

St. Stephen Lutheran Church and School

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

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Organist: Sue Slattengren

August 20, 2017 † Pentecost 11



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 42-43 (Lutheran Service Book or Pew Bible) †

Opening Hymn: 793 *Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven*

LSB 793

Invocation

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

P In the name of the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

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

P God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

C **If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** (1 John 1:5, 7-9)

P Let us pray...

C **Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer:**

We confess that we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have not loved You above all things. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Have mercy on us, and, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive us our sins.

P Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. We are forgiven! With boldness and confidence we may approach the throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the joy and peace of forgiveness let us praise the Lord...

822 Alleluia! Let Praises Ring

LSB 822 v. 4

4 Al - le - lu - ia! Let prais-es ring! Un - to our tri -
une God we sing; Blest be His name for - ev - er!
With an - gel hosts let us a - dore And sing His prais -
es ev - er - more For all His grace and fa - vor!

Sing - ing, ring - ing: Ho - ly, ho - ly, God is ho - ly;
 Spread the sto - ry Of our God, the Lord of glo - ry!

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Prayer of the Day

P We pray:

Almighty and everlasting Father, You give Your children many blessings even though we are undeserving. In every trial and temptation grant us steadfast confidence in Your loving-kindness and mercy. We pray this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G Amen.

First Reading - Psalm 43 (ESV - Responsive)

P Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly people,

G from the deceitful and unjust man deliver me!

P For you are the God in whom I take refuge;

G why have you rejected me?

P Why do I go about mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?

G Send out your light and your truth; let them lead me;

P Let them bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling!

G Then I will go to the altar of God, to God my exceeding joy,

P and I will praise you with the harp, O God, my God.

G Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me?

A Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God.

Second Reading

Matthew 14:13-21 (NKJV)

P The second reading is from Matthew 14:13-21.

C Sanctify us by Your truth, O LORD. Your Word is truth!

¹³ *When Jesus heard it, He departed from there by boat to a deserted place by Himself. But when the multitudes heard it, they followed Him on foot from the cities.*

¹⁴ *And when Jesus went out He saw a great multitude; and He was moved with compassion for them, and healed their sick.* ¹⁵ *When it was evening, His disciples came to Him, saying, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is already late. Send the multitudes away, that they may go into the villages and buy themselves food."* ¹⁶ *But Jesus said to them, "They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat."*

¹⁷ *And they said to Him, "We have here only five loaves and two fish."* ¹⁸ *He said, "Bring them here to Me."* ¹⁹ *Then He commanded the multitudes to sit down on the grass. And He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, He blessed and broke and gave the loaves to the disciples; and the disciples gave to the multitudes.* ²⁰ *So they all ate and were filled, and they took up twelve baskets full of the fragments that remained.* ²¹ *Now those who had eaten were about five thousand men, besides women and children.*

P Here ends our Scripture readings.

923 Almighty Father, Bless the Word

LSB 923 v. 1

1 Al - might - y Fa - ther, bless the Word Which through Your
grace we now have heard. Oh, may the pre - cious
seed take root, Spring up, and bear a - bun - dant fruit!

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**☩ I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;**

**who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.**

**And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.**

**And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Hymn of the Day: 756 *Why Should Cross and Trial Grieve Me?*

LSB 756

Sermon: We are More than Conquerors Through Christ!

1. In Life 2. In Death

Text: Romans 8:35-39 (NIV)

³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶ As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered." ³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Offertory

LSB 956



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new
a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way
from Thy pres - ence; and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va - tion;
and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

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

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

Lord's Prayer

Sermon Hymn: 724 (tune of hymn 442) **v. 1-4 *If God Himself Be for Me*** LSB 724

Service of the Sacrament

*Now we approach the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper in which Jesus comes to bless us with His very body and blood.
We move toward the Sacrament with prayers of thanksgiving and songs of adoration.*

The Words of Institution

The words spoken by Jesus the night He instituted the Lord's Supper, by which our Lord assured to His Church the real presence of His body and blood in the Sacrament.

Prayer Before the Lord's Supper

Adapted from The Lutheran Hymnal, p. 4

C Dear Savior, upon Your gracious invitation I come to Your altar.
Let me find favor in Your eyes that I may approach Your table in true faith
and receive the Lord's Supper for the forgiveness of my sins and the
strengthening of my faith. Amen

P The peace of the Lord be with you always!

C Amen.

Hymn of Preparation

619 Thy Body, Given for Me, O Savior

LSB 619 v. 1



1 Thy bod - y, giv'n for me, O Sav - ior, Thy blood which Thou for



me didst shed, These are my life and strength for -



ev - er, By them my hun - gry soul is fed.



Lord, may Thy bod - y and Thy blood Be



for my soul the high - est good!

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The Distribution

Note to our Guests: We are so glad you are worshiping with us this morning. The Word of God treats the Lord's Supper with great care. The Word of God considers the Lord's Supper to be a wonderful Means of Grace – a way in which Christ forgives and blesses. It is also considered an opportunity for congregations to express unity and oneness (1 Corinthians 10:16-17) – that is, to say to the world "This is what we believe!" But God's Word also warns against taking the Sacrament to our judgment (1 Corinthians 11:27-30). For these reasons our congregation asks that you fully understand our teachings before partaking. We respectfully ask that those who have joined this congregation through public confession of faith, or who are members of another congregation of the Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC) approach the altar at the usher's direction. Speak to our pastor anytime and he will be glad to provide the information you would need – and want. We look forward to communing together, Lord willing, in the future.

Prayer After the Lord's Supper

Adapted from *The Lutheran Hymnal*, p. 4

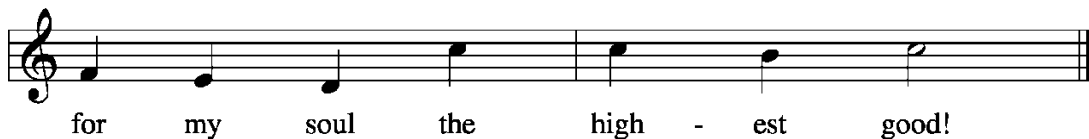
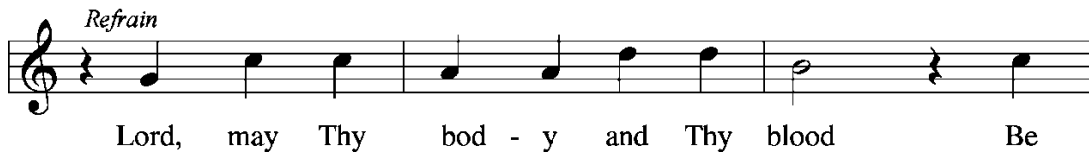
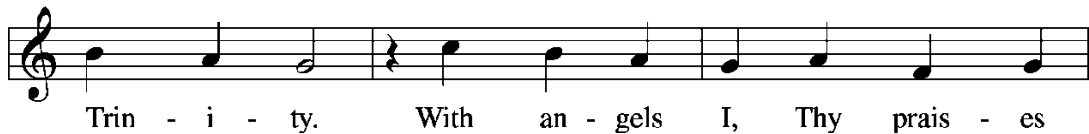
C O blessed Savior, Jesus Christ, You have given Yourself to me in this holy Sacrament, keep me in Your faith and favor. As You live in me, let me also live in You. May Your body and blood preserve me in the true faith unto everlasting life! Amen.

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord with gladness!

The Thanksgiving

619 Thy Body, Given for Me, O Savior

LSB 619 v. 5

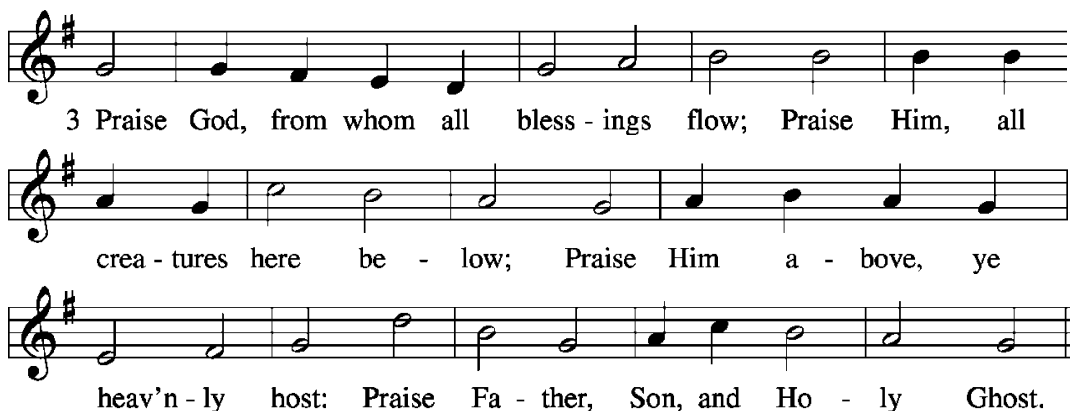


Benediction *The blessing given by God for the blessing of His people (Numbers 6:24-26).*

- ☐ 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.

The Doxology

LSB 923 v. 3



3 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Him, all
crea - tures here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye
heav'n - ly host: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

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Closing Hymn: 724 (tune of hymn 442) **v. 8-10 No Danger, Thirst...**

LSB 724

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Week: Wednesday – **Catechism Classes (via Skype)** (Fossum) – **7pm**

Next Sunday: **St. Stephen – West** (Mt. View): **NO Bible Class**
8/27/17 **Worship – 10am**

St. Stephen – East Bay (Hayward): **Worship – 1pm**
NO Bible Class

St. Stephen - South (Corona, CA): **Worship – 6:30pm**

August Elder & Usher: Nick Hasulak (Elder) & Dan Gullerud (Usher)

NO Bible Class NEXT Sunday – 8/27 - Southern California Worship Service & Visits –

The next Southern California (St. Stephen – South) worship service & visits are scheduled for **NEXT Sunday, August 27th @ 6:30pm** (visits, if needed will be on Monday, Aug. 28th). Both West and East Bay congregations have agreed with Pastor Luke's assessment that it would be better over-all for the services in Southern California to be held on Sunday evenings (instead of on Saturday afternoons).

Other Changes:

- ✚ Beginning in October the Southern California services will be held on the 2nd Sunday of each month, with Pastor Gurath from Phoenix, AZ and Pastor Luke trading off each month.
- ✚ On Sundays when Pastor Luke will be up for Southern California services there will be NO Bible Class at either St. Stephen-West or East Bay (essentially every-other 2nd Sunday of the month).
- ✚ We plan on changing the location of the services to a more central location since a majority of our St. Stephen – South members and contacts live south and east of the Los Angeles area. We will be meeting in Corona, CA at our August meeting and will assess if this is a better location.

Please continue to keep these efforts, and our brothers and sisters in Southern California in your prayers.

KINSHIP – Sponsors Needed - CLC Project KINSHIP provides for orphans and seminary students in India, Nepal and Africa through the kind sponsorship of stateside CLC members. Two new Bible Schools/Seminaries are opening in Togo and the Democratic Republic of Congo this year, and so there is a new need for sponsors right now. You can sponsor Togo students at \$30 per month or Congo students at \$40 per month. In India sponsorships are needed for BELC students at \$35 per month and CLCI students at \$40 per month. Consider supporting a student with your family members or other families. If you are interested in sponsoring a man who is preparing for the Lutheran ministry in India or Africa, please contact KINSHIP Committee member:

Pastor David Fuerstenau
426 Buren Road, Ketchikan, Alaska 99901
Phone: (907) 225-2842; E-mail: djfuerstenau@kpunet.net



FREE Spokesman Devotional Magazines – We have extra copies of *The Lutheran Spokesman* for FREE in the church entryway. Please take one for yourself if you'd like, or if you know someone else who could benefit from it, take one for them! Thank you.

CLC Women's Retreat West – Sept. 22-24, 2017 – Chadron State Park, Chadron, NE –
The CLC Women's Retreat – West is coming up in September and the deadline to register is fast approaching. The cost is **\$90 per person**. The deadline for registrations is **August 22nd**. (I apologize for not getting you this info sooner. They may be able to push back the registration date if there are slots available. – Pastor Luke). Please check their website for more info: **<http://christianwomensretreat.weebly.com/chadron.html>**

Or contact Candy Ohlmann if you have any questions - Phone: **920-979-2016**
Email: **ocandice@hotmail.com**