

St. Stephen Lutheran Church

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

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January 21, 2024 ✝ Epiphany 3



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.

✝ Preparation for Worship: Read Psalm 62 (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: 825 *Rise, Shine, You People*

LSB 825



1 Rise, shine, you peo - ple! Christ the Lord has en - tered
2 See how He sends the pow'rs of e - vil reel - ing;
3 Come, cel - e - brate, your ban - ners high un - furl - ing,
4 Tell how the Fa - ther sent His Son to save us.



Our hu - man sto - ry; God in Him is cen - tered.
He brings us free - dom, light and life and heal - ing.
Your songs and prayers a - gainst the dark-ness hurl - ing.
Tell of the Son, who life and free-dom gave us.



He comes to us, by death and sin sur -
All men and wom - en, who by guilt are
To all the world go out and tell the
Tell how the Spir - it calls from ev - 'ry



round - ed, With grace un - bound - ed.
driv - en, Now are for - giv - en.
sto - ry Of Je - sus' glo - ry.
na - tion His new cre - a - tion.

Text: Ronald A. Klug, 1939, alt. Tune: Dale Wood, 1934–2003

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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...

"Songs of Thankfulness and Praise" *LSB 394 v. 1*



1 Songs of thank - ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to Thee we raise,



Man - i - fest - ed by the star To the sa - ges from a - far,



Branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem In Thy birth at Beth - le - hem:



An - thems be to Thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.

Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807-85, alt.
Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816-93
Text and tune: Public domain

Prayer of the Day

P We pray:

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us. 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

Jonah 3:1-5, 10 (EHV)

Then the word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time: ² "Get up. Go to Nineveh, the great city, and preach to it the message that I tell you."

³ So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh just as the word of the Lord had commanded. Now Nineveh was a great city to God. It required a three-day walk. ⁴ Jonah walked through the city for a day, and he called out, "Forty more days and Nineveh is going to be overthrown!"

⁵ The men of Nineveh believed God. They proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least.

... ¹⁰ When God saw their actions, that they had turned from their evil way, God relented from the disaster which he said he would bring on them, and he did not carry it out.

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 5:14-21 (EHV)

P The second reading is from 2 Corinthians 5:14-21.

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

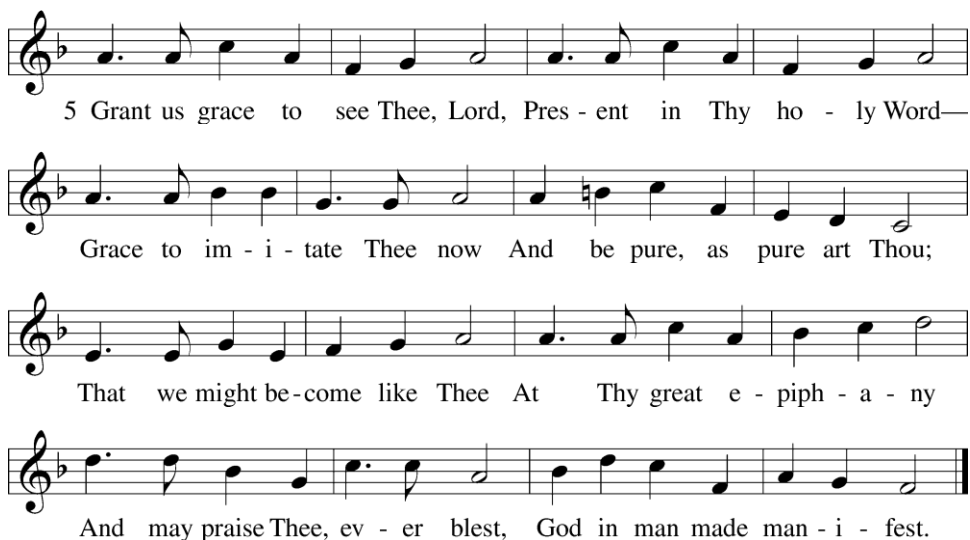
¹⁴ For the love of Christ compels us, because we came to this conclusion: One died for all; therefore, all died. ¹⁵ And he died for all, so that those who live would no longer live for themselves but for him, who died in their place and was raised again.

¹⁶ As a result, from now on, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we knew Christ according to the flesh, we no longer know him that way. ¹⁷ So then, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away. The new has come! ¹⁸ And all these things are from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ

and gave us the ministry of reconciliation. ¹⁹ That is, God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them. And he has entrusted to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰ Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, inasmuch as God is making an appeal through us. We urge you, on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. ²¹ God made him, who did not know sin, to become sin for us, so that we might become the righteousness of God in him.

[P] Here ends our Scripture readings.

"Grant Us Grace to See Thee, Lord" LSB 394 v. 5



5 Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord, Pres - ent in Thy ho - ly Word—
 Grace to im - i - tate Thee now And be pure, as pure art Thou;
 That we might be - come like Thee At Thy great e - piph - a - ny
 And may praise Thee, ev - er blest, God in man made man - i - fest.

Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–85, alt. Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–93
 Text and tune: Public domain

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.**

(Creed continues on next page ->)

**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: 856 O Christ, Who Called the Twelve

LSB 856



Sermon Text: Mark 1:14-20 (EHV)

¹⁴ After John was put in prison, Jesus went to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God. ¹⁵ "The time is fulfilled," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near! Repent, and believe in the gospel." ¹⁶ As Jesus was going along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea, since they were fishermen. ¹⁷ Jesus said to them, "Come, follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." ¹⁸ Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹ Going on a little farther, he saw James the son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat mending the nets. ²⁰ Immediately Jesus called them. They left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants and followed him. ²¹ Then they went into Capernaum.

Sermon Theme: Follow Jesus!

✝ Jesus calls us to...

1) Repentance

2) Faith

3) Action

Offertory

LSB 956



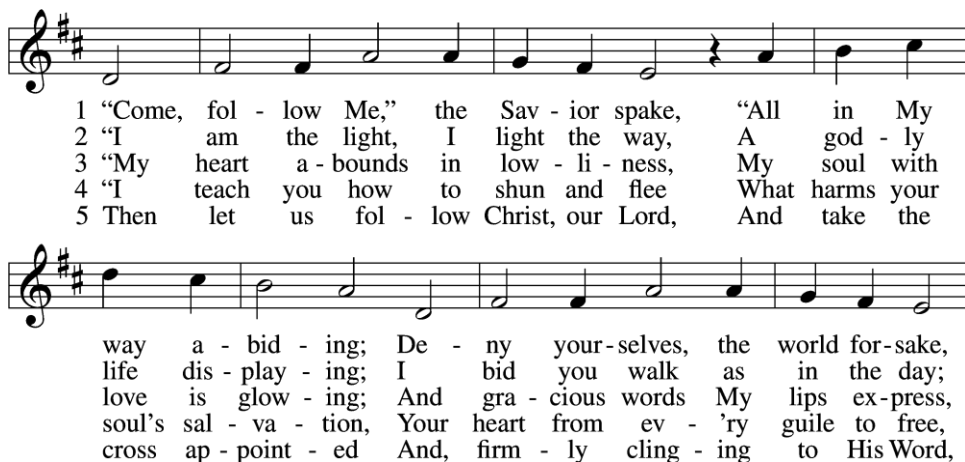
Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new
a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way
from Thy pres - ence; and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va - tion;
and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

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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.*

Sermon Hymn: 688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

LSB 408



1 "Come, fol - low Me," the Sav - ior spake, "All in My
2 "I am the light, I light the way, A god - ly
3 "My heart a - bounds in low - li - ness, My soul with
4 "I teach you how to shun and flee What harms your
5 Then let us fol - low Christ, our Lord, And take the
way a - bid - ing; De - ny your-selves, the world for-sake,
life dis - play - ing; I bid you walk as in the day;
love is glow - ing; And gra - cious words My lips ex-press,
soul's sal - va - tion, Your heart from ev - 'ry guile to free,
cross ap - point - ed And, firm - ly cling - ing to His Word,



O - bey My call and guid - ing. O bear the cross, what -
 I keep your feet from stray - ing. I am the way, and
 With meek - ness o - ver - flow - ing. My heart, My mind, My
 From sin and its temp - ta - tion. I am the ref - uge
 In suf - f'ring be un - daunt - ed. For those who bear the

e'er be - tide, Take My ex - am - ple for your guide.
 well I show How you must so - journ here be - low.
 strength, My all, To God I yield, on Him I call.
 of the soul And lead you to your heav'n - ly goal."
 bat - tle's strain The crown of heav'n - ly life ob - tain.

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
 Tune: Bartholomäus Gesius, c. 1555–1613, adapt.
 Text and tune: Public domain

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

Lord's Prayer

LSB 209

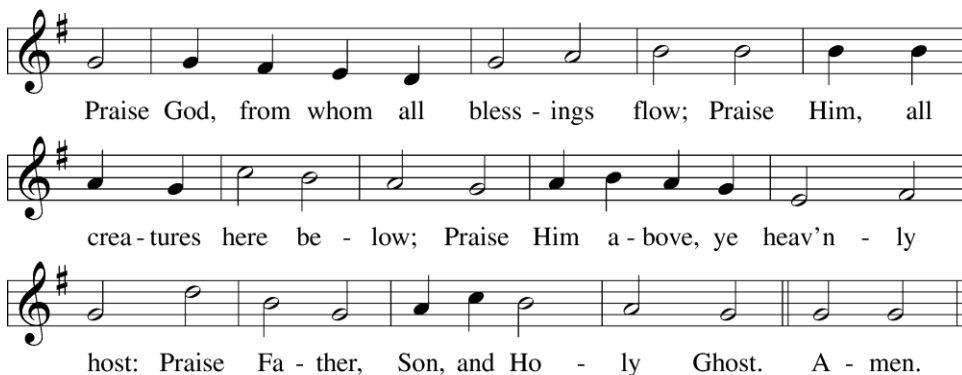
- ☐ Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name,
 Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
 give us this day our daily bread;
 and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;
 and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
 For Thine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

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.**

The Doxology

LSB 805



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Closing Hymn: 770 (Worship Suppl.) ***I Hear the Savior Calling*** (please stand for last verse)

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

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today: **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>

This Week: Wednesday - **Bible Instruction Class** (Fenton) (Mt. View) – **12:15pm**
Confirmation Class (Lang) (Mt. View) – **4pm**
Thursday – **Stockton Worship** (Oakmont) – **2pm**
Sacramento Worship (Forever Easter House) – **4pm**

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

1/28/24

Worship – 10am

Voter's Annual Reports Meeting – 11am

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

Bible Class – 2pm

Voter's Annual Reports Meeting – NEXT Sunday, January 28th @ 11am –

Our voter's annual reports meeting will be held **NEXT Sunday, January 28th at 11am.** The committee chairman of our church council & school will be delivering their annual reports next Sunday, along with the pastor's annual report. The congregation is invited and encouraged to join us for this annual meeting in the fellowship hall.

New 2024 Church Directories UPDATES Needed – Due by February 11th – We plan to print and distribute new church directories by mid-February. Please check your contact information in the directory on the table in the church entryway to make sure everything is correct. Please write in the necessary changes. If everything is correct please put a check mark by your family's entry. **Please let me know of any changes by February 11th.**

Thank you! – Pastor Luke