

St. Stephen Lutheran Church

Member congregation of the Church of the Lutheran Confession (clclutheran.org)

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School Website: ssls.org

January 29, 2023 † Epiphany 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.

† Preparation for Worship: Read Psalm 27 (Lutheran Service Book or Pew Bible) †

**Our Worship Services will be Posted to Our Website Each Sunday Evening.
To Watch our Worship Service Online Please Click This Link:**

<https://www.sslcwest.org/worship.html>

Opening Hymn: 810 O God of God, O Light of Light

LSB 810



1 O God of God, O Light of Light, O Prince of Peace and
2 For deep in proph-ets' sa - cred page, And grand in po - ets'
3 That life of truth, those deeds of love, That death so steeped in
4 Then raise to Christ a might - y song, And shout His name, His



King of kings: To You in heav-en's glo - ry bright The song of
wing-ed word, Slow - ly in type, from age to age The na - tions
hate and scorn— These all are past, and now a - bove He reigns, our
mer-cies tell! Sing, heav'n-ly host, your praise pro-long, And all on



praise for - ev - er rings. To Him who sits up - on the throne,
saw their com - ing Lord; Till through the deep Ju - de - an night
King once crowned with thorn. Lift up your heads, O might - y gates!
earth, your an - them swell! All hail, O Lamb for sin - ners slain!



The Lamb once slain but raised a - gain, Be all the glo - ry
Rang out the song, "Good - will to men!" Sung once by first - born
So sang that host be - yond our ken. Lift up your heads, your
For - ev - er let the song as - cend! Wor - thy the Lamb, en -



He has won, All thanks and praise! A - men, a - men.
sons of light, It ech - oes now, "Good - will!" A - men.
King a - waits. We lift them up. A - men, a - men.
throned to reign, All glo - ry, pow'r! A - men, a - men.

Text: John Julian, 1839–1913, alt.

Tune: Johann Störls . . . Schlag- Gesang- Und Noten-Buch, 1744, Stuttgart

Text and tune: Public domain

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 we stand in awe of You.**

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.

C **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.

C **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



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Gloria in Excelsis *Latin for "Glory to God in the highest."*

LSB 204



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 frailty we cannot stand upright. Grant strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations. We pray this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

First Reading

Isaiah 9:1-4 (EHV)

Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for the land that was in anguish. In former times, he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will cause it to be glorious, along the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, in Galilee of the Gentiles.

² The people walking in darkness have seen a great light.

For those living in the land of the shadow of death, the light has dawned.

³ You have multiplied the nation. You have increased its joy.

***They rejoice before you like the joy at harvest time,
like the celebration when people divide the plunder.***

⁴ For you have shattered the yoke that burdened them.

***You have broken the bar on their shoulders and
the rod of their oppressor,
as you did in the day of Midian.***

Second Reading

John 1:1-14 (EHV)

P The second reading is from John 1:1-14.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was with God in the beginning. ³ Through him everything was made, and without him not one thing was made that has been made. ⁴ In him was life, and the life was the light of mankind. ⁵ The light is shining in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶ There was a man, sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as an eyewitness to testify about the light so that everyone would believe through him. ⁸ He was not the light, but he came to testify about the light.

⁹ The real light that shines on everyone was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not recognize him.

¹¹ *He came to what was his own, yet his own people did not accept him.* ¹² *But to all who did receive him, to those who believe in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.* ¹³ *They were born, not of blood, or of the desire of the flesh, or of a husband's will, but born of God.*

¹⁴ *The Word became flesh and dwelled among us. We have seen his glory, the glory he has as the only-begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

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: 914 *Light of Light, O Sole-Begotten*

LSB 914



1 Light of Light, O Sole - Be - got - ten Ra - diance of the
2 Word e - ter - nal, through Your be - ing God cre - at - ed
3 Still Your brood - ing Spir - it hov - ers O - ver cha - os,
4 Come, Lord Je - sus, by Your Spir - it In our hearts Your

Fa - ther's face, Word made flesh, who lived a - mong us
all we see, When the emp - ty spac - es ech - oed
dark and deep, Call - ing out with in - vi - ta - tion:
work be - gin, Bring the heal - ing res - to - ra - tion

Full of truth and full of grace, Shine up - on our
With the Fa - ther's "Let there be . . ." Light and life burst
"Rise, a - wak - en from your sleep; Christ the Lord will
Of Your im - age lost by sin; From Your full - ness

hu - man dark - ness; Pierce the night that shrouds our race.
from the glo - rious Pow - er of Your maj - es - ty!
shine up - on you And from death your soul shall keep."
all re - ceiv - ing Grace on grace, new life with - in!

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955

Tune: Henry Purcell, 1659–95, adapt.

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Tune: Public domain

Sermon Text: Matthew 4:12-17, 23 (EHV)

¹² When Jesus heard that John was put in prison, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³ He left Nazareth and went to live in Capernaum, which is by the sea, in the region of Zebulun and Naphtali. ¹⁴ He did this to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah:

¹⁵ Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali,
along the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan,
Galilee of the Gentiles,

¹⁶ the people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light,
and on those dwelling in the region and the shadow of death a light has dawned.

¹⁷ From that time, Jesus began to preach: "Repent, because the kingdom of heaven is near." ... ²³ Jesus traveled throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every sickness among the people.

Sermon Theme: What Does this Text REVEAL About Jesus? – The Light of the World

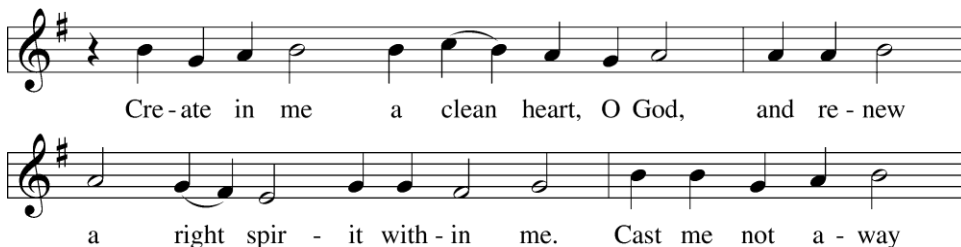
It REVEALS...

✝ 1) ... that Jesus _____!

✝ 2) ... that Jesus _____ .

Offertory

LSB 956





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.*
 († *If you have an offering to give today, please place it in the plate in the church entryway.* †)

Sermon Hymn: 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

LSB 839

1 O Christ, our true and on - ly light, En - light - en
2 Fill with the ra - diance of Your grace The souls now
3 O gent - ly call those gone a - stray That they may
4 Shine on the dark - ened and the cold; Re - call the
5 That they with us may ev - er - more Such grace with
those who sit in night; Let those a - far now
lost in er - ror's maze; En - light - en those whose
find the sav - ing way! Let ev - 'ry con - science
wan - d'ers to Your fold. U - nite all those who
won - d'ring thanks a - dore And end - less praise to
hear Your voice And in Your fold with us re - joice.
in - most minds Some dark de - lu - sion haunts and blinds.
sore op - pressed In You find peace and heav'n - ly rest.
walk a - part; Con - firm the weak and doubt - ing heart,
You be giv'n By all Your Church in earth and heav'n.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: Andächtige Haus-Kirche, 1676, Nürnberg
 Text and tune: Public domain

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

Lord's Prayer

LSB 209

- C** Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

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.

Closing Hymn: 412 *The People That in Darkness Sat* (please stand for last verse)



1 The peo - ple that in dark - ness sat A glo - rious
2 To hail Thee, Sun of Righ - teous - ness, The gath - 'ring
3 To us a Child of hope is born, To us a
4 His name shall be the Prince of Peace, The Ev - er -



light have seen; The light has shined on them who long In
na - tions come; They joy as when the reap - ers bear Their
Son is giv'n, And on His shoul - der ev - er rests All
last - ing Lord, The Won - der - ful, the Coun - sel - or, The



shades of death have been, In shades of death have been.
har - vest trea - sures home, Their har - vest trea - sures home.
pow'r in earth and heav'n, All pow'r in earth and heav'n.
God by all a - dored, The God by all a - dored.

***5. His righteous government and pow'r Shall over all extend;
On judgment and on justice based,
His reign shall have no end, His reign shall have no end.***

***△ 6. Lord Jesus, reign in us, we pray, And make us Thine alone,
Who with the Father ever art
And Holy Spirit, one, And Holy Spirit, one.***

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
Tune: Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480–1561
Text and tune: Public domain

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today: **St. Stephen – West (Mt. View): Bible Class – 9am
Worship – 10am
Voters' Annual Meeting – 11am**

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

This Week: Tuesday – **Stockton Worship (Oakmont) – 2pm
Sacramento Worship (Forever Easter House) – 4:30pm**
Saturday – **Workday – Painting prepwork – TBD - Details to follow**

Next Sunday: **St. Stephen – West (Mt. View): Bible Class – 9am**

2/5/23

Worship w/ Communion– 10am

St. Stephen – East Bay (Hayward): Worship w/ Communion – 1pm

Bible Class – 2pm

Online Worship Services - <https://www.sslcwest.org/worship.html>

Annual Voter's Meeting & Annual Reports – TODAY @ 11am –

Our annual voter's meeting and annual reports will be held **TODAY at 11am** in the fellowship hall. All voters are encouraged to be there. The congregation is invited to attend as well. Copies of the annual report will be handed out and emailed to our members as well. If you are unable to come in person but would still like to sit in on the meeting please use Pastor Luke's Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8729663333>



Paint Choices – Please Give Us Your Input – A “ballot” is being handed out today for you to give your “vote” on what color you’d like to see the accent walls painted in both the church entry and the fellowship hall. Please turn in your ballots to Michael Slattengren or Scott Mueller by the end of the voters meeting today. Thank you!

Workday Next Saturday – Details Will Be Emailed Out this Week – You may have noticed that work has already begun on our interior remodeling project and prep work for painting the entryway and fellowship hall. Over the next few weekends we will be in need of volunteers to help with various projects in preparation for painting and the new flooring. More details in regard to the workday this Saturday will be emailed out this week.

Lutheran Spokesman Article on Our St. Stephen Churches and Schools – This month's *Lutheran Spokesman* has a two-page article on our St. Stephen congregations and schools. Please check it out! Extra copies of each month's magazine are in the entryway.

Note: There are a couple of corrections needed in the article. The youth confirmation for Rachel Blank in East Bay was in June 2022 (not June 2021). Also, the photo in the top right corner of the second page was a group photo of both of West and East Bay members after our Reformation service last October.

CLC News - Pastor Andrew Schaller of Calvary Lutheran Church, Marquette, MI, *has accepted* the call to Luther Memorial, Fond du Lac, WI.