

St. Stephen Lutheran Church and School

A member of the Church of the Lutheran Confession (clclutheran.org)
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Guest Organist: Barb Gullerud

November 23, 2017 † Thanksgiving Day

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) †



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.

G **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

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

P On this day of thanks we come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. We come to offer Him our thanks and praise for all His goodness. But we have disobeyed Him. We do not deserve to come before His holy presence. We 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. You are His own dear child. Give thanks to Him for He truly has **"blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ!" (Ephesians 1:3).** In the joy and peace of forgiveness let us now praise the Lord:

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.

♪ ***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.***

Prayer of the Day

P We pray:

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, whose mercies are new unto us every morning and who, though we have in no way deserved Your goodness, abundantly provides for all our needs of body and soul, give us, we pray, Your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge Your merciful goodness toward us, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience. We pray this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord and Savior, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Responsive Psalm – Psalm 100 (NKJV) A Psalm of Thanksgiving.

P Make a joyful shout to the LORD, all you lands!

C **Serve the LORD with gladness; Come before His presence with singing.**

P Know that the LORD, He is God;

C **It is He who has made us, and not we ourselves;**

- P** We are His people
C **And the sheep of His pasture.**
- P** Enter into His gates with thanksgiving,
C **And into His courts with praise.**
- P** Be thankful to Him,
C **and bless His name.**
- P** For the LORD is good;
A **His mercy is everlasting, And His truth endures to all generations.**

Second Reading

Philippians 4:6-7 (NKJV)


- P** The Gospel reading is from Philippians 4:6-7.
C **Sanctify us by Your truth, O LORD. Your Word is truth!**

⁶ Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; ⁷ and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

- 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!*

1st Article of the Apostles' Creed with Luther's Explanation (Sydow Catechism, p. 97)

- C** **I believe in God the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe that God has created me and all creatures.
He has given me my body and life, eyes, ears, and all my bodily members,
my mind, and all my senses and still keeps them for me.**

God also preserves me by richly and daily providing clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, spouse and children, land, animals, and all my property and all I need to support this body and life.

He protects me from all danger. He guards and defends me from every evil. God does all this because He is my good and gracious Father in heaven, not because of anything I have done to earn or deserve it.

For all of this it is my duty to thank, praise, serve, and obey Him.

This is most certainly true

Hymn of the Day: 894 *For the Fruits of His Creation*

LSB 894

Sermon: Thanksgiving in a Land of Plenty

Text: John 6:25-35 (NKJV)

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.

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.***

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: 785 *We Praise You, O God*

LSB 785

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


Lord's Prayer

Closing Hymn & Psalm Reading

*We conclude our Thanksgiving Worship with the responsive singing of **Hymn 895 (LSB)**
and reading of **Psalm 95:1-7***

- P** Oh come, let us sing to the LORD!
- C** **Let us shout joyfully to the Rock of our salvation.**

- P** Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving;
- C** **Let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms.**

 ***Now thank we all our God with heart and hand and voices
Who wondrous things has done, in whom His world rejoices;
Who, from our mothers' arms, has blest us on our way
With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.***

P For the LORD *is* the great God,
C **And the great King above all gods.**

P In His hand *are* the deep places of the earth;
C **The heights of the hills *are* His also.**

P The sea *is* His, for He made it;
C **And His hands formed the dry *land*.**

♪ ***Oh, may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,
And keep us in His grace, and guide us when perplexed,
And free us from all ills in this world and the next.***

P Oh come, let us worship and bow down;
C **Let us kneel before the LORD our Maker.**

P For He *is* our God,
A **And we *are* the people of His pasture, And the sheep of His hand.**

Benediction *The "Apostolic Blessing" (2 Corinthians 13:14)*

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God the Father
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all!



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

♪ ***All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,
The Son and Him who reigns with them in highest heaven:
The one eternal God, whom earth and heaven adore!
For thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore!***

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thanksgiving



A blessed and joyful day of Thanksgiving to you all in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ! Let us all remember to whom we are giving thanks – God Himself. He is certainly worthy of our thanks and praise every day of our lives. May God give us all more appreciative and thankful hearts, for He truly “has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ” (Ephesians 1:3). Please join us in thanking and praising our Savior Jesus again at our worship service this **Sunday** at **10am**, and Bible Class is at **9am**.

This Sunday: **St. Stephen – West** (Mt. View): **Bible Class – 9am**
11/26/17 **Worship – 10am**
Christmas Decorating at Church – 11am

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

Christmas Decorating – THIS Sunday (11/26) – After Worship Service –

We will be decorating the church and putting up the Christmas Tree for the Advent and Christmas Season **THIS Sunday, Nov. 26th** after the worship service. Lunch will be provided. Please make plans to join us if you are able!



Food Donations for Thanksgiving and Christmas – We are collecting non-perishable food items to deliver to the Community Service Agency (CSA) in Mountain View for Thanksgiving and Christmas. There is a large box in the church entry marked “Food Drive.”