

St. Stephen Lutheran Church

West & East Bay, Central Valley, and Southern California

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

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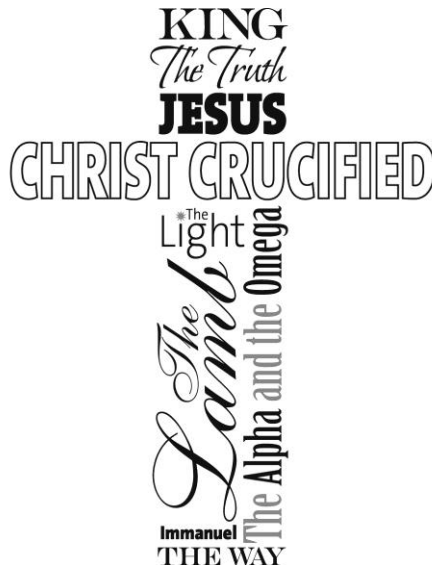
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First Sunday in Lent – February 26th, 2023



Names of Wondrous Love

✠ Preparation for Worship: Read Psalm 130 (Lutheran Service Book or Pew Bible) ✠

Opening Hymn: 418 (tune of LSB 437) O Lord, Throughout These Forty Days

♪ **1. O Lord, throughout these forty days You prayed and kept the fast;
Inspire repentance for our sin, And free us from our past.**

**2. You strove with Satan, and You won; Your faithfulness endured;
Lend us Your nerve, Your skill and trust In God's eternal Word.**

**3. Though parched and hungry, yet You prayed And fixed Your mind above;
So teach us to deny ourselves, Since we have known God's love.**

**4. Be with us through this season, Lord, And all our earthly days,
That when the final Easter dawns, We join in heaven's praise.**

Text: based on Claudia F. Hernaman, 1838–98; para. Gilbert E. Doan, 1930
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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.

G Amen.

Confession and Absolution

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

P Beloved of God: Let us draw near with a true heart, and confess our sins to God our Father, asking Him, in the Name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

G Almighty God, Merciful Father, we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. But we are sorry for our sins and pray that You would be gracious and merciful unto us. Forgive us for Jesus' sake, renew us by Your Spirit, and lead us in the way everlasting. Amen.

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 peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord!


P O Lord, open my lips,

C **And my mouth will declare Your praise!**

P Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

C **Make haste, to help me, O Lord!**

(tune of "The Doxology")

 ***Lord Jesus Christ, You set us free—
Accept our thanks eternally!
Forgiven through Your precious blood,
We now are reconciled to God. Amen.***

Psalm (Responsive) - Psalm 130 (NKJV)

P Out of the depths I have cried to You, O LORD!

C **Lord, hear my voice!**

P Let Your ears be attentive To the voice of my supplications.

C **If You, LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?**

P But there is forgiveness with You,

C **That You may be feared.**

P I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,

C **And in His word I do hope.**

P My soul waits for the Lord More than those who watch for the morning

C **Yes, more than those who watch for the morning.**

P O Israel, hope in the LORD;

C **For with the LORD there is mercy,**

P And with Him is abundant redemption.

C **And He shall redeem Israel From all his iniquities.**

Prayer of the Day / Psalm Prayer

P We pray:

Almighty God, by the coming of your Son into the world, you have rescued us from sin and death. Grant that with joyful hearts we may ever serve Him whom you have made ruler over all things to the praise of His glorious name, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Scripture Reading

THE PASSION HISTORY OF CHRIST - Part 2

Then the detachment of troops and the captain and the officers of the Jews arrested Jesus and bound Him. And they led Him away and brought Him into the high priest's house. They led Him to Annas first; for he was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, who was high priest that year. Now it was Caiaphas who gave counsel to the Jews that it was expedient that one man should die for the people.

And Simon Peter followed Jesus at a distance, and so did the other disciple. Now that disciple was known to the high priest, and went with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest. But Peter stood at the door outside. Then the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out and spoke to her who kept the door and brought Peter in, right into the courtyard of the high priest.

And the servants and officers, who had made a fire of coals in the midst of the courtyard, stood there; for it was cold. And they warmed themselves. And Peter stood with them and warmed himself at the fire. And after they had sat down together, Peter sat down with the servants to see the end.

The high priest then asked Jesus about His disciples and His doctrine. Jesus answered him, "I spoke openly to the world; I always taught in synagogues, and in the temple, where the Jews always meet, and in secret I have said nothing. Why do you ask Me? Ask those who have heard Me what I said to them; indeed they know what I said."

And when He had said these things, one of the officers who stood by struck Jesus with the palm of his hand, saying, "Do You answer the high priest like that?"

Jesus answered him, "If I have spoken evil, bear witness of the evil; but if well, why do you strike Me?"

Then Annas sent Jesus bound to Caiaphas the high priest; and with him were assembled all the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes. And the chief priests, the elders, and all the council sought false testimony against Jesus to put Him to death; and found none, even though many false witnesses came forward. For many bore false witness against Him, but their testimonies did not agree.

But at last two false witnesses came forward and bore false witness against Him, saying, "This Fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days.' We heard Him

say, 'I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and within three days I will build another made without hands.'" But not even then did their testimony agree.

And the high priest stood up in the midst and asked Jesus, saying, "Do You answer nothing? What is it that these men testify against You?"

But Jesus kept silent and answered nothing.

And the high priest asked Him, saying to Him, "I adjure You by the living God that You tell us if You are the Christ, the Son of God, the Son of the Blessed?"

And Jesus said, "I am. It is as you said. Nevertheless, I say to you, hereafter you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of power and coming on the clouds of heaven."

Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "He has spoken blasphemy! What further need do we have of witnesses? Behold, now you have heard His blasphemy. What do you think?"

And they all condemned Him to be worthy of death. They answered and said, "He is deserving of death!"

Then some began to spit in His face. And the men who held Jesus mocked Him. They blindfolded Him and struck Him in the face and asked Him, "Prophecy to us, Christ; who is the one that struck You?" And many other things they blasphemously spoke against Him. And the officers struck Him with the palms of their hands.

Now Peter was sitting outside, below in the courtyard. And a certain servant-girl, one of the servant-girls of the high priest, the one who kept the door, saw Peter warming himself as he sat by the fire. She came to him and said, "You are not also one of this Man's disciples, are you?"

He said, "I am not."

She said, "You also were with Jesus of Galilee." She looked intently at him and said, "This man was also with Him."

But Peter denied it before them all, saying, "Woman, I do not know Him; I neither know nor understand what you are saying."

And he went out on the porch. And a rooster crowed.

And after a little while, when he had gone out to the gateway, another servant-girl saw him and began to say to those who stood by, "This fellow also was with Jesus of Nazareth. This is one of them."

Now Simon Peter stood and warmed himself. Therefore they said to him, "You are not also one of His disciples, are you?" One saw him and said, "You also are of them."

And again he denied it with an oath. He said, "Man, I am not. I do not know the Man."

Then after about an hour had passed, another confidently affirmed, saying, "Surely this fellow also was with Him; for he is a Galilean." Those who stood by said to Peter: "Surely you are one of them; for you are a Galilean, and your speech shows it." One of the servants of the high priest, a relative of him whose ear Peter cut off, said, "Did I not see you in the garden with him?"

Peter therefore denied it again. He said, "Man, I do not know what you are saying." He began to curse and swear, "I do not know the Man. I do not know this Man of whom you speak."

And immediately, while he was still speaking, a rooster crowed a second time. And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter called to mind the word of the Lord, how He had said to him, "Before the rooster crows twice, you will deny Me three times."

And when Peter thought about it, he went out and wept bitterly.

Immediately in the morning, as soon as it was day, the elders of the people, both chief priests and scribes, came together. They took counsel against Jesus to put Him to death. They held a consultation with the elders and the scribes and the whole council.

They led Jesus into their council, saying, "If You are the Christ, tell us."

But He said to them, "If I tell you, you will by no means believe; and if I also ask you, you will by no means answer Me or let Me go. Hereafter the Son of Man will sit on the right hand of the power of God."

Then they all said, "Are You then the Son of God?"

And He said to them, "You rightly say that I am."

And they said, "What further testimony do we need? For we have heard it ourselves from His own mouth."

L Here ends our Passion History reading.

**G All we like sheep have gone astray,
and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.
By his wounds we are healed.**

Confession of Faith: 2nd Article of the Apostle's Creed (Luther's Catechism, Sydow p. 87)

**G "I believe 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, dead, and buried;
He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven
and sits on the right hand of God, the Father Almighty;
from there He shall come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity,
and also true man, born of the virgin Mary is my Lord.**

**He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person,
purchased and won me from all sin, from death,
and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver,
but with His holy, precious blood and His innocent suffering and death.**

He did this that I should be His very own, live under Him in His kingdom,
and serve Him in eternal righteousness, innocence, and joy;
just as He is risen from death, lives and reigns in eternity.

This is most certainly true!"

Hymn of the Day: 438 *A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth*

LSB 438



1 A Lamb goes un - com - plain - ing forth, The
2 This Lamb is Christ, the soul's great friend, The

guilt of sin - ners bear - ing And, lad - en with the
Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, Whom God the Fa - ther

sins of earth, None else the bur - den shar - ing; Goes
chose to send To gain for us His fa - vor. "Go

pa - tient on, grows weak and faint, To slaugh - ter led with -
forth, My Son," the Fa - ther said, "And free My chil - dren

out com-plaint, That spot-less life to of - fer, He bears the
from their dread Of guilt and con-dem - na - tion. The wrath and

stripes, the wounds, the lies, The mock - er - y, and
stripes are hard to bear, But by Your pas - sion

yet re - plies, "All this I glad - ly suf - fer."
they will share The fruit of Your sal - va - tion."

(hymn continues on next page ->)

**3. "Yes, Father, yes, most willingly I'll bear what You command Me.
My will conforms to Your decree, I'll do what You have asked Me."
O wondrous Love, what have You done! The Father offers up His Son,
Desiring our salvation. O Love, how strong You are to save!
You lay the One into the grave Who built the earth's foundation.**

**4. Lord, when Your glory I shall see And taste Your kingdom's pleasure,
Your blood my royal robe shall be, My joy beyond all measure!
When I appear before Your throne, Your righteousness shall be my crown;
With these I need not hide me. And there, in garments richly wrought,
As Your own bride shall we be brought To stand in joy beside You.**

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.

Tune: Wolfgang Dachstein, c. 1487–1553

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Sermon Text: Matthew 1:22-23 & John 18:3-12 (NKJV)

Matthew 1:22-23 So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: ²³ "Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel," which is translated, "God with us."

John 18:3-12 Then Judas, having received a detachment of troops, and officers from the chief priests and Pharisees, came there with lanterns, torches, and weapons. ⁴ Jesus therefore, knowing all things that would come upon Him, went forward and said to them, "Whom are you seeking?" ⁵ They answered Him, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus said to them, "I am He." And Judas, who betrayed Him, also stood with them. ⁶ Now when He said to them, "I am He," they drew back and fell to the ground. ⁷ Then He asked them again, "Whom are you seeking?" And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth." ⁸ Jesus answered, "I have told you that I am He. Therefore, if you seek Me, let these go their way," ⁹ that the saying might be fulfilled which He spoke, "Of those whom You gave Me I have lost none." ¹⁰ Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's servant, and cut off his right ear. The servant's name was Malchus. ¹¹ So Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword into the sheath. Shall I not drink the cup which My Father has given Me?" ¹² Then the detachment of troops and the captain and the officers of the Jews arrested Jesus and bound Him.

Sermon Theme: "Names of Wondrous Love" – IMMANUEL

1. The Proof

✝ What "proofs" do we see in our text that Jesus is IMMANUEL: "God with us"?

2. The Promise

✝ What promises does Jesus give us to show us that He is still IMMANUEL: "God with us"?

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

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.**

Sermon Hymn: 531 *Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus*

LSB 531



1 Hail, Thou once de - spis - ed Je - sus! Hail, Thou Gal - i -
2 Pas - chal Lamb, by God ap - point - ed, All our sins on
3 Je - sus, hail! En - throned in glo - ry, There for - ev - er
4 Wor - ship, hon - or, pow'r, and bless - ing Thou art wor - thy
le - an King! Thou didst suf - fer to re - lease us; Thou didst
Thee were laid; By al - might - y love a - noint - ed, Thou hast
to a - bide; All the heav'n - ly hosts a - dore Thee, Seat - ed
to re - ceive; High - est prais - es, with - out ceas - ing, Right it
free sal - va - tion bring. Hail, Thou u - ni - ver - sal Sav - ior,
full a - tone - ment made. All Thy peo - ple are for - giv - en
at Thy Fa - ther's side. There for sin - ners Thou art plead - ing;
is for us to give. Help, ye bright an - gel - ic spir - its,
Bear - er of our sin and shame! By Thy mer - it
Through the vir - tue of Thy blood; O - pened is the
There Thou dost our place pre - pare, Ev - er for us
All your no - blest an - thems raise; Help to sing our
we find fa - vor: Life is giv - en through Thy name.
gate of heav - en, Rec - on - ciled are we with God.
in - ter - ced - ing Till in glo - ry we ap - pear.
Sav - ior's mer - its, Help to chant Im - man - uel's praise!

Salutation ("Greeting") and Prayer for Grace

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lord God, all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works come from You. Give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to live by Your Word. Defend us also from the fear of our enemies that we may live in peace and quietness. We pray this through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus *Latin: "We bless." We praise our LORD and Savior.*

LSB 202

P Bless we the Lord!

C Thanks be to God!

Benediction *Blessing*

LSB 202

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God the Father and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all!



Closing Hymn: "I Lay My Sins on Jesus"

TLH 652

- 1. *I lay my sins on Jesus, The spotless Lamb of God;
He bears them all and frees us From the accursed load.
I bring my guilt to Jesus To wash my crimson stains
White in His blood most precious Till not a spot remains.***
- 2. *I lay my wants on Jesus, All fulness dwells in Him;
He healeth my diseases, He doth my soul redeem.
I lay my griefs on Jesus, My burdens and my cares;
He from them all releases, He all my sorrows shares.***
- 3. *I rest my soul on Jesus, This weary soul of mine;
His right hand me embraces, I on His breast recline.
I love the name of Jesus, Immanuel, Christ, the Lord;
Like fragrance on the breezes His name abroad is poured.***
- 4. *I long to be like Jesus, Meek, loving, lowly, mild;
I long to be like Jesus, The Father's holy Child.
I long to be with Jesus Amid the heav'nly throng
To sing with saints His praises, To learn the angels' song.***

Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Adapted from the Lutheran Service Book

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today:

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

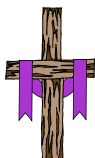
St. Stephen – East Bay (Hayward): Worship – 1pm
Church Council – 2pm

Tuesday – **Stockton Worship** (Oakmont) – **2pm**

Thursday – SSLS Science Fair & Open House (Mt. View) – 6:30pm

Next Sunday: **St. Stephen – West** (Mt. View): **Bible Class – 9am**
3/5/23 **Worship w/ communion – 10am**

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



May our Savior Jesus richly bless your worship and personal meditations on His Word during this season of Lent. Please continue to join us as we remember Christ's suffering and death for our sins in our worship services.

Thank you! – A big THANK YOU to our members, friends, and SSLS families who helped with our workday again yesterday help with the touch-up work and “move back in” many of the items in the fellowship hall and church offices. The new flooring, new paint, and renovation work looks great! Your willing service is greatly appreciated!

Work Day This Afternoon at St. Stephen – West (Mountain View) –

We're hoping to finish up the "move back in" after the worship service in Mountain View. We need to move items back into the entryway (narthex) today, as well as finish up moving back in all the books and items that have been stored in various places around the church & school facility. 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!

SSLS Spring Science Fair & Open House – This Thursday (3/2) from 6:30pm-7:30pm –

The St. Stephen Lutheran School Science Fair and Open House will be held on Thursday, March 2nd from 6:30pm to 7:30pm. All are welcome!! Please come join us! Our students are excited to share everything they've learned about their topics. This year's fair is all about the ocean. From the beginning of the year we've had a bit of a habit of ocean themed things: our classroom décor, going to a fish store to choose fish for our new classroom fish tank and learn about how to care for them, and our recent field trip to Seymour Marine Center, to name just a few. This has led to some unique inspirations for a variety of topics. We have everything from mysteries of the deep ocean to myths of the Kraken and many different interesting (or cute) sea creatures. – Miss Mikkela Hammond, Principal

East Bay Church Council Meeting after the Worship Service in Hayward – 2pm – The East Bay church council is reminded that our meeting will take place after the worship service in Hayward at 2pm.