

# ***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](mailto: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](http://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](http://ssls.org)

**November 5, 2023 ✝ Pentecost 23**



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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.


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✝ Preparation for Worship: Read Psalm 33 (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: 908 Lord, Open Now My Heart to Hear** *(please stand for last verse)*



1 Lord, o - pen now my heart to hear, And through Your  
2 Your Word in - spires my heart with - in; Your Word grants  
△ 3 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, And God the

Word to me draw near; Let me Your Word e'er pure re -  
heal - ing from my sin; Your Word has pow'r to guide and  
Spir - it, Three in One, Shall glo - ry, praise, and hon - or

tain; Let me Your child and heir re - main.  
bless; Your Word brings peace and hap - pi - ness.  
be Now and through - out e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: Johann Olearius, 1611–84; (sts. 1, 3): tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.; (st. 2): tr. Mark A. Jeske, 1952  
Tune: Geistliche Lieder aufs new gebessert, 1543, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug  
Text (st. 2): © 1993 Mark A. Jeske. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 130003862  
Text (sts. 1, 3) 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.

**C** 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 praise the Lord...

**"Come, Thou Almighty King" LSB 905 v. 1**

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are: "I Come, Thou al - mighty - y King, Help us Thy name to sing; Help us to praise; Fa - ther all - glo - ri - ous, O'er all vic - to - ri - ous, Come and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days." The score ends with a double bar line.

I Come, Thou al - mighty - y King, Help us Thy  
name to sing; Help us to praise; Fa - ther all -  
glo - ri - ous, O'er all vic - to - ri - ous,  
Come and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days.

Text: English, before 1760, alt. Tune: Felice de Giardini, 1716–96 Text and tune: Public domain

**Prayer of the Day**

**P** We pray:

Merciful and gracious Lord, You cause Your Word to be proclaimed in every generation. Stir up our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may receive Your Word with humility and finally be exalted at the coming of Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

## First Reading

## Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18 (EHV)

*The LORD told Moses <sup>2</sup> to speak to the whole community of the Israelites and tell them these things: You shall be holy, because I, the LORD your God, am holy.*

*... <sup>15</sup> You shall not act unjustly in court cases. Do not show favoritism to a poor person, and do not show undue honor to an important person. You must judge your fellow citizens with justice.*

*<sup>16</sup> You shall not go around spreading slander among your people. You shall not testify falsely against your neighbor in a capital case. I am the LORD.*

*<sup>17</sup> You shall not hate a fellow Israelite in your heart. You must openly rebuke your fellow citizen so that you do not become responsible for his sin. <sup>18</sup> You must not take revenge. You must not bear a grudge against the members of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself. I am the LORD.*

## Gospel Reading

## Romans 13:8-14 (EHV)

**P** The Gospel reading is from Romans 13:8-14.

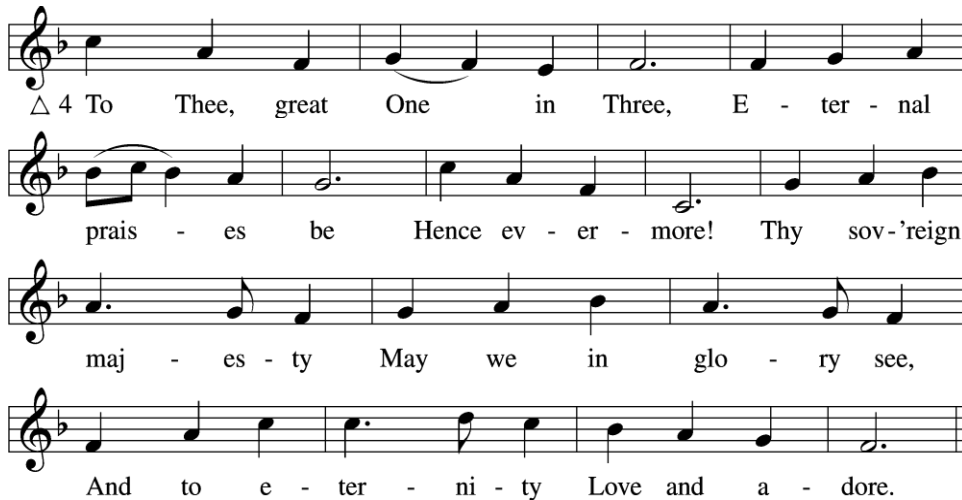
**G** Sanctify us by Your truth, O LORD. Your Word is truth!

*<sup>8</sup> Do not owe anyone anything except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup> For the commandments—do not commit adultery, do not murder, do not steal, do not covet (and if there is any other commandment)—are summed up in this statement: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” <sup>10</sup> Love does no harm to a neighbor, so love is the fulfillment of the law.*

*<sup>11</sup> And do this since you understand the present time. It is already the hour for you to wake up from sleep, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. <sup>12</sup> The night is almost over, and the day is drawing near. So let us put away the deeds of darkness and put on the weapons of light. <sup>13</sup> Let us walk decently as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual sin and wild living, not in strife and jealousy. <sup>14</sup> Instead, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not give any thought to satisfying the desires of your sinful flesh.*

**P** Here ends our Scripture readings.

**"To Thee, Great One in Three"** LSB 905 v. 4



△ 4 To Thee, great One in Three, E - ter - nal  
 prais - es be Hence ev - er - more! Thy sov - 'reign  
 maj - es - ty May we in glo - ry see,  
 And to e - ter - ni - ty Love and a - dore.

Text: English, before 1760, alt. Tune: Felice de Giardini, 1716-96 Text and tune: Public domain

**Nicene Creed** *We boldly confess what we believe.*

LSB 206

**☐ 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 Spirit 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 sits at the right hand of the Father.  
 And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,  
 whose kingdom will have no end.**

*(Creed continues on next page ->)*

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,  
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
 who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
 who spoke by the prophets.  
 And I believe in 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: 540 Christ, the Word of God Incarnate** *(please stand for last verse)*



The musical score is written in a single system with five staves. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are written below the staves, with some lines having multiple verses. The first four lines of the first staff are numbered 1 through 4. The final line of the fifth staff ends with a double bar line.

1 Christ, the Word of God in - car - nate, Lord and Son of  
 2 Christ, the liv - ing bread from heav - en, Food for bod - y,  
 3 Christ, the shoot that springs tri - um - phant From the stump of  
 4 Christ, our good and faith - ful shep - herd, Watch - ing all Your

A - bra - ham; Christ, the ra - diance of the Fa - ther,  
 food for soul; Christ, the man - na dai - ly giv - en,  
 Jes - se's tree; Christ, true vine, You nur - ture branch - es  
 lambs and sheep; Christ, the gate that guards the sheep - fold,

Per - fect God, the great I AM; Christ, the light, You  
 Nour - ish, strength - en, make us whole. Feed us with the  
 To bear fruit a - bun - dant - ly. Graft us in - to  
 Nev - er - fail - ing vig - il keep. When we stray, Good

shine un - van - quished, Light and life You bring to all; Light our  
 food of heav - en, Fore - taste of the feast to be; Quench our  
 You, O Sav - ior; Prune our hearts so we re - main Fruit - ful  
 Shep - herd, seek us, Find us, lift us, bear us home; Lamb of

path with Your own pres - ence, Grant us grace to heed Your call.  
 thirst with liv - ing wa - ter Spring - ing up e - ter - nal - ly.  
 branch - es in Your vine - yard Till e - ter - nal life we gain.  
 God, our shep - herd, keep us; Let us hear Your voice a - lone.

***5. Christ, the way that leads unfailing To the Father's home on high,  
Christ, the truth that frees the captive, Christ, the life that cannot die.  
Mediator to the Father, Sacrifice and great High Priest:  
Lead us to Your heav'nly mansions, There to share Your wedding feast.***

***△ 6. Christ, the Alpha and Omega, Christ, the firstborn from the dead,  
Christ, the life and resurrection, Christ, the Church's glorious head:  
Praise and thanks and adoration And unending worship be  
To the Father and the Spirit And to You eternally.***

Text: Steven P. Mueller, 1964  
Tune: Columbian Harmony, 1825, Cincinnati  
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Tune: Public domain

### **Sermon Text: Matthew 22:34-46 (EHV)**

<sup>34</sup> When they heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees met together. <sup>35</sup> One of them who was an expert in the law asked him a question, trying to trap him. <sup>36</sup> "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?"

<sup>37</sup> Jesus said to him, "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' <sup>38</sup> This is the first and greatest commandment. <sup>39</sup> The second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' <sup>40</sup> All the Law and the Prophets depend on these two commandments."

<sup>41</sup> While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them a question: <sup>42</sup> "What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The Son of David."

<sup>43</sup> He said to them, "Then how can David in the Spirit call him Lord, saying,

<sup>44</sup> The Lord said to my Lord,  
'Sit at my right hand,  
until I put your enemies  
under your feet'?"

<sup>45</sup> "So if David calls him Lord, how is he his son?"

<sup>46</sup> No one was able to answer him a word, and from that day on no one dared to ask him any more questions.

### **Sermon Theme: Gospel > Law**

† What misconceptions and false beliefs did the Pharisees have...

1) ...about the Law?

2) ...about the Christ?

Application: When you hear Jesus tell us God's "greatest" commandment does it make you feel guilty because you haven't kept it? What is the solution?

## 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: *"The Law Commands and Makes Us Know"*

TLH 289

♪ **1. The Law commands and makes us know**  
*What duties to our God we owe;  
But 'tis the Gospel must reveal  
Where lies our strength to do his will.*

**2. The Law discovers guilt and sin**  
*And shows how vile our hearts have been;  
The Gospel only can express  
Forgiving love and cleansing grace.*

**3. What curses doth the Law denounce**  
*Against the man who fails but once!  
But in the Gospel Christ appears,  
Pardoning the guilt of numerous years.*

**4. My soul, no more attempt to draw**  
*Thy life and comfort from the Law  
Fly to the hope the Gospel gives;  
The man that trusts the promise lives.*

Text and Tune: Public domain

## Service of the Sacrament

*Now we approach the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper in which Jesus comes to bless us with His very body and blood.  
We move toward the Sacrament with prayers of thanksgiving and songs of adoration.*

## The Words of Institution

*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 body and blood in the Sacrament.*

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always!

**C** Amen.

## Prayer Before the Lord's Supper

*Adapted from The Lutheran Hymnal, p. 4*

**C** Dear Savior, upon Your gracious invitation I come to Your altar.  
Let me find favor in Your eyes that I may approach Your table in true faith  
and receive the Lord's Supper for the forgiveness of my sins and the  
strengthening of my faith. Amen

## Hymn of Preparation

### "Feed Thy Children, God Most Holy"

LSB 774

Feed Thy chil - dren, God most ho - ly; Com - fort sin - ners  
poor and low - ly. O Thou Bread of Life from heav-en, Bless the  
food Thou here hast giv - en! As these gifts the bod-y nour - ish,  
May our souls in grac - es flour - ish Till with saints in  
heav'n - ly splen - dor At Thy feast due thanks we ren - der.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941 Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662  
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Tune: Public domain

## The Distribution

*Note to our Guests:* We are so glad you are worshiping with us this morning. 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.

## Prayer After the Lord’s Supper

*Adapted from The Lutheran Hymnal, p. 4*

**C** O blessed Savior, Jesus Christ, You have given Yourself to me in this holy Sacrament, keep me in Your faith and favor. As You live in me, let me also live in You. May Your body and blood preserve me in the true faith unto everlasting life! Amen.

**P** Go in peace. Serve the Lord with gladness!

## The Thanksgiving

### “My Heart Has Now Become Thy Dwelling”

*LSB 619 v. 5*

5 My heart has now be - come Thy dwell - ing, O bless - ed,  
 ho - ly Trin - i - ty. With an - gels I, Thy  
 prais - es tell - ing, Shall live in joy e - ter - nal - ly.

*Refrain*  
 Lord, may Thy bod - y and Thy blood Be for my soul the high - est good!

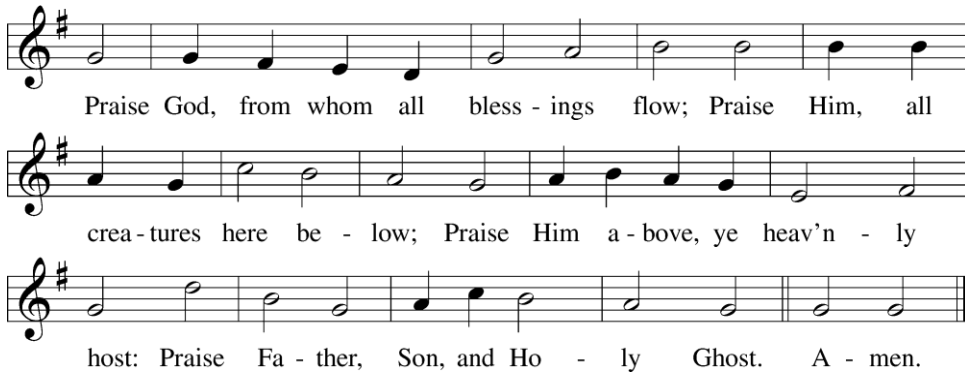
Text: Friedrich Christian Heyder, 1677–1754; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, abr. Tune: Emskirchner Choral-Buch, 1756, Leipzig  
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**Benediction** *The blessing given by God for the blessing of His people (Numbers 6:24-26).*

- 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  $\text{✠}$  give you peace.

## The Doxology

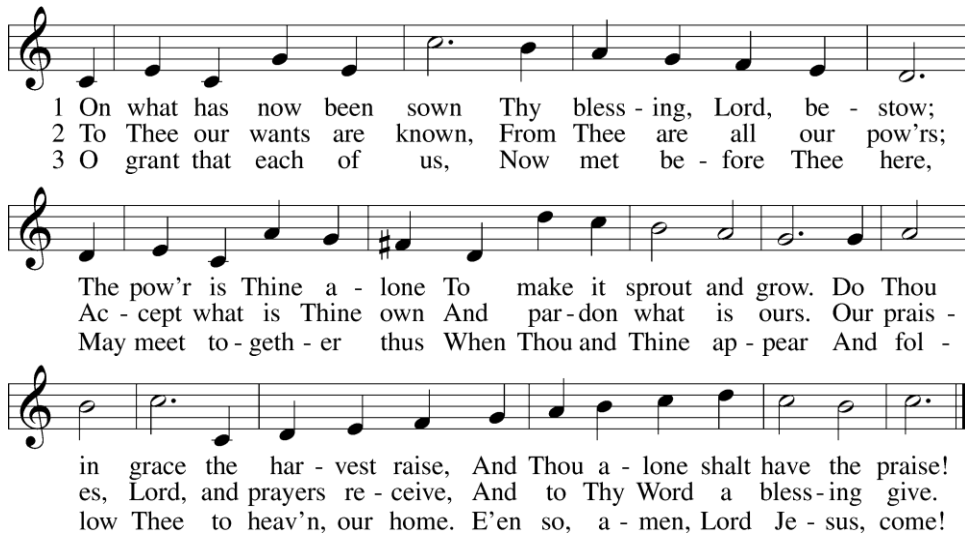
LSB 805



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.

Public domain

## **Closing Hymn: 921** *On What Has Now Been Sown* (please stand for last verse)



1 On what has now been sown Thy bless - ing, Lord, be - stow;  
2 To Thee our wants are known, From Thee are all our pow'rs;  
3 O grant that each of us, Now met be - fore Thee here,  
The pow'r is Thine a - lone To make it sprout and grow. Do Thou  
Ac - cept what is Thine own And par - don what is ours. Our prais -  
May meet to - geth - er thus When Thou and Thine ap - pear And fol -  
in grace the har - vest raise, And Thou a - lone shalt have the praise!  
es, Lord, and prayers re - ceive, And to Thy Word a bless - ing give.  
low Thee to heav'n, our home. E'en so, a - men, Lord Je - sus, come!

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt. Tune: John Darwall, 1731–89  
Text and tune: Public domain

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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

This Week: Wednesday – **Bible Instruction Class (Fenton) – 11:30am**  
**Confirmation Class (Lang) – 4pm**  
Thursday – **Board of Education Meeting (Mt. View) (Zoom) – 6pm**  
Friday – **NO School at SSLS** - Veterans Day (observed)  
Saturday – *Veterans Day*

Next Sunday: **St. Stephen – West (Mt. View): Bible Study – 9am**  
11/12/23 **Worship – 10am**  
**Voter's Meeting (Elections) – 11am**  
**Women's Auxiliary Meeting – 11:30am**

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

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

Coming Up: **St. Stephen – West (Mt. View) Voter's Meeting w/ Elections – Sun. 11/12**  
**St. Stephen-East Bay (Hayward) Voter's Meeting w/ Elections–Sun. 11/19**

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# CLC World Missions Prayer List – November 2023



...pray for us, that the word of the Lord may run swiftly and be glorified...

2 Thessalonians 3:1

**India** (Southeast Asia) – Pastor Prem Kumar, a long-time pastor and leader of the CLC-India, lost his battle with kidney disease and was taken to be the Lord. He leaves behind a wife, two young children, and a large congregation of believers he has faithfully served for many years. **Thank the Lord** for providing this faithful servant for the work of His Kingdom and the harvest of souls in India. **Pray for the Lord's** comfort and assurance for his wife, children, family, congregation, and all those in the CLCI who mourn his passing and rejoice in his victory over the grave through faith in Jesus Christ.

**Kate Sauers** (USA) – Kate is the wife of Board of Missions member Pastor Rob Sauers. She was diagnosed with ALK-positive large-cell lymphoma cancer in late September. She has received two rounds of chemotherapy so far, and doctors report that she has responded well. **Thank the Lord** for blessing the treatments thus far and ask for His continued blessings on the remainder of the treatments she is scheduled to receive. Continue to **Pray for** courage, comfort, hope, strength, and trust in our Savior's love and plans for their family.

**Liberia** (West Africa) – Pastor Joseph's sister recently went to be with the Lord following a battle with liver cancer. With a presidential runoff taking place on November 14th, there is a lot of uncertainty and instability in Liberia right now. Pastor John Hein continues treatments for a rare and very aggressive form of thymic cancer. He will have more scans scheduled for November. **Pray for the Lord's comfort** as Pastor Joseph and his family mourn the loss of his sister and rejoice in victory over the grave through faith in Jesus. **Ask the Lord** to direct the affairs of the Liberian elections this month so that peace may prevail and good government may serve His purpose. **Pray for the Lord's hand of healing** upon our brother, Pastor John Hein, so that the treatments he is receiving will rid his body of cancer. **Pray for good results** from the scans so Pastor Hein can begin planning for a visit to Liberia in January.

**Missionary Evensen** (Togo, West Africa) – Missionary Evensen recently had a kidney stone block his only kidney. **Pray** that he will have no further complications, as necessary surgical treatments may not be readily available. **Ask the Lord** to provide a quick and complete recovery so he can return to the work he has been called to.

**Mexico** – Bd of Missions member Jeff Radichel and Missionary Ohlmann recently visited Pastor Olvera, his family, and our brothers and sisters in Christ of the Iglesia Luterana Confesional Mexico. They discussed future plans for Gospel outreach and leadership training for lay leaders in one congregation and three preaching stations in Mexico. **Thank the Lord** for this opportunity to fellowship together around His Word. **Pray** for the Lord's blessings and provision as these new plans develop so that many more may be reached with God's saving word.

**Missionary Bruce Naumann** (Tanzania-East Africa) – Missionary Naumann, along with his wife Paula, are getting more accustomed to their new home in Tanzania. In addition to his teaching responsibilities at the seminary, he has also begun taking a more active role in correspondence and training pastors in Kenya and Uganda. They will be returning to the States for a one-month furlough in December. You can keep updated on things happening in Tanzania at [clc-tz.blogspot.com](http://clc-tz.blogspot.com). **Ask for the Lord's blessings** as Missionary Naumann and Paula continue to adjust to life in Africa. Pray for our Savior's abundant blessings on the work of training pastors, teachers, and leaders in Tanzania.

**Missionary Ohlmann** – Missionary Ohlmann is currently traveling and working in Asia until the middle of December. He will spend a few days in Tokyo, visiting a congregation once in fellowship with the CLC. From there, he will spend approx. six weeks working with the pastors and leaders of the Bangladesh Lutheran Church Mission (BLCM) and the Himalayan Church of the Lutheran Confession of Nepal (HCLCN). While in Bangladesh and Nepal, he will visit several congregations and preaching stations, conduct Pastoral Training Seminars, and be privileged to attend the Himalayan Bible Institute graduation. **Pray for** all that is necessary for these trips to be planned and take place. **Ask the Lord** to be with and bless his wife, Beth, her father, and their family while he is away. **Pray for** the Lord's love, wisdom, patience, and zeal during these visits that His name be glorified as the truth of His saving word is proclaimed and pastors are trained. You can read reports and see pictures from his travels at [missionaryohlmann.blogspot.com](http://missionaryohlmann.blogspot.com)

**Mission Development Fund** – CLC president Mike Wilke writes: *"When the convention approved the calling of our third foreign missionary, it determined that the funding of that missionary would come fully from the MDF for the first year. The cost of funding that missionary is about \$80,000 and has impacted other planned MDF projects. Currently, the balance of the MDF is enough to cover the cost of our third foreign missionary for the rest of this fiscal year and a few other essential projects, but without additional funds, we will not be able to fund other planned projects. We have already put a hold on all other projects, including funding Bibles and other Christian literature, church-building assistance, and many planned outreach projects. Pray that the members of the CLC will remember this work in their prayers and their offerings so that we might continue to carry out the work the LORD has set before us and which we have decided to do as a church body."*

**Tanzania** (East Africa) – Pastor Paulo Kiara, who serves in the Tanga district of the Tanzania-CLC, is recovering from abdominal surgery. A Kinship grant was provided to assist with the cost of the life-saving surgery. **Pray** for a speedy and complete recovery. On November 19<sup>th</sup>, three evangelism students will graduate from the one-year program at the Wittenberg Lutheran Theological Seminary. Two of these students will continue their training in the three-year seminary program. Missionary Naumann and the seminary faculty have several prospects for new enrollments in the next academic year, which begins in January. **Praise and thank the Lord** for these students and their dedication to preparing for the public ministry. **Pray for** the students, their families, and the teaching staff at the seminary, asking the Lord to continue to provide all that is necessary for this work to continue.

**Myanmar** (Southeast Asia) – Our brothers and sisters in Christ of the CLC-Myanmar continue to struggle under the oppressive rule of the military junta. Pastor Kham continues to heal from the injuries he received. His wife, Haui, has been released from jail, and their debt has been paid through the compassionate offerings of God's children. **Continue to pray for** strength and courage for Haui as she deals with the emotional and physical trauma of her arrest. **Pray for the children** Pastor Kham and Haui care for as they live in constant fear of military attack and now also the fear of losing those who love and care for them. **Continue to Pray** for justice and peace for all the people of Myanmar. **Pray** especially for our brothers and sisters in Christ that our Savior will give them strength, comfort, courage, and boldness during these difficult times and that He will provide for all their needs. **Thank the Lord** for moving the hearts of His children to give generously to the needs of others through their offerings and prayers.

**The Philippines** (Southeast Asia) – Pastor Andrew Schaller (CLC Bd of Doctrine Secretary) continues the colloquy with Pastor Jordan Palangyos and the Lutheran Autonomous Mission in the Philippines (LAMP) via email correspondence. **Pray** that the Lord will bless the colloquy and that this 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 continue to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ!

**Pakistan** – Pastor Tim Daub continues to teach online video Bible lessons to two groups 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 in 2024. With the upcoming elections in Pakistan and due to safety concerns surrounding it, there is some uncertainty about when this trip will occur. **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.

**Bangladesh** (Southeast Asia) – Missionary Ohlmann will be in Bangladesh for the first three weeks of November. He will work with Pastor Monotosh to visit several congregations and preaching stations, and they will conduct a five-day pastoral training seminar. **Ask our Savior** to continue to bless both the preaching and learning of God's word in Bangladesh and to provide all that is necessary for the ministry of the BLCM.

**Nepal** (Southeast Asia) – Pastor Raju continues to train men to be faithful preachers of God's saving word. The students recently braved flooded rivers and landslides to attend a one-week training seminar at the HCLC-Nepa headquarters. They are preparing for Missionary Ohlmann's visit in late November and for the graduation of several Himalayan Lutheran Bible Institute students. **Thank the Lord** for keeping all the students safe in their treacherous travels and blessing their lessons in His Word. **Pray for the Lord's blessings** on the work and preparation for the upcoming missionary visit. Ask the Lord to provide all that is necessary so that His word will be spread among the many idol worshippers of Nepal and that many will be led by the Spirit to repent and trust in their Savior Jesus.

**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.