

ORDER FOR THE PUBLIC WORSHIP OF GOD

“I find my delight in Your commandments, which I love. I will lift up my hands toward Your commandments, which I love, and I will meditate on Your statutes.”

– Psalm 119:47–48

September 5, 2021	Morning Worship	10:40 a.m.
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We Draw Near to the Throne of Grace

Welcome and Announcements

* Prayer for Parent’s Day Out Ministry Ms. Anita Murphy and Mrs. Chasta Mitchell

Prelude	Rock of Ages Ms. Lisa Barry, organ	Folkemer
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* Responsive Call to Worship Hebrews 4:12–16

The word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

And no creature is hidden from His sight.

But all are naked and exposed to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.

Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

* Hymn How Firm a Foundation FOUNDATION

**How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!
What more can He say than to you He has said,
To You who for refuge to Jesus have fled?**

**“Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed;
For I am your God, and will still give you aid;
I’ll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.**

**“When through the deep waters I call you to go,
The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
For I will be with you, your troubles to bless,
And sanctify to you your deepest distress.**

**“When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,
My grace, all-sufficient, shall be your supply;
The flame shall not hurt you; I only design
Your dross to consume and your gold to refine.**

**“The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to his foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I’ll never, no never, no never forsake.”**

* Affirmation of Faith Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q. 1. What is the chief end of man?

A. Man’s chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy Him forever.

Q. 2. What rule hath God given to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy Him?

A. The Word of God, which is contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, is the only rule to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy Him.

Q. 3. What do the Scriptures principally teach?

A. The Scriptures principally teach what man is to believe concerning God, and what duty God requires of man.

* Prayer of Adoration

We Confess Our Sins and Receive God’s Forgiveness

New Testament Lesson Hebrews 2:1–4

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

General Prayer of Confession

Our Father, You are steadfast, but our sinful hearts are prone to drift away. Your message is reliable, but our sinful minds are prone to roam. Forgive us for neglecting to read Your Word. Forgive us for neglecting to memorize, and meditate on, Your Word. Give us hearts that desire to read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest Your Holy Scriptures. For we ask this in Christ’s name. Amen.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Prayer of Intercession

Assurance of Pardon Pastor Jim Bachmann

* Hymn Speak, O Lord Getty/Townend

**Speak, O Lord, as we come to You to receive the food of Your Holy Word.
Take Your truth, plant it deep in us; shape and fashion us in Your likeness,
that the light of Christ might be seen today in our acts of love and deeds
of faith.
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us all Your purposes for Your glory.**

**Teach us, Lord, full obedience, holy reverence, true humility.
Test our thoughts and our attitudes in the radiance of Your purity.
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see Your majestic love and authority.
Words of power that can never fail; let their truth prevail over unbelief.**

**Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds; help us grasp the heights of Your plans
for us: truths unchanged from the dawn of time that will echo down
through eternity.
And by grace we’ll stand on Your promises; and by faith we’ll walk as You walk
with us.
Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built and the earth is filled with Your glory.**

We Give with Cheerful Hearts

God’s Tithe and Our Offerings

Anthem	Our God Is a Rock	Davis
	Stephens Valley Church Choir	

Our God is a Rock, and a tower of salvation, a shield and a stronghold, protecting from harm. He sends forth His power through His endless creation, upholding the worlds by the strength of His arm. He sends forth His power through His endless creation, upholding the worlds by the strength of His arm. We thank Thee, O God, for Thy goodness and mercy, Thy power and Thy presence banish all fear. Though trouble surround us, it shall not confound us, our hearts will be strong, for we know Thou art near. Though trouble surround us, it shall not confound us, our hearts will be strong, for we know Thou art near. With songs of thanksgiving repeat we the story of all Thou hast done for the children, the children of men. For Thine is the kingdom, the pow’r and the glory forever. Amen and Amen. For Thine, for Thine is the kingdom, the pow’r and the glory forever. Amen and Amen.

* Presentation of Gifts LASST UNS ERFREUEN
**Let all things their Creator bless, and worship Him in humbleness,
O praise Him, alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son, and praise the Spirit, three in One,
O praise Him, O praise Him, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

* Prayer of Dedication

We Hear and Receive the Word of God Read and Preached

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Lesson Psalm 1
All flesh is grass, and all its loveliness is like the flower of the field.
The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God stands forever.

Sermon Finding Stability Through Meditation Pastor Heath Cross

Prayer of Supplication

We Eat and Drink with Christ and His People

Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper
Words of Institution
Breaking the Bread Jesus I My Cross Have Taken arr. Boud
Mr. David German, piano, and Ms. Lisa Barry, organ
Sharing the Cup

* Hymn More about Jesus Would I Know SWENEY

**More about Jesus would I know, more of His grace to others show;
More of His saving fullness see, more of His love who died for me.**

**More, more about Jesus, more, more about Jesus,
More of His saving fullness see, more of His love who died for me.**

**More about Jesus let me learn, more of His holy will discern;
Spirit of God, my teacher be, showing the things of Christ to me.**

**More about Jesus; in His Word, holding communion with my Lord;
Hearing His voice in ev’ry line, making each faithful saying mine.**

**More about Jesus on His throne, riches of glory all His own;
More of His kingdom’s sure increase; more of His coming, Prince of Peace.**

* Benediction

* Postlude God of Grace and God of Glory Manz
 Ms. Lisa Barry, organ

* Congregation standing

– ANNOUNCEMENTS –

Welcome: Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ! We welcome everyone to our time of worship this morning.

Cell Phones: Please silence all your electronic devices.

Sympathy: We extend our sympathy to Grace Blair due to the recent death of her daughter.

Prayer Needs: An elder will be available in the Rutherford Room (adjacent to the north entrance) for prayer after the worship service.

Wednesday Night Dinner and Bible Study: Join us at 5:15 p.m. this Wednesday as Pastor Heath Cross begins a six-week series on “How to (Actually) Love Your Neighbor.” Make your dinner reservation at stephensvalleychurch.com by tonight. The menu is baked spaghetti, green beans, orange cranberry salad, roll, and white layer cake with strawberry filling.

Friends and Family Class: New study begins TODAY. Join us for Warren Wiersbe’s *Be Authentic (Genesis 25–50): Exhibiting Real Faith in the Real World*. Class is taught by Bill Kenny and meets in 201A.

SVC Parent’s Day Out: Register your preschooler, ages 1–4, for two days per week, 9:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. E-mail Anita Murphy, anitam@stephensvalleychurch.com.

Starting Point: Pastor Jim’s next Starting Point class will be held Sundays, September 12–October 17 at 9:30 a.m. All visitors are invited!

Early Morning Bible Study: Beginning Thursday, September 9, Mike Bishop will lead a six-week men’s Bible study on the book of Ephesians. The group will use a John Stott study guide as a reference but will focus on direct study and application of the Scripture. The men will meet from 6:30–7:30 a.m. in the Solid Rock Café. Sign up in the lobby or contact Mike Bishop or the church office.

SVC Men’s Bible Study: Beginning Friday, September 10, Craig Valentine will facilitate a 12-week Bible study on the book of Philippians. The group will use Dr. Kent Hughes’ commentary on Philippians and will meet from 9:00–10:00 a.m. in the church lobby. For more info, contact Craig, (719) 494-7679, or the church office.

SVC Women’s Fall Bible Study: Begins Tuesday, September 14, at 10:00 a.m. Childcare will be available with reservation. Register for childcare and study at stephensvalleychurch.com. Study books on Proverbs are available for \$10 in the lobby today.

– THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR –

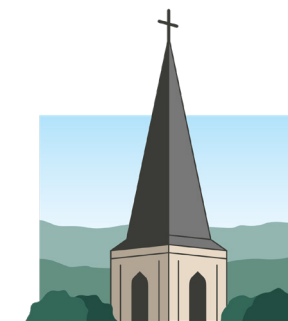
Today, 9:00 a.m. Officers’ Prayer Time
Today, 9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
Today, 10:40 a.m. Worship Service
Monday Church office closed
Monday, 9:00 a.m. Sabbatical Search Career Group
Tuesday, 4:00 p.m. Sweet Half Hour of Prayer (St. Paul Chapel, first floor)
Wednesday, 5:15 p.m. Wednesday Night Dinner
Wednesday, 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Night Bible Study
Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, 6:30 a.m. Early Morning Men’s Bible Study (Café)
Friday, 9:00 a.m. SVC Men’s Bible Study (Lobby)

Financial Update

Average Weekly Offering Needed	\$40,305
August 29 General Fund Offering	\$33,920
Total August General Fund	\$184,027
FY 21–22 General Fund Deficit	\$53,672
Construction Loan to Refinance	\$8,650,000
Additional Construction Loan	\$591,172

CHURCH STAFF

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Stephens Valley Church

Biblical, Reformed, Independent

Finding Stability Through Meditation

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