

# ***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)

**April 14, 2024 † Easter 3**

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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 118 (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: 469 *Christ the Lord is Ris'n Today*

LSB 469



1 "Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day!" Saints on earth and an - gels say;  
2 Love's re - deem - ing work is done, Fought the fight, the bat - tle won;  
3 Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Christ hath burst the gates of hell.  
4 Lives a - gain our glo - rious King! Where, O death, is now thy sting?



Raise your joys and tri - umphs high; Sing, ye heav'ns, and earth, re - ply.  
Lo! Our Sun's e - clipse is o'er; Lo! He sets in blood no more.  
Death in vain for - bids His rise; Christ has o - pened par - a - dise.  
Once He died our souls to save; Where thy vic - to - ry, O grave?

***5. Soar we now where Christ has led;  
Foll'wing our exalted Head.  
Made like Him, like Him we rise;  
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies.***

***6. Hail the Lord of earth and heav'n!  
Praise to Thee by both be giv'n!  
Thee we greet triumphant now:  
Hail, the resurrection, Thou!***

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-88, alt.  
Tune: French, 13th 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.

**G** 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.

**G** **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.

**G** **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:

Dear Heavenly Father, by the resurrection of Your Son, Jesus, You have raised up the fallen world. We pray that You would give to us, your children, faithfulness and perpetual gladness. And to us, whom You have delivered from the danger of everlasting death, give the joys of everlasting life. We pray this in the name of Your Son, our Savior Jesus, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## First Reading

**Acts 4:1-12 (EHV)**

***As Peter and John were speaking to the people, the priests, the commander of the temple guard, and the Sadducees approached them. <sup>2</sup> They were very upset because Peter and John were teaching the people and proclaiming the resurrection from the dead in connection with Jesus. <sup>3</sup> They arrested them and put them in jail until the next day because it was already evening.***

***<sup>4</sup> But many of those who had heard the message believed, and the number of the men increased to about five thousand.***

***<sup>5</sup> The next day, the rulers, the elders, and the experts in the law assembled in Jerusalem <sup>6</sup> with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, Alexander, and all the rest of the high priest's family. <sup>7</sup> After they made Peter and John stand in front of them, they began to question them: "By what power or by what name did you do this?"***

***<sup>8</sup> Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders of Israel, <sup>9</sup> if we are being questioned today for a kind act that was done for the lame man, as to how this man has been healed, <sup>10</sup> let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that it was by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead! By him this man stands before you healed. <sup>11</sup> This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you builders, which has become the cornerstone.***

***<sup>12</sup> "There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to people by which we must be saved."***

## Second Reading

Luke 24:36-43 (EHV)

**P** The second reading is from Luke 24:36-43.

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

<sup>36</sup> *As they were talking about these things, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."*

<sup>37</sup> *But they were terrified and frightened and thought they were looking at a ghost.*


<sup>38</sup> *He said to them, "Why are you troubled? Why do doubts arise in your hearts?" <sup>39</sup> Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself. Touch me and see, because a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." <sup>40</sup> When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. <sup>41</sup> While they still did not believe it (because of their joy), and while they were still wondering, he said to them, "Do you have anything here to eat?"*

<sup>42</sup> *They gave him a piece of broiled fish and some honeycomb. <sup>43</sup> He took it and ate in front of them.*

**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: 464 *The Strife is O'er, the Battle Done***

LSB 464

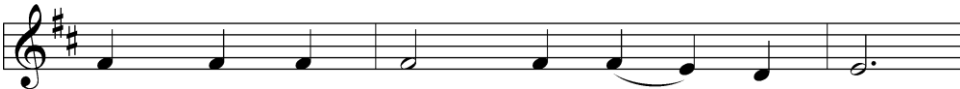
*Refrain*



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!




1 The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done;  
2 The pow'rs of death have done their worst,  
3 The three sad days have quick - ly sped,



Now is the vic - tor's tri - umph won;  
But Christ their le - gions hath dis - persed.  
He ris - es glo - rious from the dead.

*The Refrain is repeated after st. 5.*



Now be the song of praise be - gun. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Let shouts of ho - ly joy out - burst. Al - le - lu - ia!  
All glo - ry to our ris - en Head! Al - le - lu - ia!

**4. He broke the age-bound chains of hell;  
The bars from heav'n's high portals fell.  
Let hymns of praise His triumph tell. Alleluia!**

**5. Lord, by the stripes which wounded Thee,  
From death's dread sting Thy servants free  
That we may live and sing to Thee. Alleluia! (Refrain)**

Text: Symphonia Sirenium Selectarum, 1695, Köln; tr. Francis Pott, 1832–1909, alt. Tune: Giovanni P. da Palestrina, c. 1525–1594, adapt.  
Text and tune: Public domain

## **Sermon Text: Luke 24:44-48 (EHV)**

<sup>44</sup> He said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms." <sup>45</sup> Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. <sup>46</sup> He said to them, "This is what is written and so it must be: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup> and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup> You are witnesses of these things.

## **Sermon Theme: Reasons for the Resurrection**

✠ What are some reasons Jesus' resurrection was *essential*?

In regard to Jesus...

1) It proved \_\_\_\_\_

2) It proved \_\_\_\_\_

In regard to us ...


1) It assures us \_\_\_\_\_

2) It assures us \_\_\_\_\_

3) It inspires us to \_\_\_\_\_

## **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: 482 *This Joyful Eastertide*

LSB 482



1 This joy - ful Eas - ter - tide A - way with sin and  
2 Death's flood has lost its chill Since Je - sus crossed the  
3 My flesh in hope shall rest And for a sea - son

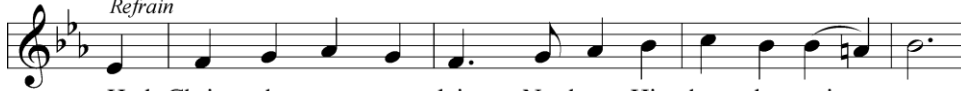


sor - row! My love, the Cru - ci - fied,  
riv - er; Lov - er of souls, from ill  
slum - ber Till trump from east to west



Has sprung to life this mor - row:  
My pass - ing soul de - liv - er:  
Shall wake the dead in num - ber:

*Refrain*



Had Christ, who once was slain, Not burst His three-day pris - on,



Our faith had been in vain: But now has Christ a - ris - en, a -



ris - en, a - ris - en; But now has Christ a - ris - en!

Text: George R. Woodward, 1848-1934  
Tune: Davids Psalmen, 1684, Amsterdam  
Text and tune: Public domain

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

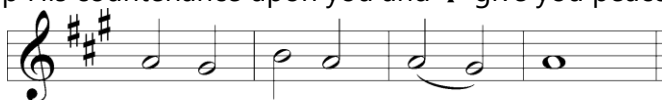
### Lord's Prayer

- ☑ 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: 633 v. 1, 5-8** *At the Lamb's High Feast...* (please stand for last verse)



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to  
5 Might - y Vic - tim from the sky, Hell's fierce  
6 Now no more can death ap - pall, Now no  
7 Eas - ter tri - umph, Eas - ter joy! This a -  
△ 8 Fa - ther, who the crown shall give, Sav - ior,



our vic - to - rious King, Who has washed us in the tide  
pow'rs be - neath You lie; You have con - quered in the fight,  
more the grave en - thrall; You have o - pened par - a - dise,  
lone can sin de - stroy; From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,  
by whose death we live, Spir - it, guide through all our days:



Flow - ing from His pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!  
You have brought us life and light. Al - le - lu - ia!  
And Your saints in You shall rise. Al - le - lu - ia!  
New - born souls in You to be. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Three in One, Your name we praise. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.; tr. Robert Campbell, 1814–68, alt. Tune: Kirchengeseng, 1566, Ivancice  
Text and tune: Public domain

**Acknowledgments** - Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2024 Concordia Publishing House.  
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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today: **St. Stephen – West** (Mt. View): **Bible Study – 9am**  
4/14/24 **Worship – 10am**  
**Choir Practice – 11am**

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

This Week: Tuesday – **Church Council** (Zoom) (Mt. View) – **7pm**  
Wednesday & Friday – **Confirmation Class** (Lang) (Mt. View) – **4pm**  
Thursday – **Stockton Worship** (Oakmont) – **2pm**

Next Sunday: **St. Stephen – West** (Mt. View): **Bible Study – 9am**  
4/21/24 **Worship – 10am**  
**Women’s Auxiliary / Luncheon**  
(at Barb Gullerud’s residence) – **11:15am**

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

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

### **Run-a-Thon Fundraiser for SSLS – Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup> – 11am -12pm –**

This yearly tradition is a fundraiser to raise money for the school, usually aimed at getting something useful and fun. Over the past few years we’ve used Run-a-Thon funds to purchase things such as the playground structure, STEM kits, and new projectors for our classrooms. The kids raise money by collecting pledges to donate, based on the number of times they can do certain athletic activities (Traditionally running, hence the name). Pledgers either choose to donate a flat amount or to donate a certain amount per activity performed (i.e. donating \$2 dollars for each lap that a student runs). If you wish to participate by giving a donation, feel free to donate directly to the school or seek out a student. Regardless of whether you wish to donate, we invite you to join us at 11am-12pm on Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup> to cheer on the students as they do their Run-a-thon activities!

– Mikkela Hammond, SSLS Upper Grade Teacher

**Student Artwork Displayed in Fellowship Hall** – The SSLS students assembled, painted, and decorated bird houses for an art project this past week. They learned some painting and stenciling techniques in the process. Please take a look at their fine art work in the fellowship hall today (they were excited to take their birdhouses home, but we made them wait till Monday so that our congregation could see their work!). Praise God for the artistic gifts and talents he has given our students (and staff)!

**VBS – Registration is Open! July 22<sup>nd</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> – Ages 4-13** – Registration can be done online

through our school's website (**ssls.org**). Flyers are also available in the entryway if you know of anyone who would be interested in sending their children to our **VBS**. It will be held **Mon.–Fri., July 22<sup>nd</sup>–26<sup>th</sup> from 9am-11:30am**.

The CLC's TVBS program is planning on sending us up to 2 teachers to assist us as well. If you would like to volunteer to help with our VBS please speak with Pastor Luke or one of our SSLS staff.

**Women's Auxiliary Book Club – Sunday 4/28 – Book Available** – For those interested in The Women's Auxiliary Book Club, there are a couple of copies of the book that will be discussed in the fellowship hall. The book club will be held along with the crafting bee on **Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>** after the worship service. If you would like more information please speak with Leslie Horrillo.

**CLC Convention in Eau Claire, WI – Thurs. June 20-Sun. June 23 - Delegate needed-**

We currently have one volunteer delegate (along with Pastor Luke and teacher Isaac Schmitt) as representatives for our congregation at this summer's CLC Convention in Eau Claire, WI (June 20-23). We are allowed one more delegate from our voting membership. If you are interested in attending as a delegate, or for more information, please speak with Pastor Luke.

**CLC News** - Teacher Katie Naumann of Immanuel Lutheran School in Winter Haven, FL *has received the call* to teach at Luther Memorial in Fond du Lac, WI. <> Blair Sydow *has received a one year call* to teach the upper grades at Holy Trinity Ev. Lutheran School in West Columbia, SC. Blair is a member of Holy Trinity Ev. Lutheran. <> The CLC Call Committee on Graduates met on Wednesday evening, and *issued these calls*: Seminary graduate Paul Agenten to St. Peter's Ev. Lutheran of Iron River, MI and Calvary Lutheran of Marquette, MI.