1007)

Revelation 21:1-6

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (please stand)

Hymnal pg. 151

GOSPEL LESSON (Pew Bible pg. 877)

John 13:31-35

SERMON

Lay Leader Kathy Robinson

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

Hymn of the Day: *Baptized and Set Free*

#453

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, “Hear us, O God.”
the congregational response is, **“Your mercy is great.”**

PEACE is shared

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.

OFFERING/NOISY OFFERING (3rd Sunday of every month)

VOCAL CHOIR

“Hallelujah, What A Savior”

OFFERTORY HYMN

#379 (verse 1 only)

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.**

*Announcement of **MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES***

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

Hymn: *Go, My Children, with My Blessing*

#543

CHORAL BENEDICTION

“The Blessing of Aaron”

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Postlude

MAY 2025 MEMORIALS

Capital Campaign

In loving memory of Jim Boerner –
Sarah Lonsdorf

In loving memory of Lynn Guth –
Beverly Magrecke

In loving memory of Grace Luetschwager and Jim Boerner –
Mary Beth Tolley

Current Expenses

In memory of loved ones –
Charles & Joyce Fromfeld

These are the memorials received through Monday, May 12th. If you would like a memorial placed in the May bulletins and June newsletter, it needs to be to the office by Monday, May 19th. Thank you!