

# Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Rev. Clint K. Poppe | Rev. Adam Moline  
Rev. Luke Russert | Vicar Thomas Goodroad

3825 Wildbriar Lane, Lincoln, NE  
Church Office: (402) 423-7639

Meet at the cross:  
KNNA 95.7 FM or  
www.thecross957.org

E-Mail:  
info@goodshepherdlincoln.org  
Website:  
www.goodshepherdlincoln.org

Services are broadcast live on  
Sundays at 8 am and 10:30 am  
and Wednesdays at 6:30 pm

## Communion Statement:

In our congregation we follow the historic Lutheran practice of closed communion. This is nothing new, nor a novel innovation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. Rather, for many centuries, this was the universal practice of all of Christendom, and to this day, is still practiced by the majority of the Christian Church.

*We observe closed communion because the Lord's Supper is a public profession of our unity of faith. (1 Corinthians 10:16-17)*

*We believe Christ's body and blood are truly present in the bread and the wine for forgiveness of our sins. (1 Corinthians 11:23-25)*

*We observe closed communion to protect people in body and soul from taking the Lord's Supper to their judgment and harm. (1 Corinthians 11:27-32)*

Our practice is prompted by our love, care, and concern for all people. If you are not a communicant member of a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, please do not commune today.

However, please know that we look forward to having you at the Lord's Table soon. We sincerely invite you to visit with Pastors Poppe or Moline about the joys of Holy Communion. They will offer you instruction about our Lutheran faith and this sacrament of the Lord's Supper, so you will be ready to stand with us and partake of this wonderful meal.

## St. Stephen, Martyr

December 26, 2021

**Introit** (*Ps. 31:1, 3, 5; antiphon: Rev. 7:14b*)



These are the ones coming out of the great tribu- | lation.\*

They have washed their robes and made them white in the  
blood | of the Lamb.

In you, O LORD, do I take refuge; let me never be | put to  
shame;\*

in your righteousness de- | liver me.

For you are my rock and my | fortress;\*

and for your name's sake you lead me and | guide me.

Into your hand I commit my | spirit;\*

you have redeemed me, O LORD, | faithful God.

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\***

**and to the Holy | Spirit;**

**as it was in the be- | ginning,\***

**is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

These are the ones coming out of the great tribu- | lation.\*

They have washed their robes and made them white in the  
blood | of the Lamb.

## Collect of the Day

Heavenly Father, in the midst of our sufferings for the sake of Christ grant us grace to follow the example of the first martyr, Stephen, that we also may look to the One who suffered and was crucified on our behalf and pray for those who do us wrong; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

## Gradual (*Ps.34: 9, 19, alt.*)

Fear the LORD, | you his saints,\*

for those who fear him lack | nothing!

Many are the afflictions of the | righteous,\*

but the LORD delivers him out | of them all.

## DIVINE SERVICE SETTING ONE LSB 151

Welcome and Prayer

**Opening Hymn...LSB 517 vs 1, 7, 3**  
Invocation, Confession and

Absolution\* ..... LSB 151

Introit—*See Propers\**

Kyrie\* ..... LSB 152

Hymn of Praise\*.... *Gloria in Excelsis*

Salutation and Collect of the Day\*

Scripture Readings (*on back*):

Old Testament ....2 Chronicles 24:17-22

Gradual—*See Propers*

Epistle ..... Acts 6:8—7:2a, 51-60

Alleluia and Verse\*—*See Propers*

Gospel\*.....Matthew 23:34-39

**Hymn of the Day..... LSB 661**

Sermon:.....*Pastor Clint K. Poppe*

Apostles' Creed\* ..... LSB 159

Prayer of the Church\*

Offertory\* .....LSB 159

Prayer of the Church\*

## SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Preface\* ..... LSB 160

Sanctus\* ..... LSB 161

Lord's Prayer\* ..... LSB 162

Words of Institution\* ..... LSB 162

Agnus Dei\* ..... LSB 163

**Distribution Hymns.....LSB 624,  
370, 384, 659**

Nunc Dimittis\* ..... LSB 165

Collect\* ..... LSB 166

Benediction\* ..... LSB 166

**Closing Hymn.....LSB 644**

\*Please Stand

## Hymns for today—

### OPENING HYMN

**LSB 517 vs 1, 7, 3.....**By All  
Your Saints in Warfare

### SERMON HYMN

**LSB 661 .....**The Son of God  
Goes Forth to War

### DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

**LSB 624.....**The Infant Priest  
Was Holy Born

**LSB 370.....**What Child Is This

**LSB 384.....**Of the Father's  
Love Begotten

**LSB 659.....**Lord of Our Life

### CLOSING HYMN

**LSB 644.....**The Church's  
One Foundation

### Old Testament: 2 Chronicles 24:17–22

<sup>17</sup>Now after the death of Jehoiada the princes of Judah came and paid homage to the king. Then the king listened to them. <sup>18</sup>And they abandoned the house of the LORD, the God of their fathers, and served the Asherim and the idols. And wrath came upon Judah and Jerusalem for this guilt of theirs. <sup>19</sup>Yet he sent prophets among them to bring them back to the LORD. These testified against them, but they would not pay attention. <sup>20</sup>Then the Spirit of God clothed Zechariah the son of Jehoiada the priest, and he stood above the people, and said to them, "Thus says God, 'Why do you break the commandments of the LORD, so that you cannot prosper? Because you have forsaken the LORD, he has forsaken you.'" <sup>21</sup>But they conspired against him, and by command of the king they stoned him with stones in the court of the house of the LORD. <sup>22</sup>Thus Joash the king did not remember the kindness that Jehoiada, Zechariah's father, had shown him, but killed his son. And when he was dying, he said, "May the LORD see and avenge!"

### Epistle: Acts 6:8—7:2a, 51–60

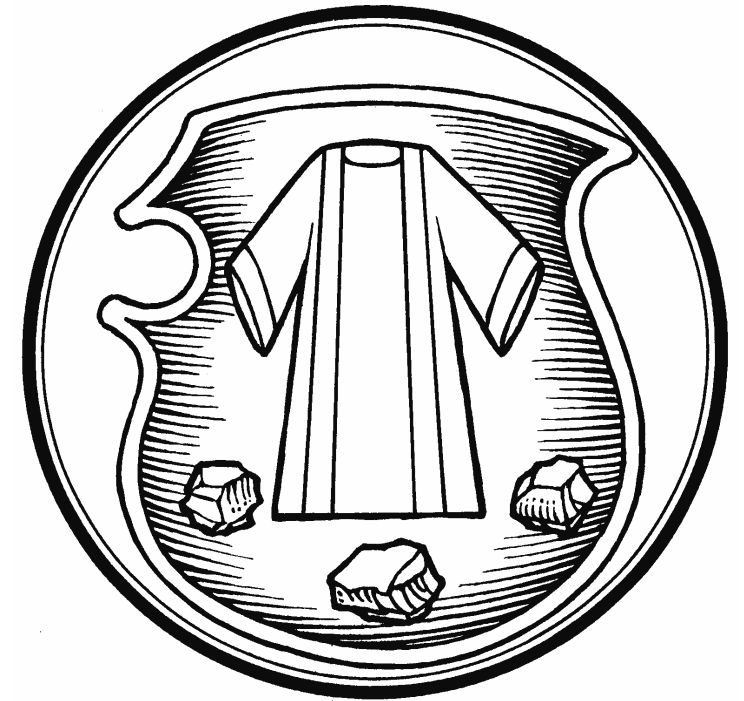
<sup>8</sup>And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. <sup>9</sup>Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and disputed with Stephen. <sup>10</sup>But they could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he was speaking. <sup>11</sup>Then they secretly instigated men who said, "We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God." <sup>12</sup>And they stirred up the people and the elders and the scribes, and they came upon him and seized him and brought him before the council, <sup>13</sup>and they set up false witnesses who said, "This man never ceases to speak words against this holy place and the law, <sup>14</sup>for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and will change the customs that Moses delivered to us." <sup>15</sup>And gazing at him, all who sat in the council saw that his face was like the face of an angel.

<sup>7:1</sup>And the high priest said, "Are these things so?" <sup>2</sup>And Stephen said: "Brothers and fathers, hear me. . . .<sup>51</sup>"You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. <sup>52</sup>Which of the prophets did not your fathers persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, <sup>53</sup>you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it." <sup>54</sup>Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. <sup>55</sup>But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup>And he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." <sup>57</sup>But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. <sup>58</sup>Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. <sup>59</sup>And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." <sup>60</sup>And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

### Holy Gospel: Matthew 23:34–39

<sup>34</sup>[Jesus said:] "Therefore I send you prophets and wise men and scribes, some of whom you will kill and crucify, and some you will flog in your synagogues and persecute from town to town, <sup>35</sup>so that on you may come all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of innocent Abel to the blood of Zechariah the son of Barachiah, whom you murdered between the sanctuary and the altar. <sup>36</sup>Truly, I say to you, all these things will come upon this generation. <sup>37</sup>"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not! <sup>38</sup>See, your house is left to you desolate. <sup>39</sup>For I tell you, you will not see me again, until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

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Missouri Synod

Divine Service Setting One

St. Stephen, Martyr

December 26, 2021