

ORDER OF WORSHIP
COMMUNION SUNDAY

January 5, 2025

*Indicates those able may stand

Prelude “Das alte Jahr vergangen ist” (BWV 614) J.S. Bach
(The old year is passed)

Welcome and Announcements

Instrumental Preparation to Enter God’s Presence

*Call to Worship Dr. Drew DiNardo

*Invocation Dr. Drew DiNardo

*Hymn of Praise # 598 “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

1 Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
hold me with thy pow'rful hand;
Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven,
feed me till I want no more,
feed me till I want no more.

2 Open now the crystal fountain,
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through;
strong Deliv'rer, strong Deliv'rer,
be thou still my strength and shield,
be thou still my strength and shield.

3 When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death, and hell's Destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side;
songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee.

**Hymn of Response # 528*

“My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

1 My faith looks up to Thee,
Thou Lamb of Calvary,
Savior divine!
Now hear me while I pray,
take all my guilt away;
O let me from this day
be wholly Thine.

2 May Thy rich grace impart
strength to my fainting heart,
my zeal inspire;
as Thou hast died for me,
O may my love to Thee
pure, warm, and changeless be,
a living fire.

3 While life's dark maze I tread,
and griefs around me spread,
be Thou my Guide;
bid darkness turn to day,
wipe sorrow's tears away,
nor let me ever stray
from Thee aside.

4 When ends life's transient dream,
when death's cold, sullen stream
shall o'er me roll,
blest Savior, then in love,
fear and distrust remove;
O bear me safe above,
a ransomed soul.

A Reading from God's Law with a Response from the Gospels

You shall have no other gods before me.

It is written: "Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only." (*Luke 4:8*)

You shall not make for yourself an idol.

God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth. (*John 4:24*)

You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.

"Do not swear at all: either by heaven, for it is God's throne; or by the earth, for it is his footstool. . . . Let your 'Yes' be 'Yes', and your 'No,' 'No'; anything beyond this comes from the evil one." (*Matthew 5:34-37*)

Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.

The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. So the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath. (*Mark 2:27-28*)

Honor your father and your mother.

For God said, "Anyone who curses his father or mother must be put to death." (*Matthew 15:4*)

You shall not murder.

Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven. (*Matthew 5:44-45*)

You shall not commit adultery.

Anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. (*Matthew 5:28*)

You shall not steal.

For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery . . . theft These are what make a man "unclean." (*Matthew 15:19*)

You shall not give false testimony.

For out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks. . . . For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be

condemned. (*Matthew 12:34, 37*)

You shall not covet.

Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions. (*Luke 12:15*)

Confession Of Sin and Supplication For Grace

O LORD of Hosts, you who test the righteous, and see the heart and the mind, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have not obeyed your holy laws. But you, O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare those who confess their faults. Restore those who repent according to your promises in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, that we may live a godly, righteous, and faithful life, to the glory of your holy name. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

**Gloria Patri*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

**Hymn of Communion #253 "There Is a Fountain Filled with Blood"*

1 There is a fountain filled with blood,
drawn from Immanuel's veins;
and sinners, plunged beneath that flood,
lose all their guilty stains:
lose all their guilty stains,
lose all their guilty stains;
and sinners, plunged beneath that flood,
lose all their guilty stains.

2 The dying thief rejoiced to see
that fountain in his day;
and there have I, as vile as he,
washed all my sins away:

washed all my sins away,
washed all my sins away;
and there have I, as vile as he,
washed all my sins away.

3 E'er since by faith I saw the stream
your flowing wounds supply,
redeeming love has been my theme,
and shall be till I die:
and shall be till I die,
and shall be till I die;
redeeming love has been my theme,
and shall be till I die.

4 Then in a nobler, sweeter song
I'll sing your pow'r to save,
when this poor lisp'ing, stamm'ring tongue
lies silent in the grave:
lies silent in the grave,
lies silent in the grave;
when this poor lisp'ing, stamm'ring tongue
lies silent in the grave.

5 Dear dying Lamb, your precious blood
shall never lose its pow'r,
till all the ransomed church of God
be saved, to sin no more:
be saved, to sin no more,
be saved, to sin no more;
till all the ransomed church of God
be saved to sin no more.

**Closing Hymn #515 "How Lovely Shines the Morning Star!"*

1 How lovely shines the Morning Star!
The nations see and hail afar
the light in Judah shining.
Thou David's son of Jacob's race,
my bridegroom and my King of grace,
for thee my heart is pining.
Lowly, holy, great and glorious,
thou victorious Prince of graces,
filling all the heav'nly places.

2 Now richly to my waiting heart,
O thou, my God, deign to impart
the grace of love undying.
In thy blest body let me be,
e'en as the branch is in the tree,
thy life my life supplying.
Sighing, crying, for the savor
of thy favor; resting never
till I rest in thee forever.

3 Thou, mighty Father, in thy Son
didst love me ere thou hadst begun
this ancient world's foundation.
Thy Son hath made a friend of me,
and when in spirit him I see,
I joy in tribulation.
What bliss is this! He that liveth
to me giveth life forever;
nothing me from him can sever.

**Benediction*

**Congregation Three-fold Amen*

**Postlude*

Prelude in E-flat major (BWV 552a)

J.S. Bach

Shorter Catechism on the Lord's Supper

Q. 96. *What is the Lord's supper?*

A. The Lord's supper is a sacrament, wherein, by giving and receiving bread and wine according to Christ's appointment, his death is showed forth; and the worthy receivers are, not after a corporal and carnal manner, but by faith, made partakers of his body and blood, with all his benefits, to their spiritual nourishment and growth in grace.

Q. 97. *What is required to the worthy receiving of the Lord's supper?*

A. It is required of them that would worthily partake of the Lord's supper, that they examine themselves of their knowledge to discern the Lord's body, of their faith to feed upon him, of their repentance, love, and new obedience; lest, coming unworthily, they eat and drink judgment to themselves.

PRAYER CORNER

Prayers for the persecuted church, our missionaries, the church around the world and the continued evangelistic efforts of the gospel here and abroad.

Our Missionaries

Richard Smith: RUF-I (Penn State Univ.)

Chris Peter: RUF (Millersville Univ.)

Becky Della Piazza: DiscipleMakers (Susquehanna Valley)

Joshua Jacobs: Mission to the World (France)

***see mission info in the narthex for other ministries we support**

Pray for all homebound members as well as for:

Jim Gress for regaining his strength after completing PT and
for comfort due to the death of his wife

Beverly Severs –as she remains hospitalized for a traumatic
brain injury and healing of a broken leg

John Hildebrand – for healing from hip surgery and for pain
management

**Please join us for fellowship immediately
after the service in Zwingli Hall.**

**Missions and ministry updates will be shared, and snacks and drinks will
be served.**

ABOUT US

**St. Stephen Reformed is a Bible Believing, gospel preaching, mission
focused, Christ-centered Presbyterian congregation that is committed to
living by the light of the Spirit, faithfully proclaiming the light of the Word,
and shining forth the light of Christ in Lancaster County.**

**As a member church of the Presbyterian Church of America (PCA), we
embrace and confess that the doctrine found in the Westminster Confession
of Faith and the Shorter and Larger Catechism is the most faithful
summary of scriptural teaching.**

The PCA's slogan encapsulates well our beliefs:

Faithful to Scripture

True to the Reformed Faith

Obedient to the Great Commission