

ORDER OF WORSHIP
COMMUNION SUNDAY

November 2, 2025

*Indicates those able may stand

Prelude “Wer nur den lieben Gott lasst walten” (BWV 647) J.S. Bach
(If thou but suffer God to guide thee)

Welcome and Announcements

Instrumental Preparation to Enter God’s Presence

*Call to Worship

Dr. Drew DiNardo

*Invocation

*Hymn of Praise #358 “For All the Saints”

1. For all the saints who from their labors rest,
who thee by faith before the world confessed,
thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

2. Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;
thou, Lord, their Captain in the well-fought fight;
thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

3. O may thy soldiers faithful, true, and bold,
fight as the saints who nobly fought of old,
and win with them the victor's crown of gold.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

4. The golden evening brightens in the west;
soon, soon to faithful warriors comes their rest;
sweet is the calm of paradise the blest.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

5. But lo! there breaks a yet more glorious day;
the saints triumphant rise in bright array;
the King of glory passes on his way.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

6. From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Communion Sunday Confession of Faith (Apostle's Creed)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried, he descended to hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there 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. (*catholic does not refer to the Roman Catholic church, but means "universal" or "whole". It refers to the Church's presence and mission across all time and space, not just a specific historical period.)

Intercessory Prayer & Lord's Prayer

**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 debts, As we
forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us
from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever. Amen.**

Offertory

"Abide with Me"
(Jocelyn Crosby, flute)

arr. B. Olstad

**The Doxology*

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Sermon Text

Luke 12:35-48

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Sermon Title

"The Parable of Preparation"

Dr. Drew DiNardo

**Hymn of Response #586*

"Take My Life, and Let It Be"

1. Take my life, and let it be
consecrated, Lord, to thee.
Take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

2. Take my hands, and let them move
at the impulse of thy love.
Take my feet, and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee.

3. Take my voice, and let me sing,
always, only, for my King.
Take my lips, and let them be
filled with messages from thee.

4. Take my silver and my gold;
not a mite would I withhold
Take my intellect, and use
ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

5. Take my will, and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne.

6. Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store.
Take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.

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 Praise Book #12*

“He Was Pierced. . .”

The Lord’s Supper

(All Bread is Gluten Free)

**Closing Hymn #343 “Christ is Made the Sure Foundation”*

**Benediction*

**Congregation Three-fold Amen*

**Postlude*

*Now Thank We All Our God
(from Cantata 79)*

J.S. Bach/V. Fox

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

The White Roses on the communion table today are in memory of Wanda Bossler who passed on Friday, Oct. 24. Her funeral will be private. Also, Bob Straton passed on Saturday, Oct. 25. His burial will be private with a Celebration of Life service November 10, 11:00 am at GSV Chapel.

Please keep both families in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

Pray for all homebound members as well as for:

Steve Loewen – hospitalized with various health concerns

Sandra Mathers – prayers for recovery from knee replacement surgery

Fran Blank – prayer for upcoming heart valve replacement surgery on Nov. 4

Vicky Stanley – pray for healing of a broken foot and that she doesn't have to have surgery

John Hildebrand – prayers for recovery from Covid and pneumonia

Marilyn Sweet – healing for a broken leg

Don Ann Eldridge – continued prayers as she goes through chemo and for her recovery

**Please join us for fellowship immediately
after the service in Zwingli Hall.
Snacks and drinks will be served.**

Join us tonight at 4:00 pm as Nathan Titus
preaches on Micah 3:1-8, *Mouths that Devour,*
Mouth that Declares, at our evening service.

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

STAFF

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