

St. Stephen Lutheran Church

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

320 Moorpark Way - Mountain View, California 94041-1600



Pastor: Luke Bernthal

Email: lbernthal@live.com ✝ Cell: (402) 389-2147

Home: (650) 282-5752

Online Video Production: Chris Holt, Julia Bernthal & Scott Mueller

Organist: Barb Gullerud



Website: sslcwest.org

Church Office: (650) 964-5915

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

School Office: (650) 961-2071

School Website: ssls.org

May 14, 2023 ✝ Easter 6

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 66 (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: 895 Now Thank We All Our God (please stand for the last verse) LSB 895



1 Now thank we all our God With hearts and hands and voice - es,

2 Oh, may this boun-teous God Through all our life be near us,

△ 3 All praise and thanks to God The Fa - ther now be giv - en,



Who won-drous things has done, In whom His world re - joic - es;

With ev - er joy - ful hearts And bless - ed peace to cheer us

The Son, and Him who reigns With them in high - est heav-en,



Who from our moth - ers' arms Has blest us on our way

And keep us in His grace And guide us when per - plexed

The one e - ter - nal God, Whom earth and heav'n a - dore;



With count-less gifts of love And still is ours to - day.

And free us from all ills In this world and the next!

For thus it was, is now, And shall be ev - er - more.

Text: Martin Rinckart, 1586–1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

Text and tune: Public domain

SERVICE OF THE WORD

(Worship Supplement, p. 12)

Invocation

We invoke ("call upon") the name of the one true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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

C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

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

P We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.

C Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy upon me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

P God our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. Through faith in Him, which was created in you by the Holy Spirit, you are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will.

C Amen.

Kyrie *Latin for "O Lord." We approach our Lord with a cry for help in all the needs of our earthly life.* W.S. p. 13

♪ ***Lord have mercy on us. Christ have mercy on us. Lord have mercy on us.***

Gloria in Excelsis *Latin for "Glory to God in the highest."* W.S. p. 13

♪ ***Glory to God, we give You thanks and praise;
Of heav'nly joy and peace on earth we sing.
We worship You, to You our hearts we raise,
Lord God, almighty Father, heav'nly King.***

***Lord Jesus Christ, the Father's only Son,
You bore for us the load of this world's sin.
O Lamb of God, Your glorious vict'ry won,
Receive our prayer, grant us Your peace within.***

***Alone, O Christ, You only are the Lord,
At God's right hand in majesty most high:
Who with the Spirit worshiped and adored,
With all the heav'nly host we glorify.***

Prayer of the Day

P We pray:

O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your Holy Spirit, help us that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them as well. We pray this through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

First Reading

2 Timothy 1:1-5 (EHV)

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, in accordance with the promise of life, which is in Christ Jesus,

² To Timothy, my child, whom I love:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

³ I thank God, whom I serve with a clean conscience as my ancestors did, as I constantly remember you in my prayers night and day. ⁴ When I remember your tears, I long to see you, so that I may be filled with joy. ⁵ I remember your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am convinced that it also lives in you.

Second Reading

John 19:25-27 (EHV)

P The second reading is from John 19:25-27.

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

²⁵ Jesus' mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene were standing near the cross.

²⁶ When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son!" ²⁷ Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother!" And from that time this disciple took her into his own home.

P Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it!

Alleluia and Verse

When God speaks to us in His Word it is natural for us to respond. We sing "Allelujah!"—meaning, "Praise the Lord!"

♪ Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
These words are written that we may believe
That Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Apostles' Creed *We boldly confess what we believe.*

W.S. p. 15

**☐ 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: 855 v. 1, 8, 13, 3, 4 *For All the Faithful Women*

(please stand for last verse)



1 For all the faith-ful wom - en Who served in days of old,
 2 We sing of Mar - y, moth - er, Fair maid - en, full of grace.
 2 For Eu - nice and for Lo - is We sing our thanks and praise.
 3 O God, for saints and ser - vants, Those named and those un - known
 △ 4 All praise to God the Fa - ther! All praise to Christ the Son!



To You shall thanks be giv - en; To all, their sto - ry told.
 She bore the Christ, our broth - er, Who came to save our race.
 Young Tim - o - thy they nur - tured And led him in Your ways.
 In whom through all the a - ges Your light of glo - ry shone,
 All praise the Ho - ly Spir - it, Who binds the Church in one!



They served with strength and glad - ness In tasks Your wis - dom gave.
 May we, with her, sur - ren - der Our - selves to Your com - mand
 Raise up in ev - 'ry house - hold True teach - ers of Your Word
 We of - fer glad thanks - giv - ing And fer - vent prayer we raise
 With saints who went be - fore us, With saints who wit - ness still,



To You their lives bore wit - ness, Pro - claimed Your pow'r to save.
 And lay up - on Your al - tar Our gifts of heart and hand.
 Whose lives will bear clear wit - ness To Christ, our ris - en Lord.
 That, faith - ful in Your ser - vice, Our lives may sing Your praise.
 We sing glad Al - le - lu - ias And strive to do Your will.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007, alt.

Tune: Finnish, 19th cent.

Text: © 1993, 1997, 2003 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 130003862

Tune: Public domain

Sermon Text: Proverbs 31:1, 10-12, 25-31 (NKJV)

¹ The words of King Lemuel, the utterance which his mother taught him:...¹⁰ Who can find a virtuous wife? For her worth is far above rubies. ¹¹ The heart of her husband safely trusts her; So he will have no lack of gain. ¹² She does him good and not evil All the days of her life...²⁵ Strength and honor are her clothing; She shall rejoice in time to come. ²⁶ She opens her mouth with wisdom, And on her tongue is the law of kindness. ²⁷ She watches over the ways of her household, And does not eat the bread of idleness. ²⁸ Her children rise up and call her blessed; Her husband also, and he praises her: ²⁹ "Many daughters have done well, But you excel them all." ³⁰ Charm is deceitful and beauty is passing, But a woman who fears the LORD, she shall be praised. ³¹ Give her of the fruit of her hands, And let her own works praise her in the gates.

Sermon Theme: A Virtuous Woman

✝ What are some things that make a virtuous woman, wife, and mother
"worth...far above rubies" (v. 10) according to God? (see also 1 Peter 3:3-4)

✝ The greatest concern a mother can have for her household is taking care of the
_____ needs of her children and sharing her _____ with them.

Application: Has God put a **Virtuous Woman** in your life? Perhaps it's your mother, or your wife—or both! If you can today thank her (or them!) and show her your appreciation, and above all thank God for this great gift!

Offertory

W.S. p. 16



***Create in me a clean heart, O God,
And renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Your presence,
Take not Your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of Your salvation.
Uphold with Your Spirit free.***

Offering *We offer our gifts to the Lord, remembering that He has first given to us that we might have to give to Him.*
 († *If you have an offering to give today, please place it in the plate in the church entryway.* †)

Sermon Hymn: 862 *Oh, Blest the House*

LSB 862



1 Oh, blest the house, what - e'er be - fall, Where Je - sus
 2 Oh, blest that house where faith is found And all in
 3 Oh, blest the par - ents who give heed Un - to their
 4 Oh, blest that house; it pros - pers well. In peace and
 5 Then here will I and mine to - day A sol - emn



Christ is all in all! A home that is not whol - ly
 hope and love a - bound; They trust their God and serve Him
 chil - dren's fore - most need And wea - ry not of care or
 joy the par - ents dwell, And in their chil - dren's lives is
 prom - ise make and say: Though all the world for - sake His



His— How sad and poor and dark it is!
 still And do in all His ho - ly will!
 cost. May none to them and heav'n be lost!
 shown How rich - ly God can bless His own.
 Word, I and my house will serve the Lord!

Text: Christoph Carl Ludwig von Pfeil, 1712–84; (sts. 1–2, 4–5): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.; (st. 3):
 tr. Evangelical Lutheran Hymnal, 1880, Columbus
 Tune: Geistliche Lieder aufs new gebessert, 1535, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug
 Text and tune: Public domain

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

Lord's Prayer

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

Benediction *The blessing given by God for the blessing of His people (Numbers 6:24-26).*

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



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

Closing Hymn: 922 Go, My Children, with My Blessing *(please stand for the last verse)*



1 Go, My chil-dren, with My bless-ing, Nev-er a-lone.
2 Go, My chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, At peace and pure.
3 Go, My chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, Clos-er to Me;
4 I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace;



Wak-ing, sleep-ing, I am with you; You are My own. In My
Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure. Here you
Grow in love and love by serv-ing, Joy-ful and free. Here My
I the Lord will smile up-on you And give you peace: I the



love's bap-tis-mal riv-er I have made you Mine for-ev-er.
heard My dear Son's sto-ry; Here you touched Him, saw His glo-ry.
Spir-it's pow-er filled you; Here His ten-der com-fort stilled you.
Lord will be your Fa-ther, Sav-ior, Com-fort-er, and Broth-er.



Go, My chil-dren, with My bless-ing— You are My own.
Go, My chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, At peace and pure.
Go, My chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, Joy-ful and free.
Go, My chil-dren; I will keep you And give you peace.

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008

Tune: Welsh, 18th cent.

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Tune: Public domain

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today: **St. Stephen – West (Mt. View): Bible Class – 9am**
Worship – 10am
Crafting Bee – 11:15am

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

This Week: Thursday – **Pastor in San Diego for Graveside Victory Service for Margaret Dyke** (Joe Dyke's mother) – **2:15pm**
Friday – **No School at SSLS**

Next Sunday: *Ascension Sunday*
5/21/23 **St. Stephen – West (Mt. View): Bible Class – 9am**
Worship – 10am
St. Stephen – East Bay (Hayward): Worship – 1pm
Bible Class – 2pm

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



Blessed Mother's Day! to all the mothers and grandmothers who are with us today. What an irreplaceable blessing Christian mothers and grandmothers (and all Christian women) are! We thank God for the blessings He has given us in you! ***"Charm is deceitful and beauty is passing, But a woman who fears the LORD, she shall be praised"*** (Proverbs 31:30).

Pastor in San Diego for Graveside Victory Service – Thurs. 5/18 @ 2:15pm –

Pastor Luke will be officiating at Joe Dyke's mother, Margaret's, graveside victory service in San Diego this Thursday. Joe is one of our Southern California members. Pastor was able to minister to Margaret during one of his Southern California visits with Joe's family. Expressions of sympathy and care can be sent to:

**Joe Dyke
228 Highline Trail
El Cajon, CA 92021**

***"In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you.
I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you,
I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also."
– John 14:2-3***

Run-a-Thon Fundraiser for SSLS – Friday, May 26th – 11am -12pm

- This yearly tradition is a fundraiser to raise money for the school, usually aimed at getting something useful and fun- such as the play structure which we were able to purchase with last year's Run-a-Thon funds. The kids raise money by collecting pledges to donate, based on the number of times they can do certain athletic activities (Traditionally running, hence the name).

Pledgers either choose to donate a flat amount or to donate a certain amount per activity performed (i.e. donating \$2 dollars for each lap that a student runs). If you wish to participate by giving a donation, feel free to donate directly to the school or seek out a student.

Regardless of whether you wish to donate, we invite you to join us at 11am-12pm on Friday, May 26th to cheer on the students as they do their Run-a-thon activities!

– Mikkela Hammond, SSLS Pricipal

VBS – Registration is Open! July 24th-28th – Ages 4-13

COME JOIN US

Vacation Bible School

July 24 - July 28
Monday through Friday
9 am to 11:30 am

Activities include Bible stories, games, crafts, music, playground time, and snacks.

FREE

Ages 4-13

ST. STEPHEN LUTHERAN CHURCH
320 Moorpark Way
Mountain View

For information or to register
WWW.SSLS.ORG | 650-282-5752 | pastor@sslcwest.org

Sask Church policies: our congregation benefits to safeguarding all the children and nurtures good conduct consistent with our Christian values.



through our school's website (**ssls.org**). Flyers are also available in the entryway if you know of anyone who would be interested in sending their children to our **VBS**. It will be held **Mon.-Fri., July 24th-28th from 9am-11:30am**. The CLC's TVBS program is planning on sending us up to 2 teachers to assist us as well. If you would like to volunteer to help with our VBS please speak with Pastor Luke or Mikkela Hammond.

Lutheran Spokesman Subscriptions - If you are interested in renewing or starting a new subscription to the Lutheran Spokesman devotional magazine please see the sign-up sheet in the entryway. Please sign up by **June 25th** to receive the reduced congregational subscription rate of only **\$14 per year**. Please mark your offering "Lutheran Spokesman." Please speak with Pastor Luke for more info.

Daily Rest Subscription Renewal – Our congregation provides each family with a subscription to the *Daily Rest* daily devotions. If you would like an additional subscription for yourself or someone else, please speak with Pastor Luke. Subscriptions are **\$15 per year**.



I am the Vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. -John 15:5

"**The Branches**" is a Christian Women's magazine which is published quarterly by women of the CLC. Subscriptions are available for the 2023-2024 subscription year (July through June). The Branches staff prays that, through this publication, we serve:

- to encourage you in your personal and family Bible study
- to edify you in your daily walk with Christ
- to provide a means to use and share your God-given gifts
- to celebrate and reflect upon God's gift of Christian sisters, near and far

Consider a subscription for yourself and/or gift subscriptions for women in your life! The cost is \$15.00/year for 4 issues. Checks are payable to, "The Branches," and should be sent to: Sandy Hulke, Subscription Manager, 29985 Norway Ave, Lindstrom, MN 55045. Online payments are also available via PayPal - you may contact Sandy Hulke at thebranchesmagazine@gmail.com.

CLC News - Pastor Nathanael Mayhew of Grace Lutheran in Sleepy Eye, MN and Faith Lutheran in New Ulm, MN *has returned the call* to serve as the third pastor at Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI. <> Messiah, Eau Claire has now *extended that call* to Pastor Matthew Hanel of St. Matthew Lutheran in Dallas, TX.