

St. Stephen Lutheran Church and School

A member of the Church of the Lutheran Confession (clclutheran.org)
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November 12, 2017 † Pentecost 23 / "Evangelism 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 67 (Lutheran Service Book or Pew Bible) †

Opening Hymn: 566 *By Grace I'm Saved*

LSB 566

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...

790 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

LSB 790 v. 1

1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
a - tion! O my soul, praise Him, for He is your
health and sal - va - tion! Let all who hear Now to His
tem - ple draw near, Join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!

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Prayer of the Day

P We pray:

Lord God, heavenly Father, You sent Your Son to earth to give us heaven. By Your grace, lead us, with all the company of the redeemed to the eternal rest He won for us in the mansions of our heavenly home. 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.

C Amen.

First Reading - *Psalm 67:1-7 (NKJV) (RESPONSIVE)*

P God be merciful to us and bless us,

C And cause His face to shine upon us.

P That Your way may be known on earth, Your salvation among all nations.

C Let the peoples praise You, O God; Let all the peoples praise You.

P Oh, let the nations be glad and sing for joy!

C For You shall judge the people righteously, And govern the nations on earth.

P Let the peoples praise You, O God;

C Let all the peoples praise You.

P Then the earth shall yield her increase;

C God, our own God, shall bless us.

P God shall bless us,

C And all the ends of the earth shall fear Him.

Second Reading

John 6:25-40 (ESV)

P The second reading is from John 6:25-40.

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

²⁵ *When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?"* ²⁶ *Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you are*

seeking me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves.

²⁷ Do not labor for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you. For on him God the Father has set his seal."

²⁸ Then they said to him, "What must we do, to be doing the works of God?" ²⁹ Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent."

³⁰ So they said to him, "Then what sign do you do, that we may see and believe you? What work do you perform?" ³¹ Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" ³² Jesus then said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³ For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." ³⁴ They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always."

³⁵ Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst. ³⁶ But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. ³⁷ All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out. ³⁸ For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me. ³⁹ And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. ⁴⁰ For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day."

P Here ends our Scripture readings.

744 Amazing Grace

LSB 744 v. 1, 4

1 A - maz - ing grace— how sweet the sound— That
4 Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail And
saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but
mor - tal life shall cease, A - maz - ing grace shall
now am found, Was blind but now I see!
then pre - vail In heav - en's joy and peace.

**☩ 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.**

Sermon: What is Grace, Really?

Text: Ephesians 2:4-10 (NKJV)

⁴ But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, ⁵ even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), ⁶ and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷ that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not of works, lest anyone should boast. ¹⁰ For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

Offertory

LSB 956

956 Create in Me

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.*

Sermon Hymn: 776 (Worship Supplement) ***Lord, 'Tis Not that I Did Choose You***

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

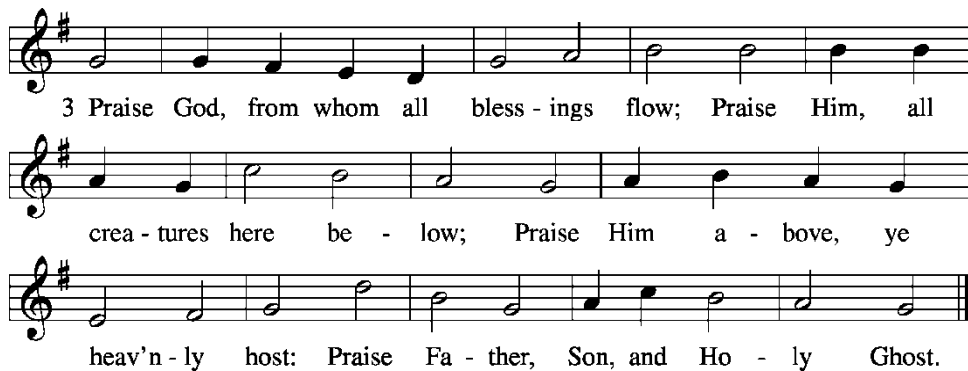
Lord's Prayer

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.

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: 778 (Worship Supplement) ***Grace Has a Thrilling Sound*** W.S. 778

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today: **St. Stephen - South** (Pastor Mike Gurath) (Corona, CA): **Worship – 6pm**

This Week: Monday – **Board of Elders – 6:30pm / Church Council Meeting – 7pm**
Tuesday – **50th Anniversary Committee Meeting – 7pm** (meet at Horrillo's)
Wednesday – **Catechism Class (via Skype)** (Fossum) – **7pm**
Friday – **Board of Education Meeting (Rescheduled) – 7pm**

Next Sunday: **St. Stephen – West** (Mt. View): **Bible Class – 9am**
11/19/17 **Worship – 10am**
Voter's Meeting – 11:15am (after worship)

St. Stephen – East Bay (Hayward): **Worship – 1pm**
Bible Class – 2pm

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

In Your Mailbox – CLC Financial Report – October

Voter's Meeting – NEXT Sunday, November 19th – After Worship Service – A reminder that we will be having our voter's meeting **NEXT Sunday, November 19th after the worship service.** On the agenda for the meeting: Elections for 2018 and possible budget adjustments.

CLC News – Pastor David Reim, of Vernon, BC, Canada, suffered a heart attack earlier this week. The following update is from his son-in-law, Pastor Nathan Pfeiffer:

"The ending first - Dave is recovering at the hospital in Vernon, feeling quite well, and hopes to be able to return home tomorrow (Thursday – Nov. 9th).

The beginning as we understand it - Dave picked Julie up at work yesterday and wasn't feeling well. They went to the hospital in Vernon where the heart attack really hit and the doctors were on top of it, likely reducing damage. He was taken to Kelowna (~ 30 miles south) where he had a stint put in one of his major arteries and was brought back to the hospital in Vernon last night. As of now, the doctors would like him to take the next 6-7 weeks easy, but expect a full recovery.

"Our time is in His hands!" With you, our family is thanking the Lord for His loving care of His servants, as well as all His "Advent" reminders for us all. May He continue to bless Dave with His healing. Yours in Christ - Pastor Nathan Pfeiffer – Trinity Lutheran, Spokane, WA