

St. Stephen Lutheran Church

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

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February 19, 2023 ✝ Transfiguration

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 148 (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: 413 *O Wondrous Type! O Vision Fair* (please stand for last verse)

1 O won - drous type! O vi - sion fair
 2 With Mo - ses and E - li - jah nigh
 3 With shin - ing face and bright ar - ray
 4 And faith - ful hearts are raised on high
 Δ 5 O Fa - ther, with the e - ter - nal Son

Of glo - ry that the Church may share,
 The in - car - nate Lord holds con - verse
 Christ deigns to man - i - fest to - day
 By this great vi - sion's mys - ter - y,
 And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er one,

Which Christ up - on the moun - tain shows,
 And from the cloud the Ho - ly One
 What glo - ry shall be theirs a - bove
 For which in joy - ful strains we raise
 We pray Thee, bring us by Thy grace

Where bright - er than the sun He glows!
 Bears rec - ord to the on - ly Son.
 Who joy in God with per - fect love.
 The voice of prayer, the hymn of praise.
 To see Thy glo - ry face to face.

Text: Sarum Breviary, 1495, Salisbury; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.
 Tune: English, 15th cent.
 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 Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

We come before our Holy God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

P God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

C If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:5, 7-9)

P Let us pray...

C Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer:

We confess that we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have not loved You above all things. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Have mercy on us, and, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive us our sins.

P Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. We are forgiven! With boldness and confidence we may approach the throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the joy and peace of forgiveness let us praise the Lord...

"Jesus on the Mountain Peak" LSB 415 v. 1

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are: 'I Je - sus on the moun - tain peak Stands a - lone in glo - ry blaz - ing; Let us, if we dare to speak, Join the saints and an - gels prais - ing. Al - le - lu - ia!' The final note is a double bar line.

I Je - sus on the moun - tain peak Stands a - lone in
glo - ry blaz - ing; Let us, if we dare to speak,
Join the saints and an - gels prais - ing.
Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Brian Wren, 1936

Tune: Theodore A. Beck, 1929–2003, alt.

Text: © 1977 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 130003862

Tune: © 1998 Theodore A. Beck. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 130003862

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, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

First Reading

2 Peter 1:16-21 (ESV)

¹⁶For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty.

¹⁷For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased,"

¹⁸we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. ¹⁹And we have something more sure, the prophetic word, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, ²⁰knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. ²¹For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

Second Reading

Luke 9:28-36 (EHV)

P The second reading is from Luke 9:28-36.

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

²⁸About eight days after he said these words, Jesus took Peter, John, and James and went up on the mountain to pray. ²⁹While he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothing became dazzling white. ³⁰Just then, two men, Moses and Elijah, were talking with him! ³¹They appeared in glory and were talking about his departure, which he was going to bring to fulfillment in Jerusalem.

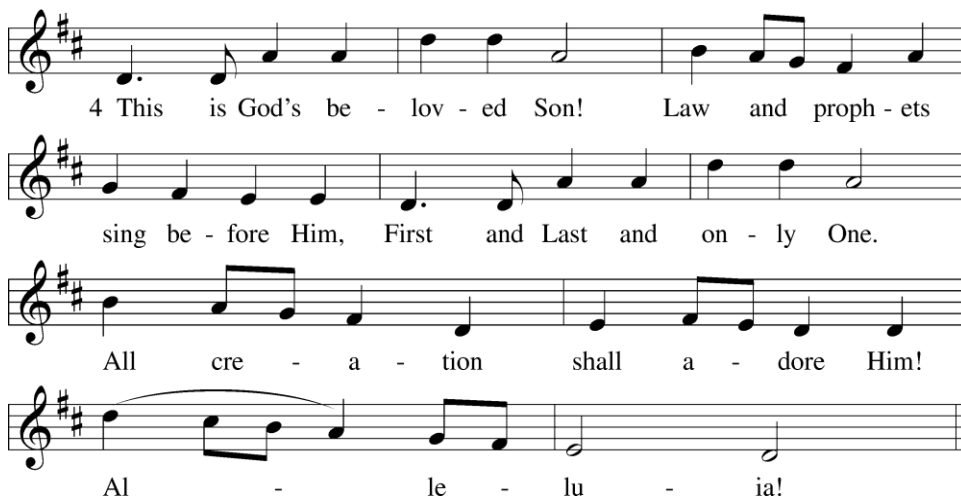
³² **Peter and those with him were weighed down with sleep, but when they were completely awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him.**

³³ **As the men were leaving Jesus, Peter said to him, “Master, it is good for us to be here. Let’s make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” He did not realize what he was saying.**

³⁴ **While he was saying these things, a cloud came and overshadowed them. They were afraid as they went into the cloud.** ³⁵ **Then a voice came out of the cloud, saying, “This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!”** ³⁶ **After the voice had spoken, they found Jesus alone. They kept this secret and told no one in those days any of the things they had seen.**

P Here ends our Scripture readings.

“This is God’s Beloved Son!” LSB 415 v. 4



Text: Brian Wren, 1936

Tune: Theodore A. Beck, 1929–2003, alt.

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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.**

(Creed continues on next page ->)

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

LSB 414



1 'Tis good, Lord, to be here! Thy
 2 'Tis good, Lord, to be here, Thy
 3 Ful - fill - er of the past And
 4 Be - fore we taste of death, We
 5 'Tis good, Lord, to be here! Yet



glo - ry fills the night; Thy face and gar - ments,
 beau - ty to be - hold Where Mo - ses and E -
 hope of things to be, We hail Thy bod - y
 see Thy king - dom come; We long to hold the
 we may not re - main; But since Thou bidst us



like the sun, Shine with un - bor - rowed light.
 li - jah stand, Thy mes - sen - gers of old.
 glo - ri - fied And our re - demp - tion see.
 vi - sion bright And make this hill our home.
 leave the mount, Come with us to the plain.

Text: Joseph A. Robinson, 1858–1933, alt.
 Tune: Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685–1750, adapt.
 Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon Text: Mark 9:2-10 (EHV)

² After six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John with him and led them up a high mountain where they were alone by themselves. There he was transfigured in front of them. ³ His clothes became radiant, dazzling white, whiter than anyone on earth could bleach them. ⁴ And Elijah appeared to them together with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus. ⁵ Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ⁶ He did not know what to say because they were terrified. ⁷ A cloud appeared and overshadowed them, and a voice came from the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him." ⁸ Suddenly, when they looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus alone. ⁹ As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them not to tell anyone what they had seen until the Son of Man had risen from the dead. ¹⁰ They kept the matter to themselves, discussing with one another what this "rising from the dead" meant.

Sermon Theme: What Does this Text REVEAL About Jesus? – Jesus' Transfiguration

It REVEALS...

† 1) ... that without a doubt Jesus is _____ !

- Visible proof:
- Audible proof:

† 2) ... that Jesus came to _____, _____, and _____.

Application: How is Jesus' Transfiguration an encouragement to us when we too have to "come down from the mountain" of this glorious event and face the "ugly" and difficult trials of life?

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.

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.*

Sermon Hymn: 416 (tune of hymn 770) ***Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory***

***1. Swiftly pass the clouds of glory, Heaven's voice, the dazzling light;
Moses and Elijah vanish; Christ alone commands the height!
Peter, James, and John fall silent, Turning from the summit's rise
Downward toward the shadowed valley Where their Lord has fixed His eyes.***

***2. Glimpsed and gone the revelation, They shall gain and keep its truth,
Not by building on the mountain Any shrine or sacred booth,
But by following the Savior Through the valley to the cross
And by testing faith's resilience Through betrayal, pain, and loss.***

**3. Lord, transfigure our perception With the purest light that shines,
And recast our life's intentions To the shape of Your designs,
Till we seek no other glory Than what lies past Calv'ry's hill
And our living and our dying And our rising by Your will.**

Text: Thomas H. Troeger, 1945

Text: © 1994 Oxford University Press. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 130003862

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

Lord's Prayer

LSB 209

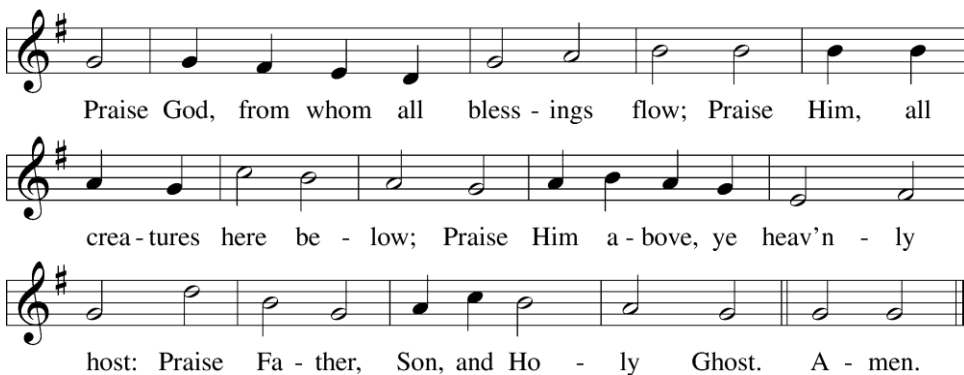
**☩ Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is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

☩ 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.

The Doxology

LSB 805

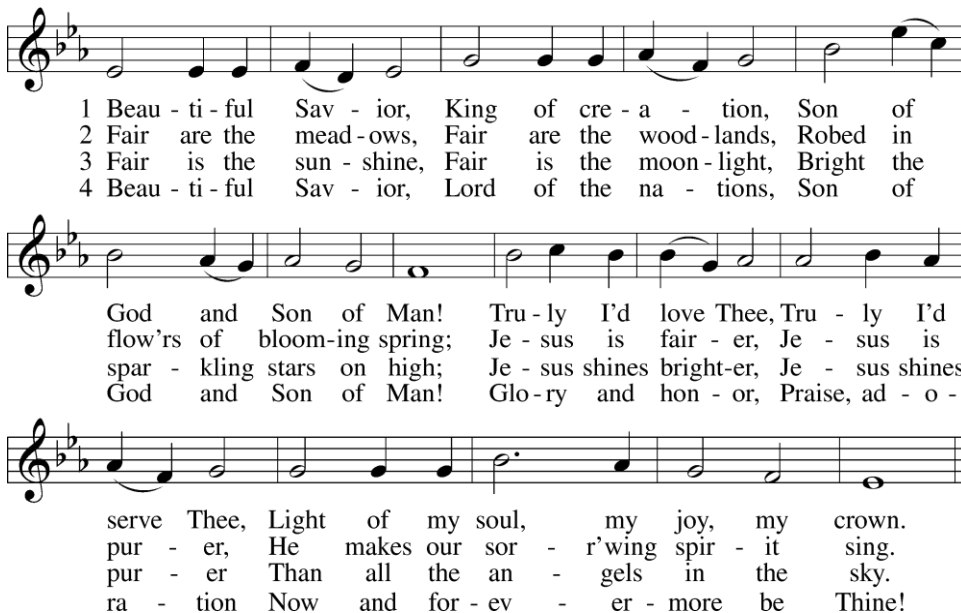


Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Him, all
crea - tures here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly
host: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

Public domain

Closing Hymn: 537 *Beautiful Savior* (please stand for last verse)

LSB 537



1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion, Son of
2 Fair are the mead - ows, Fair are the wood - lands, Robed in
3 Fair is the sun - shine, Fair is the moon - light, Bright the
4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions, Son of
God and Son of Man! Tru - ly I'd love Thee, Tru - ly I'd
flow'rs of bloom - ing spring; Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is
spar - kling stars on high; Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines
God and Son of Man! Glo - ry and hon - or, Praise, ad - o -
serve Thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
pur - er, He makes our sor - r'wing spir - it sing.
pur - er Than all the an - gels in the sky.
ra - tion Now and for - ev - er - more be Thine!

Text: Münsterisch Gesangbuch, 1677, Münster; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904

Tune: Silesian, 19th cent.

Text and tune: Public domain

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Scripture quotations marked EHV are from the Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®)

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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

St. Stephen – South (Ontario): Worship & Bible Study – 6:30pm

This Week: Mon. – Fri. – No School at SSLS (Winter Break)
Wednesday – Ash Wednesday Worship (Mt. View) – **7pm**
Thursday – Church Council / Elders Meeting (Mt. View) – **7:15pm**
Saturday – Work Day – (Mt. View) - **start time TBD (update will be emailed)**

Next Sunday: **St. Stephen – West** (Mt. View): **Bible Class – 9am**
Worship – 10am
Women’s Auxiliary / Work day – 11:15am

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



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.

Thank you! – A big THANK YOU to our members, friends, and SSLS families who helped with our workday again yesterday. There is light at the end of the tunnel! We are almost ready to have the flooring company come in to start the flooring installation on Monday. Your willing service is greatly appreciated!

Work Day This Afternoon – We are finishing up the painting in the fellowship hall and church entry today. If you are able to help please join us this afternoon. Speak with Michael Horrillo if you have any questions.

Work Days NEXT Weekend – Saturday (2/25): time TBD, Sunday (2/26): 11:15am – The flooring is set to be installed from Monday (2/20) – Saturday (2/25). We will need to stay out of the flooring crew’s way for the most part this week, but we’ll begin to move things back into the church entry, offices, and fellowship hall as soon as they are finished. We’re planning work days for the “move back in” next Saturday (2/25 - start time TBD, but may be in the afternoon) and next Sunday (2/26) after the worship service. We’ll send an email update later this week to let everyone know if & when we’re starting on Saturday. Please join us if you are able. There are many items—large and small, heavy and light—that need moving, so we could use any and all helpers!

UPDATE: Southern California Worship and Bible Study – TONIGHT Sun. 2/19 @ 6:30pm

The location has changed for our in-person Southern California Worship Service and Bible Study **tonight, February 19th @ 6:30pm**. We plan to meet at the conference room at Kevin Fossum's workplace. The location is near the Ontario airport. Here is the address and parking info:

**Total Transportation & Distribution
9278 Charles Smith Ave.
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730**

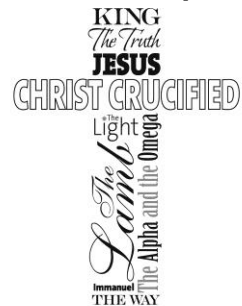
Parking & Entrance - Enter off of Charles Smith Ave. and park near the 1st set of doors you come to off of Charles Smith Ave. (this is the entrance to the Total Transportation offices).

Ash Wednesday Worship – this Wednesday, February 22nd – Mountain View - 7pm –

The season of Lent begins this Wednesday with our

Ash Wednesday worship service in Mountain View at 7pm.

The theme for our Lenten series this year will be "Names of Wondrous Love." In this series, we see how God's plan of salvation unfolded during Lent in a discussion of some of the names for Jesus. Please join us this Wednesday.



CLC News – Pastor Tom Naumann of Mt. Zion Lutheran, Greater Detroit Area, **has received the call** to Redemption Lutheran, Lynnwood, WA and Ascension Lutheran in Tacoma, WA.

Names of Wondrous Love

CLC World Missions Prayer List – February 2023

**...pray for us, that the word of the Lord may run swiftly and be glorified...
2 Thessalonians 3:1**



West Africa – Pastors from Togo, Liberia, Ghana, Benin, and Nigeria will be gathering in Lomé, Togo for the three day West Africa CLC Pastoral Conference the last week of February. This conference was originally scheduled for 2020 but was postponed due to the pandemic. There will be twenty pastors and seminary students in attendance. Missionary Evensen and Missionary Ohlmann will be hosting the conference. Six essays will be delivered by pastors from each nation. The conference will be highlighted by an evening worship service with Holy Communion. **Ask the Lord** to bless all those who will be traveling to Lomé on February 27th with safe and uneventful travels. **Thank the Lord** for this opportunity for these pastors to gather, study, encourage, and grow together in the Word of God. Pray that God will bless the preaching, teaching, and hearing of His word that His name may be honored.

Liberia – Missionary Peter Evensen (resident missionary to Togo) is currently working with Pastor Joseph Kwiwalazu as they conduct Bible seminars in Liberia and Guinea. Pastor John Hein (part-time visiting missionary to Liberia) continues cancer treatments and is unable to travel at this time. **Ask the Lord** to bless the treatments that Pastor Hein is receiving along with both strength and healing. **Pray also** for comfort and encouragement for his family and all those he is called to serve both at home and abroad. **Pray** for the Lord's continued blessings on the work of Missionary Evensen and Pastor Kwiwalazu as they teach and train others in the truths revealed in God's word and for the wisdom and provision to conduct the work He has given to all those involved.

Bangladesh –Pastor Monotosh continues to spread the Gospel in new areas of Bangladesh. He recently reported that recently one young lady has been baptized and two families have been received into the fellowship of the BLCM after seven months of Bible instruction. Pastor Monotosh also reports that they are completing negotiations on a piece of land upon which they hope to build a multipurpose building that would be used as a church headquarters, worship facility, and Bible School for training pastors and church leaders. The Board of Missions has approved a grant from the Mission Development Fund to assist the BLCM in purchasing land. Once the land is purchased and the building is constructed, this will be a great blessing for the BLCM. Over the past few years, they have had to move several times because of persecution. Missionary Ohlmann is planning a visit to Bangladesh in early May. **Ask the Lord** to continue to bless both the preaching and hearing of the Gospel of Jesus Christ by the BLCM. **Pray for the Lord's wisdom and provision** as the BLCM finalizes plans for the purchase of land and the construction of a building.

Tanzania – The students at the Wittenberg Lutheran Theological Seminary in Arusha are scheduled to return to classes on Monday, January 16th. They will have five students from Tanzania along with two students from the Kenya-CLC enrolled in the three-year seminary course. Three additional students will be enrolled in the one-year pre-seminary/evangelism course. The pre-seminary students will spend one-year studying basic theology, Bible History, Evangelism, and English. At the conclusion of the pre-seminary year of classes, the faculty will evaluate each student. Some students will receive an Evangelist certificate and be assigned to a congregation. Students who demonstrate the necessary gifts and commitment will move on to the three-year seminary program to prepare for ordination and a call into the pastoral ministry. **Ask for the Lord's blessings** on these students and those called to teach and train them.

Tanzania Missionary – **Pastor Bruce Naumann** has been led to accept the divine call to serve as a resident Missionary to Tanzania. His primary responsibility will be assisting the TZ-CLC as they continue to develop the Wittenberg Lutheran Theological Seminary. He will be teaching several classes and helping to develop seminary curriculum that will be used for years to come to train faithful pastors and leaders. Missionary Naumann will be commissioned in mid-March and is planning to take up residence in Tanzania by the last week of late March. This will give him a couple of weeks to get settled before second-semester classes begin shortly after the Easter break. Following a one-month furlough in the U.S. this summer he will be joined by his wife Paula when he returns to Tanzania in August in time for the beginning of the third semester. **Thank the Lord** for providing a faithful servant to take up this important work of

training more workers for the harvest fields of East Africa and his faithful and willing wife! **Ask for the Lord's** blessings and wisdom as Missionary Naumann and Paula make final preparations to take up this new calling.

Nepal – Pastor Raju recently reported that classes at the Himalayan Bible Institute have resumed with ten students in attendance. **Thank the Lord** for these students who are dedicated to learning and teaching God's word so that others may be led to repent of their sins and rejoice in faith that their sins are forgiven and that they have a home in heaven.

Mexico – Pastor Olvera's son was recently hospitalized and underwent emergency surgery for intestinal blockage. The surgery was successful and he has returned home. The CLC Board of Missions and Kinship Committee were able to provide a medical aid grant to assist with the hospital and medical. It has been a few years since a visit has been made to our brothers and sisters in Mexico. Missionary Ohlmann is planning a visit sometime in 2023. **Thank the Lord** for His love, protection, and provision in caring for Pastor Olvera's son. **Ask the Lord** to continue to bless Pastor Olvera's efforts to proclaim the Gospel in Mexico and to train others to join him in this work.

The Philippines – Pastor Jordan Palangyos has completed the first introductory Online Theological Study course based on the CLC Statement of Faith and Purpose and continues to correspond regularly with Missionary Ohlmann. Pastor Rob Sauers (Bd of Missions) and Missionary Ohlmann are scheduled to travel to Manila in late April for an initial face-to-face visit with Pastor Palangyos and those he serves. **Pray** that the Lord would continue to bless this correspondence and that it will lead to a God-pleasing unity of faith and teaching. **Ask the Lord** to provide opportunities and all that is necessary for Pastor Jordan to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ!

Zambia – While Missionary Ohlmann was in Zambia in December, an organizational meeting was held with representatives from the three areas of Zambia where the CLC has been actively involved for several years. This meeting was scheduled to take place a few years but was postponed due to the pandemic. Pastors from the northern Copperbelt District (near the DR Congo border), the Lusaka District, and the Livingstone District in the south (near the Zimbabwe border) met and discussed the progress on registration of the ZCLC and officially elected District Leaders. They also discussed plans for ongoing quarterly Pastoral Training Seminars. They plan to meet again in March to finalize plans and distribute registration certificates. This is a big and important step forward for the work in Zambia. **Thank the Lord** for His blessings on these efforts to organize the work of the ZCLC in a decent and orderly way. Pastor Ibrahim reports several new contacts and a few prospective students for the Martin Luther Bible School. **Pray that the Lord** would grant Pastor Ibrahim an extra measure of wisdom as he continues to lead and organize the work of the ZCLC. **Thank the Lord** for the opportunity to be a part of these efforts to faithfully proclaim the Good News of Jesus in Zambia.

Kenya –The CLC Bd of Missions (BoM) recently began sending the MDF Grant funds that were approved to assist with much-needed classroom repairs and construction at both schools.

Give thanks to the Lord for the privilege of assisting our brothers and sisters in Christ in the training of so many young souls through the two schools that are supported through Kinship. **Pray for the Lord's continued blessings** upon the teachers, students, and staffs of St. David's

Kinship School and Emmaus Millimani School as they grow in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

India – After many years of faithful and dedicated service to the many sheep of our Savior's CLC-India flock, the Lord recently called His servant V.S. Benjamin to his eternal rest. **Pray that the Lord will continue** to provide hope, comfort, courage, and joy to the many who loved and appreciated this faithful servant of Christ as they mourn.

Pakistan – Pastor Tim Daub continues to teach online video Bible lessons to a group of Christians who are eager to start a Lutheran church in Pakistan. The Board of Missions has authorized Missionary Ohlmann to accompany Pastor Daub on a visit to Pakistan when the time comes. **Pray that the Lord will continue to bless** the teaching and learning of His word. **Thank our Savior** for this opportunity and the technology to proclaim the truth of His word in such a way.

Myanmar – Our brothers and sisters in Christ in Myanmar, especially in Chin State continue to struggle under the harsh rule of the military Junta that has brought much pain, suffering, economic hardship, and uncertainty. Recent reports indicate that more than two million people have been displaced since the military coup in February of 2021. **Pray** for justice and peace for all the people of Myanmar. **Pray** especially for our brothers and sisters in Christ that the Lord will grant them strength, courage, and boldness during these difficult times and that He will provide for their needs.

D.R. Congo – Missionary Ohlmann was able to spend a few weeks in the DRC this past November and December visiting congregations and conducting Bible training seminars. He also spent one week teaching fifteen students at the Holy Trinity Lutheran Bible School. Much progress has been made on the Bible School facilities and ten of the fifteen students are preparing to graduate in the Fall of 2023. Missionaries Evensen and Ohlmann are planning to be on hand to hear each student deliver the oral defense of their doctrinal thesis' in the Fall. **Ask for the Lord's continued blessings** on the training of pastors and spreading the truth of God's word in D.R. Congo.

Visiting Missionary Upcoming Travels – Missionary Ohlmann recently returned from an eight-week visit to Africa where he visited and worked with pastors and leaders in Nigeria, DR Congo, Tanzania, and Zambia. He will return to Africa in February to attend and host the West Africa CLC Pastoral Conference in Lomé, Togo. Pastors from Togo, Nigeria, Benin, Ghana, and Liberia will spend three days growing in their understanding of God's word and encouraging one another in the work that the Lord has blessed them with. In late March he will travel to Tanzania to be on hand to help introduce and install Missionary Bruce Naumann and to help him get accustomed to and settled in. In April Missionary Ohlmann is scheduled to spend time in the Philippines, Tokyo, and Bangladesh. He'll then be back in the States for a couple of months before the Mission Helper Trip to Nepal in July. **Pray** for the Lord's blessings on the preparation for these trips and that the Lord will provide safe and uneventful travel. Ask for the Lord to be with, protect, and provide for Missionary Ohlmann's family while he is away. **Thank the Lord** for His faithfulness in blessing the truths of His saving Word that are taught throughout the world!

Ongoing Opportunities – please continue to pray for all of our brothers and sisters in Christ around the world, who by God's grace, are dedicated to proclaiming the truths of God's saving word for the salvation of souls as they trust the promise of our Savior that His Word will not return to Him void but will accomplish that for which He sent it.

That Your way may be known on earth, Your salvation among all nations. - Psalm 67:2