

# St. Stephen Lutheran Church and School

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

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January 28, 2018 † Epiphany 4



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**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.

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† Preparation for Worship: Read Psalm 1 (Lutheran Service Book or Pew Bible) †

**Opening Hymn: 842 *Son of God, Eternal Savior***

LSB 842

## 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.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** who made heaven and earth.

**P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**C** But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

- P** Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, and call upon Him in prayer and praise, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

## Confession and Absolution

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

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- G** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**
- P** In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and gives them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- G** **Amen.**

**Kyrie** *Latin for “O Lord.” We approach our Lord with a cry for help in all the needs of our earthly life.*

LSB 204



**G** Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.



**C** 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;  
2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;  
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro- claimed at Je-sus' birth!  
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.  
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,  
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.  
Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—  
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

### **Salutation** ("Greeting") **and Prayer of the Day**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** We pray:

Almighty God, You know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our human frailty we cannot stand upright without You. Give strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations. We pray this in Jesus' name, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

## First Reading

## Proverbs 8:11-36 (NKJV)

<sup>11</sup> For wisdom is better than rubies, And all the things one may desire cannot be compared with her. <sup>12</sup> " I, wisdom, dwell with prudence, And find out knowledge and discretion. <sup>13</sup> The fear of the LORD is to hate evil; Pride and arrogance and the evil way And the perverse mouth I hate. <sup>14</sup> Counsel is mine, and sound wisdom; I am understanding, I have strength. <sup>15</sup> By me kings reign, And rulers decree justice. <sup>16</sup> By me princes rule, and nobles, All the judges of the earth. <sup>17</sup> I love those who love me, And those who seek me diligently will find me. <sup>18</sup> Riches and honor are with me, Enduring riches and righteousness. <sup>19</sup> My fruit is better than gold, yes, than fine gold, And my revenue than choice silver. <sup>20</sup> I traverse the way of righteousness, In the midst of the paths of justice, <sup>21</sup> That I may cause those who love me to inherit wealth, That I may fill their treasuries. <sup>22</sup> " The LORD possessed me at the beginning of His way, Before His works of old. <sup>23</sup> I have been established from everlasting, From the beginning, before there was ever an earth. <sup>24</sup> When there were no depths I was brought forth, When there were no fountains abounding with water. <sup>25</sup> Before the mountains were settled, Before the hills, I was brought forth; <sup>26</sup> While as yet He had not made the earth or the fields, Or the primeval dust of the world. <sup>27</sup> When He prepared the heavens, I was there, When He drew a circle on the face of the deep, <sup>28</sup> When He established the clouds above, When He strengthened the fountains of the deep, <sup>29</sup> When He assigned to the sea its limit, So that the waters would not transgress His command, When He marked out the foundations of the earth, <sup>30</sup> Then I was beside Him as a master craftsman; And I was daily His delight, Rejoicing always before Him, <sup>31</sup> Rejoicing in His inhabited world, And my delight was with the sons of men. <sup>32</sup> " Now therefore, listen to me, my children, For blessed are those who keep my ways. <sup>33</sup> Hear instruction and be wise, And do not disdain it. <sup>34</sup> Blessed is the man who listens to me, Watching daily at my gates, Waiting at the posts of my doors. <sup>35</sup> For whoever finds me finds life, And obtains favor from the LORD; <sup>36</sup> But he who sins against me wrongs his own soul; All those who hate me love death. "

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Second Reading

## 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 (NKJV)

**P** The Second reading is from 1 Corinthians 1:18-25.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>18</sup> For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup> For it is written: "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, And bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent." <sup>20</sup> Where is the wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the disputer of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? <sup>21</sup> For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through wisdom did not know God, it pleased God through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup> For Jews request a sign, and Greeks seek after wisdom; <sup>23</sup> but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness, <sup>24</sup> but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup> Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

**P** Here ends our second reading.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## 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!"



**C** Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



**C** These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



**C** Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## **Installation of Church Officers**

Paul Pelzl – President; Michael Slattengren – Vice President/Elders Chariman;  
Brenton Horrillo – Treasurer; Chris Holt – Financial Secretary; Nick Hasulak – Secretary;  
Wayne Bliss – Mission Board Chairman; Scott Mueller – Board of Property Chariman;  
Shaun Levandoski – Board of Education Chairman

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

*LSB 207*

**☩ 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: 526 *You Are the Way; through You Alone***

*LSB 526*

## **Sermon: Jesus Revealed – The Wisdom of God**

**Text: 1 Corinthians 1:26-31 (ESV)**

**<sup>26</sup> For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth.**

<sup>27</sup> But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; <sup>28</sup> God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, <sup>29</sup> so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. <sup>30</sup> He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom and our righteousness and sanctification and redemption. <sup>31</sup> Therefore, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the 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.

Public domain

**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: 536 v. 1, 3-5 *One Thing's Needful*** (tune TLH Hymn 366)

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

**Lord's Prayer**

LSB 209

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

LSB 202

- P** 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  $\text{†}$  give you peace.



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

**Closing Hymn: 919 *Abide, O Dearest Jesus***

LSB 919

### Acknowledgments

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today: **Voter's Annual Meeting – After Worship Service**

This Week: Tuesday – **Stockton Worship at Atria Assisted Living – 2pm**  
Wednesday – **Villa Fontana Worship Service – 11am**  
**Catechism Class (via Skype) (Fossum) – 7pm**  
Thursday – **Choir – 6:30pm** (Rescheduled)

Next Sunday: **St. Stephen – West (Mt. View): Bible Class – 9am**  
2/4/18 **Worship – 10am**

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

**January Elder & Usher:** Wayne Bliss (Elder) & Michael Slattengren (Usher)

**February Elder & Usher:** Nick Hasulak (Elder) & BJ Lillo (Usher)