

Arise and Shine 20's - 30's Retreat – 3 Weeks Away! – Holy Cross Lutheran Church of Phoenix, AZ is once again sponsoring a four-day retreat at Camp JIM in **Pillager, MN, June 15–18 (Thurs. - Sun.)**. The retreat is designed for men and women in their 20s & 30s. Singles, couples, and families are welcome. The registration fee includes a t-shirt (if registered by June 1st, 2017), lodging, meals and snacks, and activities during the retreat. The cost is **\$140.00 per adult** (ages 12 and up), **\$100 per child** (ages 0-11). This year's theme is "Jars of Clay". Our theme is based on 2 Corinthians 4:7 *"But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us."* If you are looking for a faith-strengthening weekend with young adult Christians that is focused on the Word of God, this retreat is for you! You can find more information and register on our web site: www.AriseAndShineRetreat.com. For more info, please contact: Sam Rodebaugh (414) 534-7279 sam.rodebaugh@gmail.com or Josh Ohlmann (314) 874-9184 joshohlmann@swbell.net.

Note: Pastor Luke will be attending the retreat (which follows the CLC Pastoral Conf. in Eau Claire, WI) and will be preaching for the Sunday worship service at the retreat.

St. Stephen Lutheran Church and School

A member of the Church of the Lutheran Confession (cclutheran.org)

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School Office: (650) 961-2071 **School Website:** ssls.org

Organist: Sue Slattengren

May 28, 2017 † Ascension Sunday



We Welcome Our Visitors who are with us this morning.

We hope that you are uplifted by the Gospel at our worship service.

We invite you to join us every Sunday. Please sign our guestbook in the entry.

† Preparation for Worship: Read Psalm 47 (Lutheran Service Book or Pew Bible) †

Opening Hymn: 493 *A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing*

LSB 493

SERVICE OF THE WORD

(Worship Supplement, p. 12)

Invocation

We invoke ("call upon") the name of the one true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

We come before our Holy God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

P We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.

G **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy upon me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

P God our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. Through faith in Him, which was created in you by the Holy Spirit, you are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will.

G **Amen.**

Kyrie *Latin for "O Lord." We approach our Lord with a cry for help in all the needs of our earthly life.* W.S. p. 13

♪ **Lord have mercy on us. Christ have mercy on us. Lord have mercy on us.**

Gloria in Excelsis *Latin for "Glory to God in the highest."* W.S. p. 13

♪ **Glory to God, we give You thanks and praise;
Of heav'nly joy and peace on earth we sing.
We worship You, to You our hearts we raise,
Lord God, almighty Father, heav'nly King.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, the Father's only Son,
You bore for us the load of this world's sin.
O Lamb of God, Your glorious vict'ry won,
Receive our prayer, grant us Your peace within.**

**Alone, O Christ, You only are the Lord,
At God's right hand in majesty most high:
Who with the Spirit worshiped and adored,
With all the heav'nly host we glorify.**

May Elder & Usher: Scott Mueller (Elder) & Dan Gullerud (Usher)

June Elder & Usher: Michael Slattengren (Elder) & Brenton Horrillo (Usher)

St. Stephen's School Call News & A Request – At our call meeting last Sunday we called Mrs. Rebecca Lillo, member of Messiah Lutheran, Eau Claire WI, to be the 2nd teacher in our school. Rebecca is currently teaching preschool aged children at a head start in the Eau Claire. She and her husband, BJ, have 3 children (two in high school and one in middle school) and attended St. Stephen a number of years ago when they were living in the area in the early years of their marriage.

One thing to note and pray for: It may be challenging for the Lillo family to consider moving from Wisconsin to the Bay Area unless Becca's husband, BJ, is able to find some work out here. He's prepared to look for opportunities, but could use our help in finding leads.

He's an experienced IT consultant with a broad skill set and good people skills. Please be on the lookout for opportunities. A copy of his resume is available from either Paul Pelzl or Pastor Luke if you know of anyone who you think should see it. Thank you for your prayers and your help!

SSLS Family Fun Night – Wed, June 7th @ 6:30pm – Mark your calendars: St. Stephen's Lutheran School will be having its end of the year "**Family Fun Night**" on **Wed. June 7** at the **63rd Regional Support Command Headquarters Auditorium (230 R T Jones Rd, Mountain View, CA 94043)**. The SSLS children will begin their variety show and play at **6:30pm**. We will have pizza and snacks following the performance at roughly **7:30pm**. We hope you all can join us for the fun, and show your support for our school and our students!

VBS Fliers & Registration Sheets Available – July 24th – 28th – Ages 4-13 – Start spreading the word! Fliers and registration forms are available in the entryway if you know of anyone who would be interested in sending their children to our **VBS** it will be held **Mon. – Fri. July 24th – 28th from 9am-11:30am**. The CLC's TVBS program is sending us teachers to assist us as well.

CLC News – St. Luke's Lutheran, Lemmon, SD, has called Pastor David Koenig, emeritus, West Columbia, SC. <> Immanuel Lutheran, Mankato, MN, has called Pastor Michael Roehl, of St. Paul Lutheran, Bismarck, ND, as co-pastor.

Offering *We offer our gifts to the Lord, remembering that He has first given to us that we might have to give to Him.*

Sermon Hymn: 757 (Worship Suppl.) **Christ Triumphant, Ever Reigning** W.S. 757

Prayer of the Church / Prayer Requests *We bring our prayers to God.*

Lord's Prayer

Benediction *The blessing given by God for the blessing of His people (Numbers 6:24-26).*

- ☐ The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



☐ **A-men, a-men, a - men.**

Closing Hymn: 738 (Worship Supplement) **Alleluia! Sing to Jesus** W.S. 738

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Week: Monday – **Memorial Day** (No School at SSLS)
Tuesday – **Stockton Worship Service – 2pm** (Meet at Niblett's Home)
Wednesday – **Villa Fontana Worship Service – 11am**
Friday – **Board of Ed Meeting – 6:30pm** (meet at parsonage)

Next Sunday: *Pentecost Sunday*
6/4/17 **St. Stephen – West** (Mt. View): **Bible Class – 8:45am**
Worship w/ communion – 10am
St. Stephen – East Bay (Hayward): **Worship w/ communion – 1pm**
Bible Class – 2pm

Prayer of the Day

- ☐ We pray:
Almighty God, as Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, ascended into the heavens, so may we also ascend in heart and mind, and in the end, dwell with Him there forever. We pray this through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

☐ **Amen.**

First Reading

Acts 1:1-11 (NKJV)

The former account I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, ² until the day in which He was taken up, after He through the Holy Spirit had given commandments to the apostles whom He had chosen, ³ to whom He also presented Himself alive after His suffering by many infallible proofs, being seen by them during forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God. ⁴ And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, "which," He said, "you have heard from Me; ⁵ "for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." ⁶ Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, "Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷ And He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. ⁸ "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." ⁹ Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. ¹⁰ And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, ¹¹ who also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven."

Gospel Reading

Luke 24:44-53 (NJKV)

- ☐ The Gospel reading is from Luke 24:44-53.
☐ **Sanctify us by Your truth, O LORD. Your Word is truth!**

⁴⁴ Then He said to them, "These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me." ⁴⁵ And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures. ⁴⁶ Then He said to them, "Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, ⁴⁷ "and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ "And you are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ "Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high." ⁵⁰ And He led them out as far as Bethany, and He lifted up His hands and blessed them. ⁵¹ Now it came to pass, while He blessed them, that He was parted from them and carried up into heaven. ⁵² And they worshiped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, ⁵³ and were continually in the temple praising and blessing God. Amen.

P Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it!

Alleluia and Verse

When God speaks to us in His Word it is natural for us to respond. We sing "Allelujah!"—meaning, "Praise the Lord!"

♪ Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
*These words are written that we may believe
That Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Apostles' Creed *We boldly confess what we believe.*

W.S. p. 15

**☩ I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven**

**and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Hymn of the Day: 494 See, the Lord Ascends in Triumph

LSB 494

Sermon: Happy Ascension Day!

Text: Ephesians 1:16-23 (NIV)

¹⁶ I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. ¹⁷ I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. ¹⁸ I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength, ²⁰ which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, ²¹ far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. ²² And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

Offertory

W.S. p. 16

**♪ Create in me a clean heart, O God,
And renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Your presence,
Take not Your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of Your salvation.
Uphold with Your Spirit free.**