

St. Stephen Lutheran Church and School
An affiliate of the Church of the Lutheran Confession
320 Moorpark Way
Mountain View, California 94041-1600
Church Office (650) 964-5915 School Office (650) 961-2071
Website: www.sslcwest.org
Pastor: Terrel Kesterson Organist: Peggy Kesterson

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT December 4, 2011
“Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for Him.” (Mark 1:3)

Preservice meditation: Psalm 85, page 140 (red hymnal)

OPENING HYMN: 712 (Worship Supplement) “What Child Is This”

Service of Word and Sacrament, setting 2 (page 12 in The Worship Supplement)

First Lesson: Isaiah 40:1-11

Lord, humble us and make us see our sin, and lift us up through Your forgiveness in Jesus.

Responsive Litany

L: During Advent we recall God’s promises spoken through the prophets.

C: THE WORD OF THE LORD IS STEADFAST AND TRUE.

L: To the hurting, God promises unshakable hope.

C: THE WORD OF THE LORD IS STEADFAST AND TRUE.

L: To the forsaken, God promises unconditional love.

C: THE WORD OF THE LORD IS STEADFAST AND TRUE.

L: To the broken, God promises unmerited grace.

C: THE WORD OF THE LORD IS STEADFAST AND TRUE.

L: To the heavy hearted, God promises unbridled joy.

C: THE WORD OF THE LORD IS STEADFAST AND TRUE.

Candle Lighting

Pastor: Today we light two candles. The *first candle* reminds us to recapture the wonder of the season. In a world that seldom slows, Advent is an opportunity to still our hearts and open our eyes to the wonder and majesty of our Savior. As we light the *second candle*, we call to mind God’s promise to restore, redeem and reconcile a broken world, spoken through the prophets and fulfilled through Christ.

Second Lesson: 2 Peter 3:8-14

By faith in Jesus we receive Him now, and one Day Jesus will receive us into heaven!

The Nicene Creed (page 5 in The Worship Supplement)

Children’s sermon

HYMN 707 (Worship Supplement) “On Christmas Night All Christians Sing”

THE SERMON: Mark 1:1-8
“GOOD NEWS!”

The Offertory, page 16 (Worship Supplement)

The Offering

HYMN 702 (Worship Supplement) “As Angels Joyed With One Accord”

Special Prayers, The General Prayer, The Lord’s Prayer

The Service of the Sacrament (page 17 in The Worship Supplement)

COMMUNION HYMN: 305 (red hymnal) (sung during Communion distribution)

O Lord, Now Let Your Servant *Nunc Dimittis* (page 20 in The Worship Supplement)

CLOSING HYMN: 87 (red hymnal) “Joy to the World, the Lord is Come”

WELCOME, VISITORS! We’re very happy that you are here today! You are always welcome. Please leave a record of your visit in our guest book in the entryway.

TODAY is COMMUNION SUNDAY. AFTER CHURCH our CHILDREN PRACTICE for the Christmas Eve Service, and our CHURCH ICE SKATING OUTING is from 3:00-5:00 PM.

WEDNESDAY: MIDWEEK BIBLE HOUR: 6:00 PM. We’re on 1 John 2:12.

THURSDAY: CHOIR PRACTICE: 6:30-7:30 PM.

SUNDAY: WORSHIP SERVICE: 10:00 AM; BIBLE STUDY: 11:15 AM.

NEXT SUNDAY our CHILDREN PRACTICE AFTER CHURCH for the Christmas Eve Service.

ADVENT SERVICE: We will have ONE ADVENT SERVICE. It will be on WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14, at 7:00 PM, followed by CAROL SINGING and a COOKIE EXCHANGE.

NEXT SUNDAY’S READINGS are Isaiah 61:1-3, 10-11; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; & John 1:6-8, 19-28.

OUR OFFERING for CHRISTMAS EVE will be divided equally among the ILC ACADEMIC CENTER, the CLC GENERAL FUND, and the COMMUNITY SERVICES AGENCY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW. We MAY ALSO DESIGNATE OFFERINGS FOR THIS ANY TIME DURING THE ADVENT SEASON.

CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE: We may place DONATIONS of CANNED or PACKAGED FOOD in the big BOX in the NARTHEX for the area NEEDY.