

St. Stephen Lutheran Church

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

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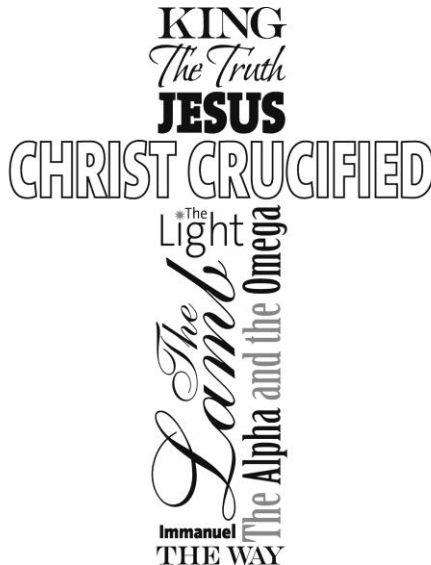
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Fourth Sunday in Lent – March 19th, 2023



Names of Wondrous Love

Opening Hymn: 435 *Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain*

LSB 435

1 Come to Cal-v'ry's ho-ly moun-tain, Sin-ners, ru-ined
 2 Come in pov-er-ty and mean-ness, Come de-filed, with-
 3 Come in sor-row and con-tri-tion, Wound-ed, im-po-
 4 They that drink shall live for-ev-er; 'Tis a soul-re-

by the fall; Here a pure and heal-ing foun-tain
 out, with-in; From in-fec-tion and un-clean-ness,
 tent, and blind; Here the guilt-y, free re-mis-sion,
 new-ing flood. God is faith-ful; God will nev-er

Flows for you, for me, for all, In a full, per-
 From the lep-ro-sy of sin, Wash your robes and
 Here the trou-bled, peace may find. Health this foun-tain
 Break His cov-e-nant of blood, Signed when our Re-

pet-ual tide, O-pened when our Sav-ior died.
 make them white; Ye shall walk with God in light.
 will re-store; They that drink shall thirst no more.
 deem-er died, Sealed when He was glo-ri-fied.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt. Tune: Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–87
 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.

G 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 sing to the 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.***

Prayer of the Day

P We pray:

God of might and compassion, open your ears to the prayers of your people, who wait for you. Do not leave us in the depths of our sins, but listen to your Church pleading for the fullness of your redemption. 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.

Scripture Reading

THE PASSION HISTORY OF CHRIST - Part 5

So then Pilate took Jesus and scourged Him. Then the soldiers of the governor led Jesus away into the hall called Praetorium, and they called together and gathered around Him the whole garrison. And they stripped Him and put a scarlet robe on Him, clothing Him in purple. And the soldiers twisted a crown of thorns and put it on His head, and they put a reed in His right hand. And they bowed the knee before Him and worshipped Him, mocking Him. They saluted Him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" Then they spat on Him and took the reed and struck Him on the head with it. And they struck Him with their hands.

And when they had mocked Him, Pilate went out again and said to them, "Behold, I am bringing Him out to you, that you may know that I find no fault in Him." Then Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. And Pilate said to them, "Behold, the Man!"

Therefore, when the chief priests and officers saw Him, they cried out, saying, "Crucify Him! Crucify Him!"

Pilate said to them, "You take Him and crucify Him, for I find no fault in Him."

The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to our law He ought to die, because He made Himself the Son of God."

Therefore, when Pilate heard that saying, he was the more afraid; and sent again into the Praetorium and said to Jesus, "Where are You from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. Then Pilate said to Him, "Are You not speaking to me? Do You not know that I have power to crucify You and power to release You?"

Jesus answered, "You could have no power at all against Me, unless it had been given you from above; therefore the one who delivered Me to you has the greater sin."

From then on Pilate sought to release Him, but the Jews cried out, saying, "If you let this Man go, you are not Caesar's friend. Whoever makes himself a king speaks against Caesar."

When Pilate therefore heard that saying, he brought Jesus out and sat down in the judgment seat in a place that is call The Pavement, but in Hebrew, Gabbatha. Now it was the preparation day of the Passover and about the sixth hour [probably 6:00 a.m., according to Roman time].

And he said to the Jews, "Behold, your King!"

But they cried out, "Away with Him, away with Him, crucify Him!"

Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King?"

The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar."

And so Pilate delivered Jesus to their will. He delivered Him to them to be crucified.

The soldiers took Jesus' purple robe off Him and put His own clothes on Him. They took Jesus and led Him out to crucify Him; and He, bearing His cross, went out. Now as they came out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name, the father of Alexander and Rufus, who

was coming from the country. They compelled him to bear Jesus' cross. On him they laid the cross that he might bear it after Jesus.

And a great multitude of the people followed Him, and women who also mourned and lamented Him. But Jesus, turning to them, said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for Me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For indeed the days are coming in which they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, the wombs that never bore, and the breasts which never nursed.' Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us,' and to the hills, 'Cover us.' For if they do these things in the green wood, what will be done in the dry?"

There were also two others, criminals, led with Him to be put to death. And they brought Him to the place called in Hebrew Golgotha, which is translated Calvary, the Place of a Skull. And when they had come there, they gave Him sour wine mingled with myrrh and gall to drink. But when He had tasted it, He would not drink it.

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.**

(tune of "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" LSB 425 - Lyrics adapted from TLH 325 v. 5-6)

**♪ A broken heart, my God, my King, Is all the sacrifice I bring.
Look down, O Lord, with pitying eye
And save the soul condemned to die.**

**Oh, may Your love inspire my tongue Salvation shall be all my song;
And all my powers shall join to bless
The Lord, my Strength and Righteousness.**

Public domain

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: 423 *Jesus, Refuge of the Weary*

LSB 423

1 Je - sus, ref - uge of the wea - ry, Blest Re - deem - er,
2 Do we pass that cross un - heed - ing, Breath - ing no re -
3 Je - sus, may our hearts be burn - ing With more fer - vent

whom we love, Foun - tain in life's des - ert drea - ry, Sav - ior
pen - tant vow, Though we see You wound - ed, bleed - ing, See Your
love for You; May our eyes be ev - er turn - ing To be -

from the world a - bove: Of - ten have Your eyes, of - fend - ed,
thorn - en - cir - cled brow? Yet Your sin - less death has brought us
hold Your cross a - new Till in glo - ry, part - ed nev - er

Gazed up - on the sin - ner's fall; Yet up - on the
Life e - ter - nal, peace, and rest; On - ly what Your
From the bless - ed Sav - ior's side, Grav - en in our

cross ex - tend - ed, You have borne the pain of all.
grace has taught us Calms the sin - ner's deep dis - tress.
hearts for - ev - er, Dwell the cross, the Cru - ci - fied.

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon Text: John 19:16-18 (EHV)

¹⁶ So then Pilate handed Jesus over to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus away. ¹⁷ Carrying his own cross, he went out to what is called the Place of a Skull, which in Aramaic is called Golgotha. ¹⁸ There they crucified him with two others, one on each side, and Jesus in the middle.

Sermon Theme: “*Names of Wondrous Love*” – CHRIST CRUCIFIED

1. Crucified Because of Our Sins - LAW

✝ “There they crucified Him”—simply and very starkly put. However, think of the depth and meaning behind those words.

✝ Who are the “they” who crucified Jesus?

2. Crucified for Our Salvation - GOSPEL

✝ When we look at the cross, we do not want to stop with thoughts of our guilt: “Christ crucified by me.”

✝ Look again at the cross and see the comfort it brings: “Christ crucified _____ me!”

Application: We began our sermon by asking “What does the cross mean?” At the cross of Christ we see both God’s LAW and His punishment for sin, as well as His GOSPEL and the “Good News” of the forgiveness and salvation found in Jesus. Think and meditate this week—and throughout this season of Lent—on what Jesus’ cross means, and what it means for you.

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.*
(† *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

☐ **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: 560 *Drawn to the Cross*

LSB 560

1 Drawn to the cross, which Thou hast blessed With heal - ing
 2 Thou know - est all my griefs and fears, Thy grace a -
 3 Wash me and take a - way each stain; Let noth - ing
 4 And then for work to do for Thee, Which shall so
 gifts for souls dis - tressed, To find in Thee my
 bused, my mis - spent years; Yet now to Thee with
 of my sin re - main. For cleans - ing, though it
 sweet a ser - vice be That an - gels well might
 life, my rest, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.
 con - trite tears, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.
 be through pain, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.
 en - vy me, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.

Text: Genevieve M. Irons, 1855–1928 Tune: Joseph Barnby, 1838–96
 Text and tune: Public domain

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 ✠ give you peace.

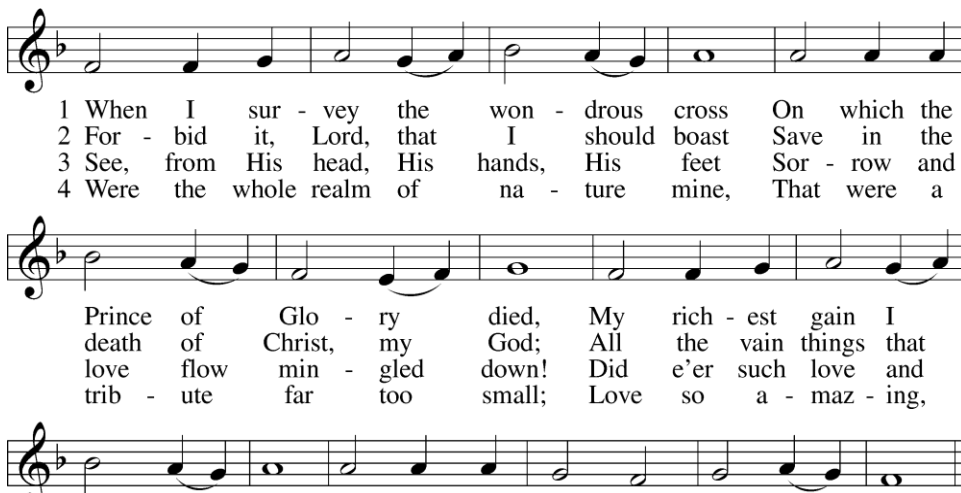
The Doxology

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.

Tune and text: Public domain

Closing Hymn: 425 *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* (please stand for last verse)



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross On which the
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast Save in the
3 See, from His head, His hands, His feet Sor - row and
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, That were a
Prince of Glo - ry died, My rich - est gain I
death of Christ, my God; All the vain things that
love flow min - gled down! Did e'er such love and
trib - ute far too small; Love so a - maz - ing,
count but loss And pour con - tempt on all my pride.
charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to His blood.
sor - row meet Or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
so di - vine, De - mands my soul, my life, my all!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748 Tune: Lowell Mason, 1792–1872 Text and tune: Public domain

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**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>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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

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

Bible Class – 2pm

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

*The
Season
of
Lent*



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 Mailbox – 2023 St. Stephen-West Church Directory

Easter Brunch Sign-Up Sheet – We plan on having an Easter Brunch after our 10am Easter Worship service in Mountain View on **Easter Sunday, April 9th**. If you'd like to help with the brunch or bring a dish to pass, please sign the sheet in the church entryway. Thank you!

CLC News – Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church of Middleton, WI has decided to re-open its Christian day school for Fall 2023. They **have called** Mrs. Leah Ude of Eau Claire, WI as teacher.

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