

# ***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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**School Office: (650) 961-2071**

**School Website: ssls.org**

**September 3, 2023 ☩ Pentecost 14**

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**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. Please sign our guestbook in the entry.

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☩ Preparation for Worship: Read Psalm 34 (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: "I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"**

LSB 699 (tune of TLH 277)

- 1. *I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Come unto Me and rest;  
Lay down, thou weary one, lay down Thy head upon My breast."  
I came to Jesus as I was, So weary, worn, and sad;  
I found in Him a resting place, And He has made me glad.***
- 2. *I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Behold, I freely give  
The living water; thirsty one, Stoop down and drink and live."  
I came to Jesus, and I drank Of that life-giving stream;  
My thirst was quenched, my soul revived, And now I live in Him.***
- 3. *I heard the voice of Jesus say, "I am this dark world's light.  
Look unto Me; thy morn shall rise And all thy day be bright."  
I looked to Jesus, and I found In Him my star, my sun;  
And in that light of life I'll walk Till trav'ling days are done.***

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## **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.

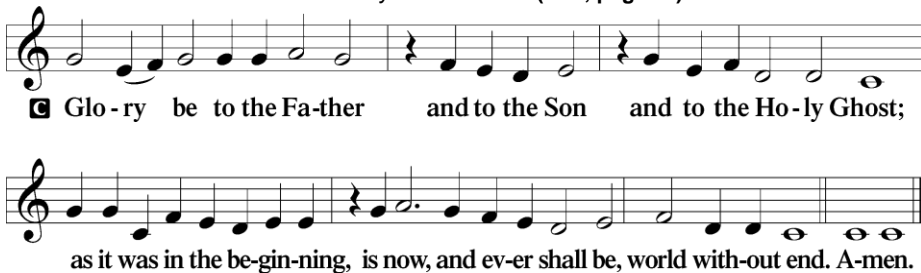
**[P]** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

**[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)*



**C** Glo - ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;

as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

### **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** O Lord Jesus Christ, You withdrew Yourself for times of prayer and brought Your disciples with You that they might also rest with You. Be present with us during this time of worship and spiritual rest that, gathered together in Your name, we may profitably meditate on Your Word and be strengthened with a good will to serve You and Your people. We pray this in Your saving name, dear Jesus, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

*God speaks to us.*

## First Reading

### ***Exodus 6:2-8 (EHV)***

**<sup>2</sup> Then God spoke to Moses, telling him, "I am the LORD [Hebrew: "Jehovah," or "Yaweh"].** **<sup>3</sup> I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, as God Almighty, but by my name, the LORD, I was not known to them.** **<sup>4</sup> I also established my covenant with them, to give them the land of Canaan, the land where they were residing as aliens.** **<sup>5</sup> I certainly have heard the groaning of the Israelites, whom the Egyptians have enslaved, and I have remembered my covenant.**

***<sup>6</sup> "Therefore, tell the Israelites, 'I am the LORD. I will bring you out from under the forced labor of the Egyptians. I will deliver you from being their slaves. I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great acts of judgment. <sup>7</sup> I will take you as my own people, and I will be your God. You will know that I am the LORD your God, the one who brought you out from under the forced labor of the Egyptians. <sup>8</sup> I will bring you to the land which I swore with uplifted hand to give to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob. I will give it to you as a possession. I am the LORD.'"***

# THE GRADUAL

*When God speaks to us in His Word it is natural for us to respond. We sing “Hallelujah!”—meaning “Praise the Lord!”*

**P** Blessed are they that hear the word of God and keep it. Allelujah!



**C** Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

**P** The Gospel reading is from Matthew 16:13-20.

**G** Glory be to Thee, O Lord!

## Gospel Reading

**Matthew 16:13-20 (EHV)**

<sup>13</sup> *When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?"*

<sup>14</sup> *They said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets."*

<sup>15</sup> *He said to them, "But you, who do you say that I am?"*

<sup>16</sup> *Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."*

<sup>17</sup> *Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. <sup>18</sup> And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell will not overpower it. <sup>19</sup> I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." <sup>20</sup> Then he commanded the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.*

**P** Here ends our Gospel reading.

**G** Praise be to Thee, O Christ!

## **THE NICENE CREED**

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

**G** 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.

*(Creed continues on next page ->)*

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: 524 *How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds*

LSB 524



1 How sweet the name of Je - sus sounds In  
 2 It makes the wound - ed spir - it whole And  
 3 Dear name! The rock on which I build, My  
 4 O Je - sus, shep - herd, guard - ian, friend, My

a be - liev - er's ear! It soothes our sor - rows,  
 calms the heart's un - rest; 'Tis man - na to the  
 shield and hid - ing place; My nev - er - fail - ing  
 Proph - et, Priest, and King, My Lord, my life, my

heals our wounds, And drives a - way our fear.  
 hun - gry soul, And to the wea - ry, rest.  
 trea - sury filled With bound - less stores of grace.  
 way, my end, Ac - cept the praise I bring.

**5. How weak the effort of my heart,  
 How cold my warmest thought!  
 But when I see Thee as Thou art,  
 I'll praise Thee as I ought.**

**6. Till then I would Thy love proclaim  
 With ev'ry fleeting breath;  
 And may the music of Thy name  
 Refresh my soul in death!**

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.  
 Tune: Alexander R. Reinagle, 1799–1877  
 Text and tune: Public domain

## THE SERMON

### Matthew 11:25-30 (EHV)

<sup>25</sup> At that time Jesus answered and said, "I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and prudent and have revealed them to babes. <sup>26</sup> "Even so, Father, for so it seemed good in Your sight. <sup>27</sup> "All things have been delivered to Me by My Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father. Nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, and the one to whom the Son wills to reveal Him. <sup>28</sup> "Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup> "Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup> "For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."

### Sermon Theme: Rest

- ✝ Over the past few Sundays we've been talking about various types of work. Obviously, work is a very important part of our lives—physically and spiritually. But so is **rest**!
- ✝ What vitally important types of **rest** does Jesus promise and offer? (v. 28-29)
  - 1.
  - 2.
- ✝ Where is this **rest** not found? (v. 25)
- ✝ How does Jesus give us this **rest**?
- ✝ What can you do (or, not do!) this week to have more time for **rest** in Jesus?

## **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)

### **Sermon Hymn: 684 Come Unto Me, Ye Weary**

LSB 684



1 "Come un - to Me, ye wea - ry, And I will give you rest."  
2 "Come un - to Me, ye wan - d'ers, And I will give you light."  
3 "Come un - to Me, ye faint - ing, And I will give you life."  
4 "And who - so - ev - er com - eth, I will not cast him out."





O bless - ed voice of Je - sus, Which comes to hearts op-pressed!  
 O lov - ing voice of Je - sus, Which comes to cheer the night!  
 O cheer-ing voice of Je - sus, Which comes to aid our strife!  
 O pa - tient love of Je - sus, Which drives a - way our doubt,



It tells of ben - e - dic - tion, Of par-don, grace, and peace,  
 Our hearts were filled with sad - ness, And we had lost our way;  
 The foe is stern and ea - ger, The fight is fierce and long;  
 Which, though we be un - wor - thy Of love so great and free,



Of joy that hath no end - ing, Of love that can - not cease.  
 But Thou hast brought us glad - ness And songs at break of day.  
 But Thou hast made us might - y And strong - er than the strong.  
 In - vites us ver - y sin - ners To come, dear Lord, to Thee!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–98, alt.  
 Tune: Friedrich K. Anthes, 1812–after 1857  
 Text and 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 fitting, right, and spiritually beneficial that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock till he comes again in glory. 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.  
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



tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us.



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



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

## **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)

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 with out 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.



**Closing Hymn: 632 *O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee* (please stand for last verse) LSB 632**

1 O Je - sus, bless - ed Lord, to Thee My heart - felt  
2 Break forth, my soul, for joy and say: What wealth is  
thanks for - ev - er be, Who hast so lov - ing -  
come to me this day! My Sav - ior dwells with -  
ly be - stowed On me Thy bod - y and Thy blood.  
in my heart: How blessed am I! How good Thou art!

**△ 3. *Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Amen.***

Text: Thomas Hansen Kingo, 1634–1703; tr. Arthur J. Mason, 1851–1928; v. 3 "Doxology" Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711  
Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois  
Text and tune: Public domain

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today: **St. Stephen – West** (Mt. View): **Bible Class – 9am**  
**Worship w/ communion – 10am**

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

This Week: Monday – *Labor Day* (**No School at SSLS**)  
Wednesday – **Confirmation Class** (Lang) – 4pm

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

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

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

**In Your Mailboxes** – St. Stephen & CLC Financial Summary – *July & August*

**Yellow Jacket / Back Gate Update (Mountain View)** – We are happy to report that the yellow jacket situation has been resolved and we will go back to using the back fence gate entrance for school in the mornings beginning on **Tuesday, September 5th**.

**East Bay Church Council Meeting – Next Sunday, September 10th – 2pm (Hayward)** – A reminder to our East Bay church council that we will be having our meeting after the worship service in Hayward **next Sunday, 9/10 @ 2pm**.

**CLC News** – Pastor David Pfeiffer of Holy Trinity Lutheran in West Columbia, SC *has received the call* to be the third pastor at Messiah Lutheran in Eau Claire, WI. <> Pastor Aaron Ude of Good Shepherd Lutheran, Rapid City, SD *has returned the call* from Calvary Lutheran Church in Marquette, MI. <> Pastor Paul Nolting of Grace Lutheran, Valentine, NE, Peace Lutheran, Mission, SD, and St. Paul's Lutheran, White River, SD *has accepted the call* from the CLC Board of Missions to serve as a part-time visiting foreign missionary to serve our East African brethren in Tanzania.