

St. Stephen Lutheran Church and School

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

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April 22, 2018 † **Easter 4**



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 23 (Lutheran Service Book or Pew Bible) †

Opening Hymn: 783 (Worship Supplement) ***Jesus, Shepherd of the Sheep*** W.S. 783

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, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd, Jesus Christ, we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads. 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 - Psalm 23 (KJV - Responsive)

P The LORD *is* my shepherd;

C **I shall not want.**

P He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:

C **He leadeth me beside the still waters.**

P He restoreth my soul:

C **He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.**

P Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil:

C **For thou *art* with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me.**

P Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:

C **Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.**

P Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:

C **And I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading

John 10:1-10 (NKJV)

P The Second reading is from John 10:1-10.

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

¹ *"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. ² "But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. ³ "To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴ "And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. ⁵ "Yet they will by no means follow a stranger, but will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers." ⁶ Jesus used this illustration, but they did not understand the things which He spoke to them. ⁷ Then Jesus said to them again, "Most assuredly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. ⁸ "All who ever came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them. ⁹ "I am the door. If anyone enters*

by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. ¹⁰ *"The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.*

P Here ends our second reading.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 205

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.

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

LSB 207

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 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: 710 *The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want*

LSB 710

Sermon: How Good is Our "Good Shepherd!"

Text: John 10:11-18 (NKJV)

¹¹ "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep. ¹² "But a hireling, *he who is not the shepherd, one who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf catches the sheep and scatters them. ¹³ "The hireling flees because he is a hireling and does not care about the sheep. ¹⁴ "I am the good shepherd; and I know My *sheep*, and am known by My own. ¹⁵ "As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. ¹⁶ "And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear My voice; and there will be one flock *and* one shepherd. ¹⁷ "Therefore My Father loves Me, because I lay down My life that I may take it again. ¹⁸ "No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This command I have received from My Father."*

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.

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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: 711 Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

LSB 711

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 ✠ give you peace.



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

Acknowledgments

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Week: Tues. – Thurs. – **Pacific Coast Spring Pastoral Conference – Spokane, WA**
(Pastor out of town Monday evening through Thursday night)
Thursday – **Choir Practice – 6:30pm**

Next Sunday: **St. Stephen – West** (Mt. View): **Bible Class – 9am**
4/29/18 **Worship – 10am**

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

<p><u>April Elder & Usher:</u> Paul Pelzl (Elder) & Brenton Horillo (Usher)</p>
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Pastor Out of Town this Week (Mon. – Thurs.) – Pastoral Conference in Spokane, WA –

I will be out of town this week, Lord willing, from Monday evening until Thursday night at the Pacific Coast Spring Pastoral Conference in Spokane, WA. If pastoral assistance is needed during this time please call my cell phone **(402) 389-2147**.

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.