

St. Stephen Lutheran Church

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

320 Moorpark Way - Mountain View, California 94041-1600



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Julia Bernthal (Administrator), Pastor Luke Bernthal (Principal)

School Office: (650) 961-2071

School Website: ssls.org

February 11, 2024 † Transfiguration Sunday



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 2 (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: 413 O Wondrous Type! O Vision Fair (please stand for last verse)

1 O won - drous type! O vi - sion fair
2 With Mo - ses and E - li - jah nigh
3 With shin - ing face and bright ar - ray
4 And faith - ful hearts are raised on high
△ 5 O Fa - ther, with the e - ter - nal Son

Of glo - ry that the Church may share,
The in - car - nate Lord holds con - verse high;
Christ deigns to man - i - fest to - day
By this great vi - sion's mys - ter - y,
And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er one,

Which Christ up - on the moun - tain shows,
And from the cloud the Ho - ly One
What glo - ry shall be theirs a - bove
For which in joy - ful strains we raise
We pray Thee, bring us by Thy grace

Where bright - er than the sun He glows!
Bears rec - ord to the on - ly Son.
Who joy in God with per - fect love.
The voice of prayer, the hymn of praise.
To see Thy glo - ry face to face.

Text: Sarum Breviary, 1495, Salisbury; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt. Tune: English, 15th cent.
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 God, in the glorious transfiguration of Your beloved Son You confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of Moses and Elijah. In the voice that came from the bright cloud You wonderfully foreshowed our adoption by grace. Mercifully make us co-heirs with the King in His glory and bring us to the fullness of our inheritance in heaven. We pray this through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

First Reading

2 Corinthians 3:12-4:6 (EHV)

¹² Therefore, since we have this kind of hope, we act with great boldness. ¹³ We are not like Moses, who put a veil over his face, so that the Israelites could not continue to look at the end of the radiance, as it was fading away. ¹⁴ In spite of this, their minds were hardened. Yes, up to the present day, the same veil remains when the Old Testament is read. It has not been removed because it is taken away only in Christ. ¹⁵ Instead, to this day, whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their hearts. ¹⁶ But whenever someone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. ¹⁷ Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸ But all of us who reflect the Lord's glory with an unveiled face are being transformed into his own image, from one degree of glory to another. This too is from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

4:1 Therefore, since we have this ministry as a result of the mercy shown us, we are not discouraged. ² On the contrary, we have renounced shameful, underhanded methods. We do not operate in a deceitful way, and we do not distort the word of God. Instead, by proclaiming the truth clearly, we commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God.

³ But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled among those who are perishing. ⁴ In the case of those people, the god of this age has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from clearly seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is God's image.

⁵ Indeed, we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶ For the God who said, "Light will shine out of darkness," is the same one who made light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the person of Jesus Christ.

Second Reading

Matthew 17:1-9 (EHV)

P The second reading is from Matthew 17:1-9.

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

Six days later Jesus took with him Peter, James, and John the brother of James; and he led them up onto a high mountain by themselves. ² There he was transfigured in front of them. His face was shining like the sun. His clothing became as white as the light. ³ Just then, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Jesus.

⁴ Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you want, I will make three shelters here: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."

⁵ While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them. Just then, a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him."

⁶ When the disciples heard this, they fell face down and were terrified. ⁷ Jesus approached and as he touched them, he said, "Get up, and do not be afraid." ⁸ When they opened their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus alone. ⁹ As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, "Do not tell anyone what you have seen until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

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

G 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: 414 'Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here

LSB 414



1 'Tis good, Lord, to be here! Thy
2 'Tis good, Lord, to be here, Thy
3 Ful - fill - er of the past And
4 Be - fore we taste of death, We
5 'Tis good, Lord, to be here! Yet



glo - ry fills the night; Thy face and gar - ments,
beau - ty to be - hold Where Mo - ses and E -
hope of things to be, We hail Thy bod - y
see Thy king - dom come; We long to hold the
we may not re - main; But since Thou bidst us



like the sun, Shine with un - bor - rowed light.
li - jah stand, Thy mes - sen - gers of old.
glo - ri - fied And our re - demp - tion see.
vi - sion bright And make this hill our home.
leave the mount, Come with us to the plain.

Text: Joseph A. Robinson, 1858-1933, alt.
Tune: Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685-1750, adapt.
Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon Text: 2 Peter 1:16-21 (EHV)

¹⁶To be sure, we were not following cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the powerful appearance of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷For he received honor and glory from God the Father, when the voice came to him from within the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased." ¹⁸We heard this voice, which came out of heaven when we were with him on the holy mountain. ¹⁹We also have the completely reliable prophetic word. You do well to pay attention to it, as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the Morning Star rises in your hearts, ²⁰since we know this above all else: No prophecy of Scripture comes about from someone's own interpretation. ²¹In fact, no prophecy ever came by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were being carried along by the Holy Spirit.

Sermon Theme: "You Had to Be There!"

- ✝ How can Peter, an eyewitness of Jesus' Transfiguration, say that **"the completely reliable prophetic word" (v. 19a)** of God is even "more certain" than an eyewitness account? **(see v. 20-21)**

- ✝ What does Peter remind us we should do with this Word of God? **(v. 19)**

- ✝ How are you and I now made "eyewitnesses" of Jesus' Transfiguration?

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: 416 (tune of LSB 803 "Hymn to Joy") ***Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory***

- 1** *Swiftly pass the clouds of glory, Heaven's voice, the dazzling light;
Moses and Elijah vanish; Christ alone commands the height!
Peter, James, and John fall silent, Turning from the summit's rise
Downward toward the shadowed valley Where their Lord has fixed His eyes.*
- 2** *Glimpsed and gone the revelation, They shall gain and keep its truth,
Not by building on the mountain Any shrine or sacred booth,
But by following the Savior Through the valley to the cross
And by testing faith's resilience Through betrayal, pain, and loss.*
- 3** *Lord, transfigure our perception With the purest light that shines,
And recast our life's intentions To the shape of Your designs,
Till we seek no other glory Than what lies past Calv'ry's hill
And our living and our dying And our rising by Your will.*

Text: Thomas H. Troeger, 1945

Text: © 1994 Oxford University Press. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 130003862

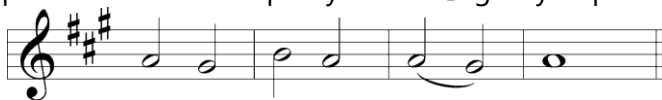
Prayer / Prayer Requests *We bring our prayers to God.*

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.

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 give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

Closing Hymn: 537 Beautiful Savior (please stand for last verse)

LSB 537

1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion, Son of
2 Fair are the mead - ows, Fair are the wood - lands, Robed in
3 Fair is the sun - shine, Fair is the moon - light, Bright the
4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions, Son of

God and Son of Man! Tru - ly I'd love Thee, Tru - ly I'd
flow'rs of bloom - ing spring; Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is
spar - kling stars on high; Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines
God and Son of Man! Glo - ry and hon - or, Praise, ad - o -

serve Thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
pur - er, He makes our sor - r'wing spir - it sing.
pur - er Than all the an - gels in the sky.
ra - tion Now and for - ev - er - more be Thine!

Text: Münsterisch Gesangbuch, 1677, Münster; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904

Tune: Silesian, 19th cent.

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®)

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today:
2/11/24

St. Stephen – West (Mt. View): Bible Study – 9am

Worship – 10am

Choir Practice – 11am

Crafting Bee – 11:30am

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

Bible Study – 2pm

This Week:



Tuesday – **Bible Instruction Class** (Fenton) (Mt. View) – **11:30am**

Wednesday – **SSLS Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon – 12-1pm** (see below)

Confirmation Class (Lang) (Mt. View) – **4pm**

Ash Wednesday Worship (Mt. View) – **7pm**

Friday – **No School at SSLS** (Winter Break begins) /

Pacific Coast Teachers Conf. (Spokane, WA) – **Fri. 2/16 – Sun. 2/18**

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

2/18/24

Worship – 10am

Choir – 11am

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

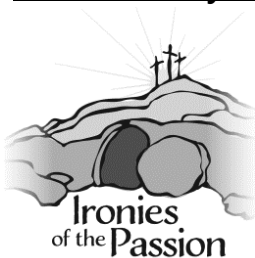
Bible Study – 2pm

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

New 2024 Church Directories UPDATES Needed – Due by Today, Sun. 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 today, February 11th, if possible.** Thank you! – Pastor Luke

Ash Wednesday Worship – this Wednesday, February 14th – Mountain View - 7pm –



The season of Lent begins this Wednesday with our

Ash Wednesday worship service in Mountain View at 7pm.

The theme for our Lenten series this year will be "Ironies of the Passion." In this series, we will look at ironic aspects of the passion account (e.g. Caiaphas' unintentional prophesy, the Jewish leaders' hypocrisy, etc.) to teach us about the unique and lasting significance of Jesus' ministry, death, and resurrection. Please join us this Wednesday.

Southern California Worship and Bible Study – NEXT Sun. 2/18 @ 7pm

Our Southern California Worship Service and Bible Study will be held **NEXT Sunday, February 18th @ 7pm.** (NOTE the start time change to **7pm**). Seth and Alyssa Hamblin will be hosting our service again this time at their residence in Huntington Beach. Their address is:

**9842 Hamilton Ave. Apt. 11
Huntington Beach, CA 92646**

Note from Alyssa & Seth Regarding Parking: "Park on the street around the corner on St. John Lane to the west of our apartment to avoid having to walk across 4 lanes of traffic."

CLC News - Teacher Ross Kok of Holy Cross Lutheran School in Phoenix, AZ *has returned the call* from Gethsemane Lutheran School in Saginaw, MI. <> Teacher Kendra Rodebaugh of Gethsemane Lutheran School, Spokane, WA, *has been called* to Messiah Lutheran School, Hales Corners, WI. <> Grace Lutheran of Valentine, NE *has called* Noah Ohlmann to be their fourth full-time teacher (teaching the lower grades) beginning in January 2025 after his December 2024 graduation. Noah *has accepted this call*. <> Teacher Matthew Kranz, Immanuel Lutheran in Mankato, MN, *has been called* by Messiah Lutheran in Eau Claire, WI to be their 5th-6th grade teacher and assistant principal. <> Teacher Matthew Thurow of Berea Lutheran in Inver Grove Heights, MN *has been called* to be a professor at Immanuel Lutheran High School and College in Eau Claire, WI. This is to fill the position currently held by Professor Mark Kranz who is retiring at the end of this school year.



PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR

Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon

14 | FEBRUARY | NOON

**LUNCH
YARD GAMES
CRAFTS**

**ST. STEPHEN LUTHERAN SCHOOL
320 MOORPARK WAY**

**QUESTIONS? EMAIL
ADMIN@SSL.S.ORG**

