

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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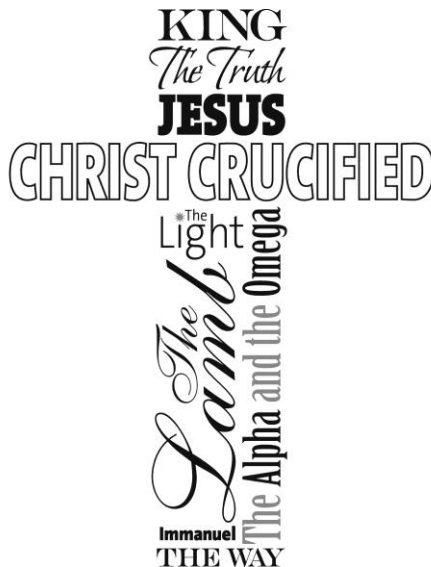
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Second Sunday in Lent – March 5th, 2023



Names of Wondrous Love

Opening Hymn: 433 *Glory Be to Jesus*

LSB 433



1 Glo - ry be to Je - sus, Who in bit - ter pains
2 Grace and life e - ter - nal In that blood I find;
3 Blest through end - less a - ges Be the pre - cious stream
4 A - bel's blood for ven - geance Plead - ed to the skies;



Poured for me the life - blood From His sa - cred veins!
Blest be His com - pas - sion, In - fi - nite - ly kind!
Which from end - less tor - ment Did the world re - deem!
But the blood of Je - sus For our par - don cries.

***5. Oft as earth exulting Wafts its praise on high,
Angel hosts rejoicing Make their glad reply.***

***6. Lift we, then, our voices, Swell the mighty flood;
Louder still and louder Praise the precious blood!***

Text: Italian, c. 18th cent.; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–78, alt.
Tune: Friedrich Fillitz, 1804–76
Text and tune: Public domain

THE INVOCATION

*We invoke (“call upon”) the name of the one true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
(TLH, page 15)*

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

THE CONFESSION OF SINS

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

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C **Who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

C **And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.**

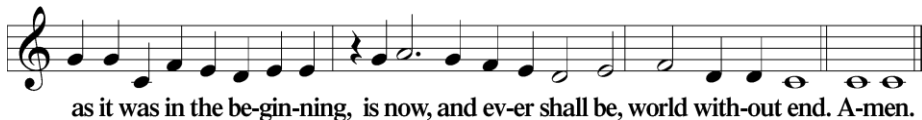
C **O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto Thee all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended Thee and justly deserved Thy temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray Thee of Thy boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Thy beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and by the authority and command of our Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

THE GLORIA PATRI

Latin for "Glory to the Father" (TLH, page 16)



THE SALUTATION *(Greeting)*

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY

The main thoughts for the day are "collected" together in this prayer.

P Lord God, through your Son You made the heavens and the earth; through Him You continue to rule over all things. Make us, Your chosen people, witnesses of Your power and heralds of Your glory to the praise of Your unfailing love. We pray this in Jesus' 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 3

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."

Then the whole multitude of them arose, bound Jesus, and led Him away from Caiaphas to the Praetorium and delivered Him to Pontius Pilate, the governor; and it was early morning.

Then Judas, His betrayer, seeing that Jesus had been condemned, was remorseful and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, saying, "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood."

And they said, "What is that to us? You see to it!"

Then he threw down the pieces of silver in the temple and departed and went and hanged himself. And falling headlong, he burst open in the middle and all his bowels gushed out.

But the chief priests took the silver pieces and said, "It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, because they are the price of blood." And they took counsel and bought with them the Potter's Field to bury strangers in. Therefore that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day.

Then was fulfilled what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying, "And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the value of Him who was priced, whom they of the children of Israel priced, and gave them for the potter's field, as the Lord directed me."

And the Jews themselves did not enter into the Praetorium lest they should be defiled, but that they might eat the Passover. Pilate then went out to them and said, "What accusation do you bring against this Man?"

They answered and said to him, "If He were not an evildoer, we would not have delivered Him up to you."

Then Pilate said to them, "You take Him, and judge Him according to your law."

Therefore the Jews said to him, "It is not lawful for us to put anyone to death," that the saying of Jesus might be fulfilled, which He spoke, signifying by what death He would die.

And they began to accuse Him, saying, "We found this Fellow perverting the nation and forbidding to pay taxes to Caesar, saying that He Himself is Christ, a King."

Then Pilate entered the Praetorium again, and called Jesus. Now Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor asked Him, saying, "Are You the king of the Jews?"

Jesus answered him, "Are you speaking for yourself on this, or did others tell you this about me?"

Pilate answered, "Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered You to me; what have you done?"

Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here."

Pilate therefore said to Him, "Are You a king then?"

Jesus answered and said to him, "It is as you say. You say rightly that I am a king. For this cause I was born, and for this cause I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice."

Pilate said to Him, "What is truth?"

And when he had said this, he went out again to the Jews and said to the chief priests and the crowd, "I find no fault in this Man. I find no fault in Him at all."

And the chief priests accused Him of many things. And while He was being accused by the chief priests and elders, He answered nothing. Then Pilate asked Him again, saying, "Do You answer nothing? Do You not hear how many things they testify against You? See how many things they testify against You!"

But Jesus still answered nothing. He answered him not one word, so that Pilate, the governor, marveled greatly.

L Here ends our Passion History reading.

C **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.**

THE NICENE CREED

We boldly confess what we believe. (TLH, p. 22)

C **I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, Begotten not made, Being of one substance with the Father, By whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary And was made man; And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father; And He shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets. And I believe one holy Christian and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, And I look for the resurrection of the dead, And the life of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn of the Day: 439 v. 1-5, 7, 15 *O Dearest Jesus...*

LSB 439 v. 1-5, 7, 15



1 O dear - est Je - sus, what law hast Thou bro - ken
2 They crown Thy head with thorns, they smite, they scourge Thee;
3 Whence come these sor - rows, whence this mor - tal an - guish?
4 What pun - ish - ment so strange is suf - fered yon - der!



That such sharp sen - tence should on Thee be spo - ken?
With cru - el mock - ings to the cross they urge Thee;
It is my sins for which Thou, Lord, must lan - guish;
The Shep - herd dies for sheep that loved to wan - der;



Of what great crime hast Thou to make con -
They give Thee gall to drink, they still de -
Yea, all the wrath, the woe, Thou dost in -
The Mas - ter pays the debt His ser - vants



fes - sion, What dark trans - gres - sion?
cry Thee; They cru - ci - fy Thee.
her - it, This I do mer - it.
owe Him, Who would not know Him.

***5. The sinless Son of God must die in sadness;
The sinful child of man may live in gladness;
Man forfeited his life and is acquitted; God is committed.***

***7. O wondrous love, whose depth no heart hath sounded,
That brought Thee here, by foes and thieves surrounded!
All worldly pleasures, heedless, I was trying While Thou wert dying.***

***15. And when, dear Lord, before Thy throne in heaven
To me the crown of joy at last is given,
Where sweetest hymns Thy saints forever raise Thee, I, too, shall praise Thee.***

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662
Text and tune: Public domain

THE SERMON

John 18:37-38 (EHV)

³⁷ “You are a king then?” Pilate asked.

Jesus answered, “I am, as you say, a king. For this reason I was born, and for this reason I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.”

³⁸ “What is truth?” Pilate said to him.

After he said this, he went out again to the Jews and told them, “I find no basis for a charge against him.

Sermon Theme: *“Names of Wondrous Love”* – THE TRUTH

1. No Truth?

- † Was Pilate asking the wrong question when he asked Jesus, “What is truth?”
- † What then was the real problem for Pilate, and so many who doubt THE TRUTH?

2. Know Truth!

- † Pilate was face to face with the One who is **“the Truth” (John 14:6)**, and tragically didn’t listen to or believe the truth. You and I are face to face with the One who is **“the Truth”** today in His Word. Listen to Him and believe!
- † What are some truths from the One who is THE TRUTH that can encourage, strengthen, and bless your heart and life—and others?

THE OFFERTORY

(TLH, p. 22-23)



♩ 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.

THE OFFERING OF THANKFUL HEARTS

In tangible evidence of our gratitude, we offer the Lord the gift of our money, remembering that He has first given to us that we might have to give to Him.

THE GENERAL PRAYER

(Pastor)

Pre-Communion Hymn: 619 *Thy Body, Given for Me, O Savior*

LSB 619



1 Thy bod - y, giv'n for me, O Sav - ior, Thy blood which
 2 With Thee, Lord, I am now u - nit - ed; I live in
 3 Who can con - demn me now? For sure - ly The Lord is
 4 Though death may threat - en with dis - as - ter, It can - not
 5 My heart has now be - come Thy dwell - ing, O bless - ed,



Thou for me didst shed, These are my life and
 Thee and Thou in me. No sor - row fills my
 nigh, who jus - ti - fies. No hell I fear, and
 rob me of my cheer; For He who is of
 ho - ly Trin - i - ty. With an - gels I, Thy



strength for - ev - er, By them my hun - gry soul is fed.
 soul, de - light - ed It finds its on - ly joy in Thee.
 thus se - cure - ly With Je - sus I to heav - en rise.
 death the mas - ter With aid and com - fort e'er is near.
 prais - es tell - ing, Shall live in joy e - ter - nal - ly.

Refrain



Lord, may Thy bod - y and Thy blood Be for my soul the high - est good!

Text: Friedrich Christian Heyder, 1677–1754; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, abr. Tune: Emskirchner Choral-Buch, 1756, Leipzig
 Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 130003862
 Tune: Public domain

THE PREFACE/ PROPER PREFACE

*Now we approach the Sacrament, the Lord's Supper, in which the Lord comes to bless us with His very body and blood.
 We move toward the Sacrament with prayers of thanksgiving and songs of adoration. (TLH, p. 24-25)*

P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.



C It is meet and right so to do.

P It is truly good, right, and spiritually beneficial that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Who brought the gift of salvation to all people by His death on the tree of the cross, so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree, would in turn, by a tree be overcome. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

THE SANCTUS

Latin: "Holy." We join our voices to the angels who sing, "Holy, Holy, Holy" round about His throne and we welcome Him with the Palm Sunday multitude who sang, "Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the Highest!"

(TLH, p. 26)



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,



bleſſ-ed is He, bleſſ - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.

(song continues on next page ->)



Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- 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.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

(Pastor)

The words spoken by Jesus the night He instituted the Lord's Supper by which our Lord assured to His Church the real presence of His sacramental body and blood for all time.

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always!



C A - men.

THE AGNUS DEI

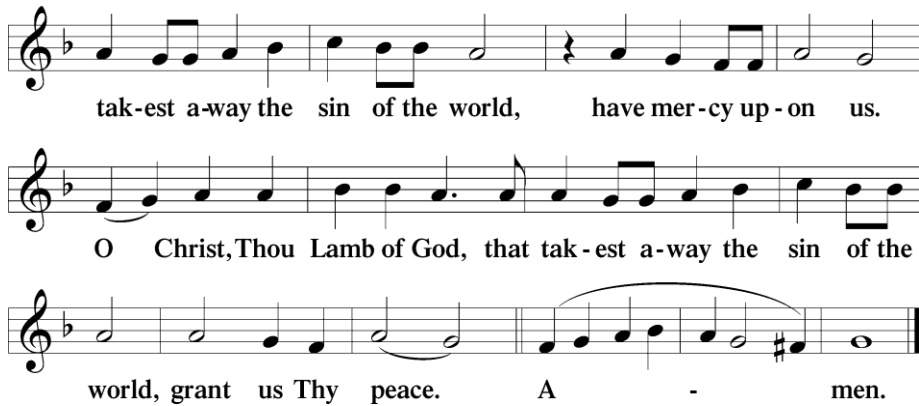
Latin: "Lamb of God." As we approach the Table of Forgiveness, we want to think only of that Lamb of God who was sacrificed for us on Calvary's cross. (TLH, page 28)



C O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



THE DISTRIBUTION

Note to our Guests: We are so glad you are worshiping with us today!

The Word of God treats the Lord's Supper with great care. The Word of God considers the Lord's Supper to be a wonderful Means of Grace – a way in which Christ forgives and blesses. It is also considered an opportunity for congregations to express unity and oneness (1 Corinthians 10:16-17) – that is, to say to the world "This is what we believe!" But God's Word also warns against taking the Sacrament to our judgment (1 Corinthians 11:27-30). For these reasons our congregation asks that you fully understand our teachings before partaking. We respectfully ask that those who have joined this congregation through public confession of faith, or who are members of another congregation of the Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC) approach the altar at the usher's direction. Speak to our pastor anytime and he will be glad to provide the information you would need – and want. We look forward to communing together, Lord willing, in the future.

THE NUNC DIMITTIS

Latin: "Now Dismiss." Simeon's words after seeing the Christ Child. (Luke 2:29-32)
(TLH, p. 29)

C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -
cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

THE 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 upon you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

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

Closing Hymn: 687 Thine Forever, God of Love (please stand for last verse)

LSB 687



1 Thine for - ev - er, God of love! Hear us from Thy throne a - bove;
2 Thine for - ev - er! Oh, how blest They who find in Thee their rest!
3 Thine for - ev - er, Lord of Life! Shield us through our earth - ly strife.
4 Thine for - ev - er! Shep-herd, keep These Thy frail and trem-bling sheep;
5 Thine for - ev - er! Thou our guide, All our wants by Thee sup - plied,



Thine for - ev - er may we be Here and in e - ter - ni - ty!
Sav - ior, guard - ian, heav'n - ly friend, O de - fend us to the end!
Thou, the life, the truth, the way, Guide us to the realms of day.
Safe a - lone be - neath Thy care, Let us all Thy good-ness share.
All our sins by Thee for-giv'n; Lead us, Lord, from earth to heav'n.

Text: Mary F. Maude, 1819–1913
Tune: Justin H. Knecht, 1752–1817
Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Adapted from Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today:

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

Worship – 10am

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

Church Council – 2pm

Wednesday – **Board of Education Meeting** (Zoom) (Mt. View) – **6pm**

Saturday Night - ⌚ **Daylight Saving Time Begins – “Spring Forward” 1hr** ⌚

Next Sunday: **St. Stephen – West** (Mt. View): **Bible Class – 9am**
3/12/23 **Worship – 10am**

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

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



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 Sunday worship services.

In Your Mailboxes and in the Church Entry – St. Stephen Church Calendar – *March*

CLC News – Grace Lutheran of Valentine, NE has **decided to call** a third full-time teacher for their Christian Day School beginning with the 2023-2024 school year and **decided to ask for a graduate** from ILC's teacher-training program. The teacher will be asked to teach the middle grades, which at present would involve ten 3rd-4th graders. <> Pastor Tom Naumann of Mt. Zion Lutheran, Greater Detroit Area, **has returned the call** to Redemption Lutheran, Lynnwood, WA and Ascension Lutheran in Tacoma, WA. <> Pastor Neal Radichel of Immanuel, Mankato **has returned the call** to Messiah, Eau Claire, as the third pastor. <> Mrs. Haley Seffens, a member of Messiah, Eau Claire, WI **has accepted the call** to teach kindergarten at Messiah, Eau Claire. <> Paul Agenten, currently in his 2nd year of Seminary training, **has accepted the call** to be Vicar at Immanuel, Mankato. Their call to him extends beyond the normal Vicar time period.

New 2023 Church Directories UPDATES Needed – Due by March 15th – We plan to print and distribute a new church directories within the next two weeks. Please check your contact information in the directory on the table in the church entryway to make sure everything is correct. Please write in the necessary changes. If everything is correct please put a check mark by your family's entry. **Please let me know of any changes by March 15th.**
Thank you! – Pastor Luke