

St. Stephen Lutheran Church and School

An Affiliate of the Church of the Lutheran Confession

320 MOORPARK WAY MOUNTAIN VIEW, CALIFORNIA
CHURCH OFFICE (650) 964-5915 SCHOOL OFFICE (650) 961-2071
Worship service: 10am, Bible Study/Sunday School: 11:15am, Website: www.sslcwest.org

December 20, 2009

Advent 4

Today's Focus:

CHRIST'S COMING BRINGS THE TRUEST FORM OF LOVE

OPENING HYMN 87 (Red Hymnal)

Joy to the World, the Lord is Come

THE ORDER OF HIS DIVINE SERVICE – Tan Worship Supplement, Page 12

Micah 5:2-4 (on back) The Old Testament spotlights Bethlehem as birthplace of the coming Messiah.

RESPONSIVE READING – Psalm 92 (selected verses)

The Psalmist calls upon earth to rejoice in the coming of the Lord.

L: It is good to praise the LORD and make music to your name, O Most High,

C: To proclaim your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night,

L: How great are your works,

C: O LORD, how profound your thoughts!

L: The righteous will flourish like a palm tree,

C: They will grow like a cedar of Lebanon; planted in the house of the LORD, they will flourish in the courts of our God.

L: They will still bear fruit in old age, they will stay fresh and green, proclaiming,

C: "The LORD is upright; he is my Rock, and there is no wickedness in him." Amen.



Luke 1:39-45 (on back) In the Gospel, we have the account of the visit of Mary to Elizabeth, and the Magnificat.

CONFESSION OF FAITH – Tan Worship Supplement, Page 15 – Apostles' Creed

The Apostles' Creed was written as a brief summary of the Christian faith as believed and taught by the Apostles.

HYMN 647 (Red Hymnal)

O Little Town of Bethlehem

SERMON – NKJ Hebrews 10:5-10 Therefore, when He came into the world, He said: "Sacrifice and offering You did not desire, But a body You have prepared for Me. 6 In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin You had no pleasure. 7 Then I said, 'Behold, I have come -- In the volume of the book it is written of Me -- To do Your will, O God.'" 8 Previously saying, "Sacrifice and offering, burnt offerings, and offerings for sin You did not desire, nor had pleasure in them" (which are offered according to the law), 9 then He said, "Behold, I have come to do Your will, O God." He takes away the first that He may establish the second. 10 By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

THEME: YOUR "BETTER" SACRIFICE.

Adult Choir - Advent Comfort

Father, we have not loved You above all other gods,

Father, we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves.

Hear us, Your forgiveness we seek. Hide not from us your face.

Help us, our flesh is weak. Absolve us by Your grace.

"Comfort, comfort, all my people; Speak of peace," so says our God

"Comfort those who sit in darkness, groaning from their sorrows' load.

Speak to all Jerusalem of the peace that waits for them,

Tell them that their sins I cover, that their warfare now is over."

Jesus Christ, break the darkness of the night.

Come within. Shine with the brightness of Your light!

Bring to us everlasting joy and peace. Let the light of faith increase!

Hear us, Your forgiveness we seek. Hide not from us your face.

Help us, our flesh is weak. Absolve us by Your grace.

All their sins our God will pardon, blotting out each dark misdeed;

All that well deserve His anger He no more will see or heed,

They have suffered many a day; now their griefs have passed away.

God will change their pining sadness into ever springing gladness.

Now make straight the crooked highway; make the rougher places plain.

Let your hearts be true and humble, ready for His holy reign.

For the glory of the Lord now o'er earth is spread abroad,

And all flesh shall see the token that His word is never broken.

Father, O hear us! Keep us for Your glorious day.

Preserve us in the way! Prepare our hearts we pray.



AN OFFERING OF THANKFUL HEARTS TO THE LORD - Sing 50 v. 2 (Red Hymnal)

Thanks we give and adoration, For Thy Gospel's joyful sound.

May the fruits of Thy salvation, In our hearts and lives abound;

Ever faithful, Ever faithful, To the Truth may we be found!

SPECIAL PRAYERS - GENERAL PRAYER - LORD'S PRAYER - BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN 712 (Tan Worship Supplement)

What Child is This?

NEWS and NOTES

Welcome visitors! We are very happy that you are here with us today and invite you to come again! Please sign our guest book in the entryway. If you have questions about our church and school please ask us!

TODAY: Refreshments in classroom/Bible class will be continuing our reading/discussion of "Hard Sayings."

TODAY: CHRISTMAS CAROLING! Meet at church at 2pm today!

NO Tuesday morning Bible class this week.

Two different types of services,
BOTH worth hearing God's
promised truths!

CHRISTMAS EVE Service (Thurs) w/children at 7pm!
CHRISTMAS DAY Service (Friday) at 10am!

FOOD DRIVE boxes are in entryway and nonperishable foods may be placed in them there for Christmas.

Special Offering Envelopes for the CLC "Jubilee Thank Offering" are on the entryway table and are being used for the ILC Student Aid Fund and for anniversary materials. Please help yourself.

Call News: Morning Star Lutheran, Fairchild WI, has called the Rev. Michael Gurath, assistant pastor at Holy Cross Lutheran, Phoenix AZ, to be its pastor.

Scripture Lessons for next week: (Series C) Psalm: 111, Jeremiah 31:10-13, Hebrews 2:10-18, Luke 2:41-52