

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 Staff: Isaac & Mikkela Schmitt (Teachers),
Julia Bernthal (Administrator), Pastor Luke Bernthal (Principal)

School Office: (650) 961-2071

School Website: ssls.org

October 8, 2023 ✝ Pentecost 19



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 25 (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: 901 *Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty*

LSB 901

1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty; Zi - on, let me
2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore Thee; Come Thou al - so
3 Here Thy praise is glad - ly chant - ed; Here Thy seed is
4 Thou my faith in - crease and quick - en; Let me keep Thy
5 Speak, O God, and I will hear Thee; Let Thy will be
en - ter there, Where my soul in joy - ful du - ty
un - to me. Where we find Thee and a - dore Thee,
du - ly sown. Let my soul, where it is plant - ed,
gift di - vine, How - so - e'er temp - ta - tions thick - en;
done in - deed. May I un - dis - turbed draw near Thee
Waits for Him who an - swers prayer. Oh, how bless - ed
There a heav'n on earth must be. To my heart, O
Bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone, So that all I
May Thy Word still o'er me shine As my guid - ing
While Thou dost Thy peo - ple feed. Here of life the
is this place, Filled with sol - ace, light, and grace!
en - ter Thou; Let it be Thy tem - ple now!
hear may be Fruit - ful un - to life in me.
star through life, As my com - fort in all strife.
foun - tain flows; Here is balm for all our woes.

Text: Benjamin Schmolck, 1672–1737; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: Joachim Neander, 1650–80
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 Lord, almighty and everlasting God, You have commanded us to pray and have promised to hear us. Mercifully grant that Your Holy Spirit may direct and govern our hearts in all things that we may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of Your name. 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.

G Amen.

First Reading

Philippians 2:1-11 (EHV)

So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ² complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. ⁵ Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Second Reading

Matthew 21:28-32 (EHV)

P The second reading is from Matthew 21:28-32.

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

²⁸ *"What do you think? A man had two sons. He went to the first and said, 'Son, go work today in my vineyard.'* ²⁹ *He answered, 'I will not,' but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ He came to the second and said the same thing. The second son answered, 'I will go, sir,' but he did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said to him, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Amen ["truly"] I tell you: The tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness, but you did not believe him. However, the tax*

collectors and prostitutes did believe him. Even when you saw this, you did not change your mind ["repent"] and believe him.

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

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: 857 *Lord, Help Us Walk Your Servant Way*

LSB 857

1 Lord, help us walk Your ser - vant way Wher -
2 You came to earth, O Christ, as Lord, But
3 No gold - en scep - ter but a towel You
4 You bid us bend our hu - man pride Nor
5 Lord, help us walk Your ser - vant way Wher -
ev - er love may lead And, bend - ing low, for -
pow'r You laid a - side. You lived Your years in
place with - in the hands Of those who seek to
count our - selves a - bove The low - est place, the
ev - er love may lead And, bend - ing low, for -
get - ting self, Each serve the oth - er's need.
ser - vant - hood; In low - li - ness You died.
fol - low You And live by Your com - mands.
mean - est task That waits the gift of love.
get - ting self, Each serve the oth - er's need.

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

Tune: The Whole Booke of Psalmes, 1562, London

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

Tune: Public domain

Sermon Text: Psalm 25 (NKJV)

To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

² O my God, I trust in You; Let me not be ashamed;

Let not my enemies triumph over me.

³ Indeed, let no one who waits on You be ashamed;

Let those be ashamed who deal treacherously without cause.

⁴ Show me Your ways, O LORD; Teach me Your paths.

⁵ Lead me in Your truth and teach me,

For You are the God of my salvation; On You I wait all the day.

⁶ Remember, O LORD, Your tender mercies and Your lovingkindnesses,

For they are from of old.

⁷ Do not remember the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions;

According to Your mercy remember me, For Your goodness' sake, O LORD.

⁸ Good and upright is the LORD; Therefore He teaches sinners in the way.

⁹ The humble He guides in justice, And the humble He teaches His way.

¹⁰ All the paths of the LORD are mercy and truth,

To such as keep His covenant and His testimonies.

¹¹ For Your name's sake, O LORD, Pardon my iniquity, for it is great.

¹² Who is the man that fears the LORD? Him shall He teach in the way He chooses.

¹³ He himself shall dwell in prosperity, And his descendants shall inherit the earth.

¹⁴ The secret of the LORD is with those who fear Him,

And He will show them His covenant.

¹⁵ My eyes are ever toward the LORD,

For He shall pluck my feet out of the net.

¹⁶ Turn Yourself to me, and have mercy on me, For I am desolate and afflicted.

¹⁷ The troubles of my heart have enlarged; Bring me out of my distresses!

¹⁸ Look on my affliction and my pain, And forgive all my sins.

¹⁹ Consider my enemies, for they are many;

And they hate me with cruel hatred.

²⁰ Keep my soul, and deliver me; Let me not be ashamed,

for I put my trust in You.

²¹ Let integrity and uprightness preserve me, For I wait for You.

²² Redeem Israel, O God, Out of all their troubles!

Sermon Theme: "To You, O LORD, I Lift Up My Soul"

This psalm can be divided into four prayers, two of which are very similar. This psalm, since it covers so many aspects of the Christian's life, makes for a great daily prayer as well as a prayer in times of distress.

Prayer #1 – A Prayer for _____ (v. 1-3)

Prayer #2 – A Prayer for _____ (v. 4-11)

Prayer #3 – A Prayer for _____ (v. 12-14)

Prayer #4 – A Prayer for _____ (v. 15-22)


- † A recurring phrase and theme in the Psalms are expressions of “waiting on the LORD.” We human beings usually detest waiting. What does it mean to “wait” for the LORD? (v. 21)

Application:

Which verses or phrases in this psalm do you find the most meaningful, or which verses really speak to your situation now, or to past experiences in your life?

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: 752 Be Still, My Soul

LSB 752



1 Be still, my soul; the Lord is on your side; Bear pa - tient-
2 Be still, my soul; your God will un - der - take To guide the
3 Be still, my soul; though dear - est friends de - part And all is
4 Be still, my soul; the hour is has - t'ning on When we shall



ly the cross of grief or pain; Leave to your God to or - der
fu - ture as He has the past. Your hope, your con - fi - dence let
dark - ened in this vale of tears; Then you will bet - ter know His
be for - ev - er with the Lord, When dis - ap - point - ment, grief, and



and pro - vide; In ev - 'ry change He faith - ful will re -
 noth - ing shake; All now mys - te - rious shall be bright at
 love, His heart, Who comes to soothe your sor - rows and your
 fear are gone, Sor - row for - got, love's pur - est joys re -



main. Be still, my soul; your best, your heav'n - ly Friend
 last. Be still, my soul; the waves and winds still know
 fears. Be still, my soul; your Je - sus can re - pay
 stored. Be still, my soul; when change and tears are past,



Through thorn - y ways leads to a joy - ful end.
 His voice who ruled them while He dwelt be - low.
 From His own full - ness all He takes a - way.
 All safe and bless - ed we shall meet at last.

Text: Catharina Amalia Dorothea von Schlegel, 1697–1752; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–97, alt. Tune: Jean Sibelius, 1865–1957, adapt.
 Text and tune: Public domain

Prayer / 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).*

- ☐ 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.**



☐ A-men, a-men, a - men.

Closing Hymn: 702 My Faith Looks Up to Thee *(please stand for the last verse)*



1 My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
2 May Thy rich grace im - part Strength to my faint - ing heart;
3 While life's dark maze I tread And griefs a - round me spread,
4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, When death's cold, sul - len stream



Sav - ior di - vine. Now hear me while I pray; Take all my
My zeal in - spire! As Thou hast died for me, Oh, may my
Be Thou my guide; Bid dark - ness turn to day, Wipe sor - row's
Shall o'er me roll, Blest Sav - ior, then, in love, Fear and dis -



guilt a - way; O let me from this day Be whol - ly Thine!
love to Thee Pure, warm, and change - less be, A liv - ing fire!
tears a - way, Nor let me ev - er stray From Thee a - side.
trust re - move; O bear me safe a - bove, A ran - somed soul!

Text: Ray Palmer, 1808–87
Tune: Lowell Mason, 1792–1872
Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments - Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2023 Concordia Publishing House.

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

© 2019 Wartburg Project, Inc. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Scripture taken from the New King James Version®. Copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson.

Used by permission. All rights reserved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

St. Stephen – East Bay (Hayward): Worship – 1pm
Creation Documentary
“Is Genesis History?” (Part 2) – 2pm

This Week: Tuesday – **Bible Instruction Class** (Fenton) (Mt. View) – **11:30am**
Wednesday – **No Confirmation Class** (Lang) (Mt. View) – **Resumes 10/25**
Thursday – **Board of Education Meeting** (Zoom) (Mt. View) – **6pm**

Next Sunday: **St. Stephen – West (Mt. View): Worship – 10am**
10/15/23

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

St. Stephen – South (Ontario): Worship and Bible Study-6:30pm

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

Coming Up:



Joint Reformation Worship & Fellowship Meal (Mt. View) @ **10am – 10/29**

****There is a sign-up sheet for the Reformation meal in the church entryway****

Southern California Worship and Bible Study – NEXT Sun. 10/15 @ 6:30pm

Our Southern California Worship Service and Bible Study will be held **NEXT Sunday, October 15th @ 6:30pm**. We will be meeting in the conference room at Kevin Fossum's workplace. The location is near the Ontario airport. Here is the address:

Total Transportation & Distribution
9278 Charles Smith Ave.
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730

CLC News – Former CLC president, and current pastor of Messiah, Hales Corners (Milwaukee area), WI, Pastor Mike Eichstadt, was hospitalized earlier this week after an episode of sustained ventricular tachycardia. He was prescribed medication to control it. Minimally invasive surgery is planned to further treat the symptoms. Mike seems to be feeling okay. A lay service will be conducted this Sunday at Messiah, and then he says he will be "easing" into the week. Please keep Mike and his wife Sue in your prayers.

"Look to the LORD and his strength; seek his face always" - 1 Chronicles 16:11

Grace & Peace in Him,
Mike Wilke, CLC President