

St. Stephen Lutheran Church

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

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School Website: ssls.org

August 13, 2023 ✝ Pentecost 11



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 145 (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: 906 O Day of Rest and Gladness (please stand for last verse) LSB 906



1 O day of rest and glad - ness, O day of joy and light,
2 This day at earth's cre - a - tion The light first had its birth;
3 This day, God's peo - ple meet - ing, His Ho - ly Scrip - ture hear;
△ 4 That light our hope sus - tain - ing, We walk the pil - grim way,
O balm of care and sad - ness, Most beau - ti - ful, most bright;
This day for our sal - va - tion Christ rose from depths of earth;
His liv - ing pres - ence greet - ing, Through bread and wine made near.
At length our rest at - tain - ing, Our end - less Sab - bath day.
This day the high and low - ly, Through a - ges joined to bless,
This day our Lord vic - to - rious The Spir - it sent from heav'n,
We jour - ney on, be - liev - ing, Re - newed with heav'n - ly might,
We sing to Thee our prais - es, O Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son;
Sing, "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly," The tri - une God con - fess.
And thus this day most glo - rious A three - fold light was giv'n.
From grace more grace re - ceiv - ing, On this blest day of light.
The Church her voice up - rais - es To Thee, blest Three in One.

Text (sts. 1–2): Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–85, alt.; (st. 3): Charles P. Price, 1920–99; (st. 4): The Hymnal 1982

Tune: Gesangbuch der Herzogl. Hofkapelle, 1784, Württemberg

Text (sts. 1–2) and tune: Public domain

Text (st. 3) and tune: © 1982 Charles P. Price; (st. 4): © 1985 The Church Pension Fund. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 130003862

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.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore we stand in awe of You.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, and call upon Him in prayer and praise, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Confession and Absolution

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

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and gives them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C **Amen.**

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

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro-claimed at Je-sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Salutation ("Greeting") and Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P We pray:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we give You humble and heart-felt thanks for all the goodness and loving-kindness that You bestow on us. We praise You for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life. But above all, we praise You for Your boundless love in the redemption of the world by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. We implore You to give us a right understanding of all Your mercies that our hearts may ever be deeply thankful and that we may show forth Your praise with both our lips and our lives. Direct our lives in ways of holiness and righteousness all our days. Sustain us and comfort us in

every time of trouble, and finally receive us into Your everlasting kingdom. 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

Romans 8:35-39 (EHV)

³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶ As it is written,

***"For your sake we are being killed all the day long;
we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered."***

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Matthew 14:13-21 (EHV)

P The second reading is from Matthew 14:13-21.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹³ Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a desolate place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴ When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them and healed their sick. ¹⁵ Now when it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a desolate place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves." ¹⁶ But Jesus said, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." ¹⁷ They said to him, "We have only five loaves here and two fish." ¹⁸ And he said, "Bring them here to me." ¹⁹ Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass, and taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and said a blessing. Then he broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰ And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. ²¹ And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

P Here ends our second reading.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 205

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



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

C These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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

LSB 207

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 thence 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: 811 *Oh, That I Had a Thousand Voices*

LSB 811



1 Oh, that I had a thou - sand voic - es To praise my
2 O all you pow'rs that He im - plant - ed, A - rise, keep
3 You for - est leaves so green and ten - der That dance for
4 All crea - tures that have breath and mo - tion, That throng the
5 Cre - a - tor, hum - bly I im - plore You To lis - ten



God with thou - sand tongues! My heart, which in the Lord re -
si - lence now no more; Put forth the strength that God has
joy in sum - mer air, You mead - ow grass - es, bright and
earth, the sea, the sky, Come, share with me my heart's de -
to my earth - ly song Un - til that day when I a -



joic - es, Would then pro - claim in grate - ful songs To all, wher -
grant - ed! Your no - blest work is to a - dore. O soul and
slen - der, You flow'rs so fra - grant and so fair, You live to
vo - tion, Help me to sing God's prais - es high. My ut - most
dore You, To - geth - er with the an - gel throng And learn with



ev - er I might be, What great things God has done for me.
bod - y, join to raise With heart - felt joy our Mak - er's praise.
show God's praise a - lone. Join me to make His glo - ry known.
pow'rs can nev - er quite De - clare the won - ders of His might.
choirs of heav'n to sing E - ter - nal an - thems to my King.

Text: Johann Mentzer, 1658–1734; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.

Tune: Johann Balthasar König, 1691–1758

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Tune: Public domain

Sermon Text: Psalm 145:14-21 (NKJV)

¹⁴ The LORD upholds all who fall, And raises up all who are bowed down. ¹⁵ The eyes of all look expectantly to You, And You give them their food in due season. ¹⁶ You open Your hand And satisfy the desire of every living thing. ¹⁷ The LORD is righteous in all His ways, Gracious in all His works. ¹⁸ The LORD is near to all who call upon Him, To all who call upon Him in truth. ¹⁹ He will fulfill the desire of those who fear Him; He also will hear their cry and save them. ²⁰ The LORD preserves all who love Him, But all the wicked He will destroy. ²¹ My mouth shall speak the praise of the LORD, And all flesh shall bless His holy name Forever and ever.

Sermon Theme: Praise the Lord for All His Works!

- ✝ When was the last time you thought about the fact that God is the Creator of all things? When was the last time you were in awe of a part of God's creation?
- ✝ God is not just the Creator of all things, He is also the _____ of all.
- ✝ What kind of "creation" and "preservation" should we praise God for the most?

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;



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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.* †)

Sermon Hymn: 789 Praise and Thanksgiving

LSB 789



Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901-84

Tune: Gaelic, 19th cent.

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Tune: Public domain

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.**

- 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.



Closing Hymn: 803 *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee* *(please stand for last verse)*

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore Thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
2 All Thy works with joy sur-round Thee, Earth and heav'n re - flect Thy rays,
△ 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, Ev - er bless-ing, ev - er blest,
Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore Thee, Prais-ing Thee, their sun a - bove.
Stars and an-gels sing a-round Thee, Cen - ter of un - bro-ken praise.
Well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, O - cean-depth of hap-py rest!
Melt the clouds of sin and sad-ness, Drive the gloom of doubt a-way.
Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, Flow - 'ry mead-ow, flash-ing sea,
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it, Foun - tain - head of love di-vine:
Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad-ness, Fill us with the light of day.
Chant-ing bird, and flow - ing foun-tain Call us to re - joice in Thee.
Joy - ful, we Thy heav'n in - her - it! Joy-ful, we by grace are Thine!

Text: Henry Van Dyke, 1852–1933, alt.
Tune: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827; adapt. Edward Hodges, 1796–1867
Text and tune: Public domain

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today: **Women's Auxiliary Meeting – 11:15am**

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

Bible Study – 2pm

This Week: Thursday – **SSLS Back to School Night (Mt. View) – 6:30pm**

Saturday – **SSLS School Spruce-Up Day – 10am-1pm**

Next Sunday: *Education Sunday*

8/20/23 **St. Stephen – West (Mt. View): Bible Study – 9am**

Worship w/ Teacher Installation – 10am

Wedding Reception for Isaac & Mikkela – 11:15am

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

Bible Study – 2pm

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

Coming Up:

-First Day of the School Year at SSLS – Opening Devotion – Monday, 8/21 @ 8:15am

-Joint Mission Festival Worship & Fellowship Meal/Mission Presentation – 8/27

Please Stay Clear of Back Fence Gate Entrance (Shed Area) – Please stay away from the back fence gate entrance/shed area for the time being. A swarm of ground yellow jackets have made a nest in the ground near the sheds and they can be aggressive. We are in the process of trapping them and eliminating their nest. Until further notice, please do not go near that area. Thank you!

Sound Dampening Project in the Fellowship Hall – We are doing some testing of some sound dampening materials in the fellowship hall to reduce the echo. We have also constructed a "print shop" area as a workstation to section off the printing & office equipment from the rest of the fellowship hall. Please share your thoughts and opinions on the project with Pastor Luke or our congregation's president, Michael Slattengren.



Dear St. Stephen Members and Friends,

You are invited to join us on **Sunday, August 20th** for a special worship service and celebration at St. Stephen-West in Mountain View! Please join us as we welcome our new teacher, Isaac Schmitt, and celebrate the recent marriage of our teachers, Mikkela and Isaac Schmitt.

Sunday, August 20th

✝ **10am -Education Sunday Worship Service w/ Installation of Teacher Isaac Schmitt**

✝ **11:15am - Reception for Isaac & Mikkela**
(Fellowship Hall)

Please RSVP so we know approximately how many to plan for - **Leslie Horrillo (408) 891-3325**

Hope to see you then!

CLC News - Missionary Evensen *has returned the call* from Resurrection Lutheran in Corpus Christi, TX. <> Pastor Sam Rodebaugh of Faith Lutheran, Manchester, MO *has returned the call* from Messiah Lutheran in Eau Claire, WI to be their third pastor. Pastor James Albrecht of St. John's in Okabena, MN *has returned the call* from Calvary Lutheran Church in Marquette, MI.

Pacific Coast Women's Retreat -- Grow in Grace - October 6-8, 2023 | Cusick, WA



We welcome all girls and women to our retreat in the beautiful Pacific Northwest! Planes, trains, and automobiles will bring you to Spokane, and then we'll lead you an hour-ish north to the Ponderosa Lodge. "Stay in the Know" by signing up on the Gethsemane Lutheran Church website for periodic updates.

<https://gethsemaneccl.org/events/pacific-coast-womens-retreat/>

Questions? Contact Tina Eichstadt, teichstadt@gmail.com or 651-398-2386.