

# ***St. Stephen Lutheran Church***

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

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St. Stephen Lutheran School: Mikkela Hammond (Principal), Julia Bernthal (Administrator)

**School Office: (650) 961-2071**

**School Website: ssls.org**

**February 12, 2023 † Epiphany 6**

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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.

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† Preparation for Worship: Read Psalm 32 (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: 979 God, Whose Almighty Word** (please stand for the last verse) LSB 979



1 God, whose al - might - y word Cha - os and  
2 Lord, who once came to bring, On Your re -  
3 Spir - it of truth and love, Life - giv - ing,  
△ 4 Ho - ly and bless - ed Three, Glo - ri - ous

dark - ness heard And took their flight: Hear us, we  
deem - ing wing, Heal - ing and sight, Health to the  
ho - ly dove, Speed forth Your flight; Move on the  
Trin - i - ty, Wis - dom, love, might! Bound - less as

hum - bly pray, And where the Gos - pel day  
sick in mind, Sight to the in - ly blind:  
wa - ter's face, Bear - ing the lamp of grace,  
o - cean's tide, Roll - ing in full - est pride,

Sheds not its glo - rious ray, Let there be light!  
Oh, now to hu - man-kind Let there be light!  
And in earth's dark - est place Let there be light!  
Through the earth, far and wide, Let there be light!

Text: John Marriott, 1780–1825  
Tune: Felice de Giardini, 1716–96  
Text and tune: Public domain

## **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.

**G** **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.

**G** **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 Lord, graciously hear the prayers of Your people that we who struggle with sin and its consequences in this world may be mercifully delivered by Your goodness to the glory of Your name. We pray this through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## First Reading

## *Psalm 32 (RESPONSIVE - ESV)*

**P** Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven,

**C** whose sin is covered.

**P** Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity,

**C** and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

**P** For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.

**C** For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

**P** I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity;

**C** I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,"  
and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

**P** Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found;

**C** surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not reach him.

**P** You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble;

**C** you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

**P** I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go;

**C** I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

**P** Be not like a horse or a mule, without understanding,

**C** which must be curbed with bit and bridle, or it will not stay near you.

**P** Many are the sorrows of the wicked,  
**C** but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the LORD.

**P** Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O righteous,  
**C** and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!

## Second Reading

*Matthew 11:1-6 (EHV)*


**P** The second reading is from Matthew 11:1-6.  
**C** Sanctify us by Your truth, O LORD. Your Word is truth!

*After Jesus had finished instructing his twelve disciples, he moved on from there to teach and preach in their towns. <sup>2</sup> While John was in prison, he heard about the things Christ was doing. He sent two of his disciples <sup>3</sup> to ask him, "Are you the Coming One or should we wait for someone else?" <sup>4</sup> Jesus answered them, "Go, report to John what you hear and see: <sup>5</sup> The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the gospel is preached to the poor. <sup>6</sup> Blessed is the one who does not take offense at me."*

**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: 841 (tune of hymn 554) *O Son of God, in Galilee***

*LSB 841*

- 1. *O Son of God, in Galilee You made the deaf to hear,  
The mute to speak, the blind to see; O blessed Lord, be near.***
- 2. *O listen to the silent prayer Of Your afflicted ones.  
O bid them cast on You their care; Your grace to them make known.***
- 3. *The speechless tongue, the lifeless ear You can restore, O Lord;  
Your "Ephphatha," O Savior dear, Can instant help afford.***
- 4. *Meanwhile to them the list'ning ear Of steadfast faith impart,  
And let Your Word bring light and cheer To ev'ry troubled heart.***
- 5. *Then in Your promised happy land Each loss will prove a gain;  
All myst'ries we shall understand, For You will make them plain.***

Text: Anna B. D. Hoppe, 1889–1941, alt.

Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 130003862

**Sermon Text: Mark 1:40-45 (EHV)**

<sup>40</sup> A leper came to Jesus. He knelt down and begged him, "If you are willing, you can make me clean." <sup>41</sup> Moved with compassion, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him. "I am willing," he told him. "Be clean." <sup>42</sup> Immediately the leprosy left him, and he was healed. <sup>43</sup> Then Jesus gave him a stern warning and immediately sent him away. <sup>44</sup> He told him, "See that you do not say anything to anyone. Instead go, show yourself to the priest, and offer the sacrifices for your cleansing that Moses commanded, as a testimony to them." <sup>45</sup> But after the man left, he

began to proclaim it widely. He spread the word so much that Jesus was no longer able to enter a town openly but stayed outside in deserted places. Yet people kept coming to him from all directions.

## **Sermon Theme: What Does this Text REVEAL About Jesus? – Jesus the Healer**

**It REVEALS...**

✝ 1) ... that Jesus is \_\_\_\_\_.

✝ 2) ... that Jesus will only do what is absolutely \_\_\_\_\_ for us  
\_\_\_\_\_!

Application:

How is the leper's request of Jesus a good example for us to follow? **(v. 40)**

What if Jesus does not answer our prayers for healing with a "yes," or allows us to go through a sickness, or illness, or injury for a long time? Of what can we still be absolutely certain? **(see Romans 8:28, 32)**

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

## Sermon Hymn: 690 *Hope of the World*

LSB 690



1 Hope of the world, Thou Christ of great com - pas - sion;  
2 Hope of the world, God's gift from high - est heav - en,  
3 Hope of the world, a - foot on dust - y high - ways,  
4 Hope of the world, who by Thy cross didst save us  
5 Hope of the world, O Christ, o'er death vic - to - rious,



Speak to our fear - ful hearts by con - flict rent.  
Bring - ing to hun - gry souls the bread of life,  
Show - ing to wan - d'ring souls the path of light,  
From death and dark de - spair, from sin and guilt,  
Who by this sign didst con - quer grief and pain,



Save us, Thy peo - ple, from con - sum - ing pas - sion,  
Still let Thy Spir - it un - to us be giv - en  
Walk Thou be - side us lest the tempt - ing by - ways  
We ren - der back the love Thy mer - cy gave us;  
We would be faith - ful to Thy Gos - pel glo - rious.



Who by our own false hopes and aims are spent.  
To heal earth's wounds and end our bit - ter strife.  
Lure us a - way from Thee to end - less night.  
Take Thou our lives and use them as Thou wilt.  
Thou art our Lord! Thou dost for - ev - er reign!

Text: Georgia Harkness, 1891–1974

Tune: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–79

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Tune: Public domain

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

### Lord's Prayer

**☩ 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).*

- 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: 559 Oh, How Great is Your Compassion** *(please stand for the last verse)*



1 Oh, how great is Your com - pas - sion, Faith - ful Fa - ther,  
 2 Your great love for this has striv - en That we may, from  
 3 Firm - ly to our soul's sal - va - tion Wit - ness - es Your  
 4 Lord, Your mer - cy will not leave me; Ev - er will Your  
 5 I will praise Your great com - pas - sion, Faith - ful Fa - ther,



God of grace, That with all our fall - en race  
 sin made free, Live with You e - ter - nal - ly.  
 Spir - it, Lord, In Your Sac - ra - ments and Word.  
 truth a - bide. Then in You I will con - fide.  
 God of grace, That with all our fall - en race



In our depth of deg - ra - da - tion You had mer - cy  
 Your dear Son Him - self has giv - en And ex - tends His  
 There He sends true con - so - la - tion, Giv - ing us the  
 Since Your Word can - not de - ceive me, My sal - va - tion  
 In our depth of deg - ra - da - tion You had mer - cy



so that we Might be saved e - ter - nal - ly!  
 gra - cious call, To His sup - per leads us all.  
 gift of faith That we fear not hell nor death.  
 is to me Safe and sure e - ter - nal - ly.  
 so that we Might be saved e - ter - nal - ly.

Text: Johann Olearius, 1611–84; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt. Tune: Schäffer-Belustigung . . . Hirthen-Lieder, 1653, Altdorf Text and tune: Public domain

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today: **St. Stephen – West (Mt. View): Bible Class – 9am**  
**Worship – 10am**

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

This Week: Tuesday–**SSLS Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon (VAL)–11:30a-12:30pm**  
Wednesday – **Board of Education (Mt. View – Zoom) – 6pm**  
Friday – **Winter Break Begins at SSLS – School Resumes Mon. 2/27**  
(Miss Hammond at Pacific Coast Teacher’s Conf.–Fri. 2/17-Sun. 2/19)  
Saturday – **Work Day: Painting and prep work (fellowship hall) – 8am**  
(Mt. View)

Next Sunday: **St. Stephen – West (Mt. View): Worship – 10am**  
2/19/23

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

**St. Stephen – South (Huntington Beach): Worship & Bible Study – 6:30pm**

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

**In Your Mailbox** – “Daily Rest” Daily Devotional

Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon (VAL) Invitation – Tuesday, Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>



**Please Pardon Our Dust – Interior Remodel in Progress** – Please watch your step around the church facility and please pardon our construction work while we are in the midst of re-painting and remodeling over the month of February. It’s gonna look worse at times before it looks better!

**Thank you!** – A big THANK YOU to our members, friends, and SSLS families who helped with our workday yesterday. We had a good-sized and hard-working crew and got a lot more accomplished in the church entryway, fellowship hall, and pastor's office. Your willing service is greatly appreciated! We will be working on more painting, furniture moving, and prep work next weekend before the flooring is installed (Mon., Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>). Please come and join us if you are able!

**Southern California Worship and Bible Study – NEXT Sunday 2/19 @ 6:30pm –**

Our next in-person Southern California Worship Service and Bible Study will be held **next Sunday, February 19th @ 6:30pm**. We will be meeting at Seth and Alyssa Hamblin's residence in Huntington Beach. Their address is:

**9842 Hamilton Ave. Apt. 11  
Huntington Beach, CA 92646**

**CLC News** - Pastor Neal Radichel of Immanuel, Mankato **has received the call** the call to Messiah, Eau Claire, as the third pastor. <> Retired Pastor Mark Bernthal **has accepted the call** to serve in a part-time vacancy capacity at Messiah, Eau Claire. <> Mrs. Eileen Tiefel **has announced her retirement** from teaching kindergarten at Messiah, Eau Claire. <> Mrs. Haley Seffens, a member of Messiah, Eau Claire, **has received the call** to teach kindergarten at Messiah, Eau Claire.

