

# St. Stephen Lutheran Church and School

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

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**February 11, 2018 † Transfiguration Sunday**

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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 148 (Lutheran Service Book or Pew Bible) †

**Opening Hymn: 414 'Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here**

LSB 414

## **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.

**C** **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.

**C** **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.**

## Prayer of the Day

**P** We pray:

O God, in the glorious transfiguration of Your beloved Son You confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of Moses and Elijah. In the voice that came from the bright cloud You wonderfully foreshowed our adoption by grace. Mercifully make us co-heirs with the King in His glory and bring us to the fullness of our inheritance in heaven. We pray this through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**G** Amen.

## First Reading

**2 Corinthians 3:12-4:6 (ESV)**

*<sup>12</sup> Since we have such a hope, we are very bold, <sup>13</sup> not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face so that the Israelites might not gaze at the outcome of what was being brought to an end.*

*<sup>1</sup> Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart. <sup>2</sup> But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways. We refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God. <sup>3</sup> And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled only to those who are perishing. <sup>4</sup> In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. <sup>5</sup> For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. <sup>6</sup> For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.*

## Gospel Reading

**Matthew 17:1-9 (NKJV)**

**P** The Gospel reading is from Matthew 17:1-9.

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

*<sup>1</sup> Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, led them up on a high mountain by themselves; <sup>2</sup> and He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light. <sup>3</sup> And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Him. <sup>4</sup> Then Peter answered and said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if You wish, let us make here three tabernacles: one*

*for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." <sup>5</sup> While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and suddenly a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!" <sup>6</sup> And when the disciples heard it, they fell on their faces and were greatly afraid. <sup>7</sup> But Jesus came and touched them and said, "Arise, and do not be afraid." <sup>8</sup> When they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only. <sup>9</sup> Now as they came down from the mountain, Jesus commanded them, saying, "Tell the vision to no one until the Son of Man is risen from the dead."*

**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*

**C** 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 there 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.**

**Sermon: Jesus Revealed – By His Transfiguration**

**Text: 2 Peter 1:16-21 (NKJV)**

**<sup>16</sup> For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty.**

**<sup>17</sup> For He received from God the Father honor and glory when such a voice came to Him from the Excellent Glory: "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."**

**<sup>18</sup> And we heard this voice which came from heaven when we were with Him on the holy mountain. <sup>19</sup> And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts; <sup>20</sup> knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, <sup>21</sup> for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.**

**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: 416 *Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory***

LSB 416

**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: 537 Beautiful Savior**

LSB 537

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Today: **Southern California Worship** (Corona, CA) – **6:30pm**

This Week: Wednesday – **Ash Wednesday Worship** (Mt. View) – **7pm**  
Thursday – **Choir Practice** (Mt. View) – **6:30pm**

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

**St. Stephen – East Bay** (Hayward): **Worship – 1pm**  
**Church Council Meeting – 2pm**

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



**New Church Lighting** – We thank Scott Mueller for installing the new lighting in the front of our sanctuary. Please take a look at the catalog on the entryway table and give your opinions & suggestions for the new chandelier lights and wall sconces we'll be ordering for the sanctuary. We'll leave the sheet out until **next Sunday, Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>** and then discuss the suggestions and our lighting options at our Church Council meeting on **Tuesday, Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>**.

**Church Directory** – If you have not done so yet please check the directory pages on the entryway table and make sure your contact info is correct. Please make any corrections, additions, or subtractions by **Sunday, Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>**. Or you can email any corrections to Chris Holt ([chrholt@gmail.com](mailto:chrholt@gmail.com)), or Pastor Luke ([lbernthal@live.com](mailto:lbernthal@live.com)). We hope to get the new directories printed and distributed by the first Sunday in March. Thank you for your cooperation and assistance!



**Ash Wednesday Worship – THIS Wed. February 14<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm** – This Wednesday is not only Valentine’s Day, it is also Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent. Please join us for our Ash Wednesday worship service at **7pm** as we commemorate true love in Lent:

***“This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.” – 1 John 4:10 (NIV)***

**CLC News** - St. John’s Lutheran, Clarkston, WA, has called Teacher Andrew Roehl, Messiah Lutheran, Eau Claire, WI, as the Primary Teacher/Principal, in addition to the current staff of Valley Bible Academy.

**CLC Missions Prayer List** - From Missionary Todd Ohlmann:

1. Nepal – On January 16<sup>th</sup>, the Lord blessed Raju and Sanju Bhitrakoti with a healthy baby boy. Sanju was recently been admitted to the hospital to be treated for high blood pressure.
2. Mexico – Earlier this month, Pastor Juan Jose Olvera and his family were involved in a hit and run automobile accident. He and his two children were treated and released but his wife was in the hospital for extended treatment. The CLC Board of Missions approved some emergency funds for the hospital expenses.
3. Myanmar – While Pastor Thang was visiting the congregations of the CLC-Myanmar in Chin State he began suffering from some sort of disease that caused partial paralysis. He was admitted and treated at a hospital near the Myanmar/India border. He needs several injections to treat the condition. With the help of the members of the CLC-Myanmar he was able to receive the initial treatment. The CLC Board of Missions approved emergency funding for the remaining injections. He is hoping that he will recover quickly and be healthy enough to attend the Joint Asia Pastoral conference in early February.
4. Tanzania – The district chairmen of the CLC-Tanzania have sent a proposal to begin formal training of pastors to the CLC Bd of Missions for their consideration at their April meetings. The name they have proposed for the school is Wartburg Lutheran Theological Seminary of Tanzania.
5. Tanzania – A new CLC-TZ congregation is beginning in Dar es Salaam. This congregation regularly has Muslim women who attend secretly because they are forbidden by their husbands and families.

6. Tanzania – A pastor of a Maasai congregation in Msito we Tembo passed away on Monday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> from a stroke. The congregation is the only Christian congregation in the area and will now be served from a distance until another pastor can be trained to take his place. The funeral will be held on Friday, January 26<sup>th</sup>.
7. Tanzania – Pastors from the CLC-TZ will be visiting new contacts in Mwanza in the North-West part of the country. These contacts are a group of ten pastors and congregations who had left the ELCT (the ELCA of Tanzania) several years ago and have been inquiring about the CLC for the past few years.
8. Tanzania – Pastors of the CLC-TZ will also be visiting contacts on the island of Zanzibar in the coming months. There are at least four pastors who have interest in the CLC-TZ.
9. Tanzania – Pastor Malyi, who serves as the chairman of the Moshi district of the CLC-TZ has diabetes and suffered a heart attack about a year ago. He has been slowly recovering from the heart-attack and is being treated for diabetes. He spent quite a bit of time in the hospital and has a lot of medical bills. The CLC Bd of Mission was able to assist him with some of his medical debt so that he was able pay for his medications.
10. Zambia – A severe Cholera outbreak has recently hit the large city of Lusaka where Pastor Ibrahim is living and working. The government had issued an order for all public offices, schools, and church services to be closed. Pastor Ibrahim was able to leave Lusaka for a few weeks during the epidemic. He will return on January 26<sup>th</sup>.
11. India – New rules and regulations that govern the transfer of money to India from foreign countries has created a great deal of difficulties for our CLC Treasurer and our brothers and sisters of the CLCI.
12. India/Asia – The CLC-India, BELC-India, CLC-Myanmar, National Lutheran Church of Myanmar, and the Himalayan CLC of Nepal are all making preparations for the 2018 Joint Asia Pastoral Conference scheduled for early February. This conference will be held in Nellore where the BELC has a congregation. Pastor Tim Daub is making plans to attend as well. Missionary Ohlmann will be in India during this time and will also be privileged to attend.
13. Myanmar – Part-Time Visiting Missionary David Koenig and Missionary Ohlmann are making plans to visit Myanmar in late February. Seminars will be held with both church bodies that we work with in Myanmar. The National Lutheran Church is located in Yangon on the South-East border and the CLC-Myanmar is located on the South-West border.
14. Nepal – Following the Myanmar visit, Missionary Ohlmann will be in Nepal in March to work with the pastors and leaders of the HCLCN.
15. Individuals in Senegal, DR Congo, Haiti, Zimbabwe, and Bangladesh continue formal Online Theological Studies correspondence courses.
16. Missionary Ohlmann – will be traveling to India, Myanmar, Nepal, and Haiti to work with pastors and leaders over the next few months.