

St. Stephen Lutheran Church and School

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

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Organist: Sue Slattengren

April 8, 2018 † **Easter 2**



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 16 (Lutheran Service Book or Pew Bible) †

Opening Hymn: 741 v. 1-5, 8 *Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense*

LSB 741 v. 1-5, 8

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:

Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is God and Savior. 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

Acts 2:14a, 22-32 (NKJV)

^{14a} *But Peter, standing up with the eleven, raised his voice and said to them, ...*
²² *"Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know --* ²³ *"Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death;* ²⁴ *"whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it.* ²⁵ *"For David says concerning Him: 'I foresaw the LORD always before my face, For He is at my right hand, that I may not be shaken.* ²⁶ *Therefore my heart rejoiced, and my tongue was glad; Moreover my flesh also will rest in hope.* ²⁷ *For You will not leave my soul in Hades, Nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption.* ²⁸ *You have made known to me the ways of life; You will make me full of joy in Your presence.'* ²⁹ *"Men and brethren, let me speak freely to you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his tomb is with us to this day.* ³⁰ *"Therefore, being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that of the fruit of his body, according to the flesh, He would raise up the Christ to sit on his throne,* ³¹ *"he, foreseeing this, spoke concerning the resurrection of the Christ, that His soul was not left in Hades, nor did His flesh see corruption.* ³² *"This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses.*

Gospel Reading

John 20:19-31 (NKJV)

P The Gospel reading is from John 20:19-31.

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

¹⁹ Then, the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹ So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you." ²² And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ "If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." ²⁴ Now Thomas, called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ The other disciples therefore said to him, "We have seen the Lord." So he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe." ²⁶ And after eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, "Peace to you!" ²⁷ Then He said to Thomas, "Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing." ²⁸ And Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." ³⁰ And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹ but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.

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.**

Hymn of the Day: 470 v. 1, 4-9 *O Sons and Daughters of the King*

LSB 470

Sermon: Reactions to the Resurrection

- 1. The Early New Testament Christians'**
- 2. Ours**

Text: Acts 2:14a, 36-47 (NKJV)

¹⁴ But Peter, standing up with the eleven, raised his voice and said to them,...
³⁶ "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ." ³⁷ Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" ³⁸ Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ "For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call." ⁴⁰ And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation." ⁴¹ Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them. ⁴² And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers. ⁴³ Then fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ Now all who believed were together, and

had all things in common, ⁴⁵ and sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need. ⁴⁶ So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, ⁴⁷ praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.

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: 736 (Worship Supplement) ***At the Lamb's High Feast...*** W.S. 736

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: 478 ***The Day of Resurrection***

LSB 478

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today: **Congregational Meeting – Discussion of Sanctuary Lighting**
Southern California Worship (w/ Pastor Mike Gurath) (Corona, CA) – **6pm**

This Week: Mon.-Fri. – **No School at SSSLs (Spring Break) – Resumes Mon. 4/16**
Wednesday – **Catechism Class (via Skype)** (Fossum) – **7pm**

Next Sunday: **St. Stephen – West** (Mt. View): **Bible Class – 9am**
4/15/18 **Worship w/ communion – 10am**

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

April Elder & Usher: Paul Pelzl (Elder) & Brenton Horillo (Usher)

In Your Mailbox – St. Stephen Financial Report – February & March



Congregational Meeting – Sanctuary Lighting Discussion – Please join us in the fellowship hall for a congregational meeting immediately following our worship service. We will be discussing plans for our sanctuary lighting.

CLC News - Professor Paul Schaller has announced his retirement from the full time public ministry effective at the end of the 2018-19 academic year.

CLC Convention – June 21st – 24th – Eau Claire, WI - Delegates Needed! – The CLC Convention is held every other year and will be held this summer from **Thurs. June 21st – Sun. June 24th** on the Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, and Seminary campus in Eau Claire, WI. We are able to send 2 delegates from our congregation along with our pastor. Any voting member of our congregation is eligible to attend and represent our congregation. Questions? Please speak to Pastor Luke if are interested in serving your church and our church body as a delegate this summer.

Women’s Gathering – Gethsemane Lutheran, Spokane, WA – Sat. April 28th – A Women’s Gathering at one of our CLC congregations in Spokane, WA is scheduled for Sat., April 28th. For more information see the poster in the church entryway.

CLC Financial Report - March

CLC Financial Report Operating Funds	Balance 7/1/2017	YTD Revenue	YTD Disbursed	Budget 9 Months	Balance 3/31/2018
General Fund	0	746,864	728,105	697,500	18,759
ILC Operations	0	1,107,111	933,192	396,000	173,919
Total	\$0	\$1,853,975	\$1,661,297	\$1,093,500	192,678
Auxiliary Funds					
ILC Improvement Fund (IIF)	27,274	174,595	6,534		195,335
ILC Building Projects (AC/Dorm)	- 49,213	364,902	209,117		106,572
Mission Development Fund (MDF)	61,237	186,196	138,159		109,274
Kinship	43,040	86,307	91,855		37,492
Church Extension Fund (CEF)	1,030,843	935,212	717,428		1,238,627
Student Aid Fund (SAF)	68,917	120,788	123,298		66,407
Reserve Fund	225,190	0	0		225,190
Total	\$1,407,288	\$1,868,000	\$1,296,391		\$1,978,897

ILC Building Projects (Academic Center Balance & North Hall)	
Beginning Balance November 1, 2017	\$1,460,931
Current Balance March 31, 2018	\$1,445,175
Principal paid to date	\$15,756

Notes:

- * **General Fund** offerings in March totaled \$88,680 vs disbursements of \$86,882, resulting in a positive balance of \$18,759. Budgetary offerings needed per month are \$77,500.
- * **ILC Building Projects** revenue in March totaled \$7,911 vs the monthly mortgage payment of \$8,000. The Board of Trustees maintains a 3-month payment reserve in this fund and so will pay down around \$80,000 of the \$106,572 balance directly on the loan principal, saving total interest of \$115,000 & decreasing the loan term by 2 years.
- * **CEF:** revenue in March totaled \$89,835 from congregations' CEF loan repayments (\$45,000) & also matured personal notes rewritten vs disbursements of \$61,787 to pay off several matured promissory notes and also interest due on several others.
- * **MDF:** offerings in March totaled \$48,1124 vs disbursements of \$2,814.
- * **SAF:** received \$21,400 in March from congregational offerings (\$4,750), memorials (\$3,250), and student loan re-payments (\$13,400) vs disbursements of \$11,900 for allocation of 2nd semester student grants (\$2,900), monthly student loans (\$8,000), and admin expenses (\$1,000).
- * **IIF:** The ILC Improvement Fund March offering was \$552, vs \$90 disbursements, resulting in an IIF balance of \$195,225. This will enable us to do all the approved projects in the IIF, including re-paving of Ingram Drive, field house heating upgrade, and several professorage repairs & upgrades.

*James E. Sandeen, CLC Treasurer
Thomas J. Lentz, Chairman, CLC Board of Trustees*