

# ***St. Stephen Lutheran Church***

## ***West & East Bay, Central Valley, and Southern California***

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

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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**

**September 29, 2024 ☩ Pentecost 19**

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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. Please sign our guestbook in the entry.

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☩ Preparation for Worship: Read Psalm 51 (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: 902 *Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now*

LSB 902



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, be pres - ent now; Our hearts in  
2 Un - seal our lips to sing Your praise In end - less  
3 Then shall we join the hosts that cry, "O ho - ly,  
△ 4 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, And Ho - ly



true de - vo - tion bow. Your Spir - it send with  
hymns through all our days. In - crease our faith and  
ho - ly Lord Most High!" And in the light of  
Spir - it, Three in One! To You, O bless - ed



light di - vine, And let Your truth with - in us shine.  
light our minds; And set us free from doubt that blinds.  
that blest place We then shall see You face to face.  
Trin - i - ty, Be praise through-out e - ter - ni - ty!

Text: Lutherisch Hand-Büchlein, 1648, Altenburg; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.  
Tune: Cantionale Germanicum, 1628, Gochsheim  
Text 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 Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** who made heaven and earth.

**P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**C** But with You there is forgiveness; therefore we stand in awe of You.

- P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, and call upon Him in prayer and praise, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

## Confession and Absolution

*We come before our Holy God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.*

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**
- P** In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and gives them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- C** **Amen.**

**Kyrie** *Latin for "O Lord." We approach our Lord with a cry for help in all the needs of our earthly life.*

*LSB 204*



**C** Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.



- C** 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;  
2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;  
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro-claimed at Je-sus' birth!  
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.  
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,  
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.  
Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—  
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

**Salutation ("Greeting") and Prayer of the Day**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** We pray:

Everlasting Father, source of every blessing, mercifully direct and govern us by Your Holy Spirit that we may complete the works You have prepared for us to do. 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.

**C** Amen.

## First Reading

**Colossians 3:12-17 (EHV)**

<sup>12</sup> *Therefore, as God's elect, holy and loved, clothe yourselves with heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.* <sup>13</sup> *Bear with one another and forgive each other if anyone has a complaint against anyone else. Forgive, just as Christ forgave you.* <sup>14</sup> *And, in addition to all these things, put on love, which ties things together in perfect unity.* <sup>15</sup> *Let the peace of Christ control your hearts, to which you were also called, in one body. And be thankful.*

<sup>16</sup> *Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, with gratitude in your hearts to God.* <sup>17</sup> *And everything you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.*

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Gospel Reading

**Luke 10:38-42 (EHV)**

**P** The Gospel reading is from Luke 10:38-42.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>38</sup> *As they went on their way, Jesus came into a village, and a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home.* <sup>39</sup> *She had a sister named Mary, who was sitting at the Lord's feet and was listening to his word.* <sup>40</sup> *But Martha was distracted with all her serving. She came over and said, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her to help me."*

<sup>41</sup> *The Lord answered and told her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and upset about many things, <sup>42</sup> but one thing is needed. In fact, Mary has chosen that better part, which will not be taken away from her."*

**P** Here ends our Gospel reading.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## Alleluia and Verse

LSB 205

*When God speaks to us in His Word it is natural for us to respond. We sing "Allelujah!"—meaning, "Praise the Lord!"*



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## Apostles' Creed *We boldly confess what we believe.*

LSB 207

**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 thence 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: 589 *Speak, O Lord, Your Servant Listens*

LSB 589



1 Speak, O Lord, Your ser - vant lis - tens, Let Your Word to  
2 Oh, what bless - ing to be near You And to lis - ten  
3 Lord, Your words are wa - ters liv - ing When my thirst - ing  
4 As I pray, dear Je - sus, hear me; Let Your words in



me come near; New - born life and spir - it give me,  
to Your voice; Let me ev - er love and hear You,  
spir - it pleads. Lord, Your words are bread life - giv - ing;  
me take root. May Your Spir - it e'er be near me



Let each prom - ise still my fear. Death's dread pow'r, its in - ward  
Let Your Word be now my choice! Man - y hard - ened sin - ners,  
On Your words my spir - it feeds. Lord, Your words will be my  
That I bear a - bun - dant fruit. May I dai - ly sing Your



strife, Wars a - gainst Your Word of life; Fill me, Lord, with  
Lord, Flee in ter - ror at Your Word; But to all who  
light Through death's cold and drea - ry night; Yes, they are my  
praise, From my heart glad an - thems raise, Till my high - est



love's strong fer - vor That I cling to You for - ev - er!  
feel sin's bur - den You give words of peace and par - don.  
sword pre - vail - ing And my cup of joy un - fail - ing!  
praise is giv - en In the end - less joy of heav - en.

Text: Anna Sophia von Hessen-Darmstadt, 1638-83; (sts. 1-3): tr. George A. T. Rygh, 1860-1942, alt.; (st. 4): tr. Christian Worship, 1993  
Tune: Johann Schop, c. 1590-1667  
Text and tune: Public domain

## **Sermon Text: Hebrews 10:23-25 (EHV)**

<sup>23</sup> Let us hold on firmly to the confession of our hope without wavering, since he who promised is faithful. <sup>24</sup> Let us also consider carefully how to spur each other on to love and good works. <sup>25</sup> Let us not neglect meeting together, as some have the habit of doing. Rather, let us encourage each other, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

## **Sermon Theme: Important Things to Remember – “Keep Meeting Together!”**

† What reasons does our text give as encouragement for us to keep **“meeting together”**?

† Think about how you can use this time of transition for a “fresh start.”  
Let’s all ask ourselves, “How can I participate in this congregation and in the work of the Lord? Am I attending as often as I can in person and experiencing the blessings of fellowship with my brothers and sisters in Christ, and giving them mutual encouragement? If I can’t attend at this time, am I doing all I can to encourage my fellow believers and my pastor?”

## **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

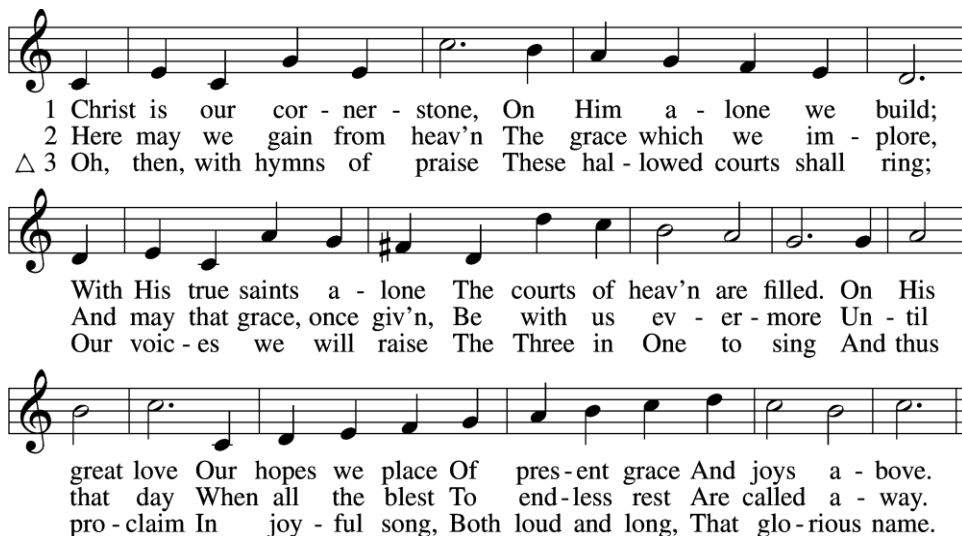




Public domain

**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.* †)

**Sermon Hymn: 912 *Christ Is Our Cornerstone*** *(please stand for last verse)* LSB 912



Text: Latin, c. 8th cent.; tr. John Chandler, 1806–76, alt. Tune: John Darwall, 1731–89 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).*

LSB 202

- 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.



**Closing Hymn: "In Christ Alone"** *(please stand for last verse)*

- 1. In Christ alone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song;  
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground,  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace,  
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!  
My Comforter, my All in All, Here in the love of Christ I stand.**
- 2. In Christ alone! - who took on flesh, Fullness of God in helpless babe.  
This gift of love and righteousness, Scorned by the ones He came to save:  
Till on that cross as Jesus died, The wrath of God was satisfied -  
For every sin on Him was laid; Here in the death of Christ I live.**
- 3. There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain:  
Then bursting forth in glorious day Up from the grave He rose again!  
And as He stands in victory Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,  
For I am His and He is mine—Bought with the precious blood of Christ.**
- 4. No guilt in life, no fear in death, This is the power of Christ in me;  
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.  
No power of hell, no scheme of man, Can ever pluck me from His hand:  
Till He returns or calls me home, Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.**

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

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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**  
9/29/24 **Joint Worship Service** (Mt. View) **@ 10am**  
**Voters’ Meeting/Call Meeting –11:15am**  
**East Bay Church Council Meeting** – (after call meeting – Pastor’s Office)  
**Women’s Auxiliary Meeting** – (after call meeting – Fellowship Hall)  
**No East Bay Worship Service** (Hayward)

This Week: Tues. – Thurs. – **Pacific Coast Pastoral Conference** – St. Stephen, Mt. View  
Wednesday – **Fellowship Meal** (Taco Bar) (Mt. View) – **6pm**  
**PCPC Worship Service w/ Communion** (Mt. View) - **7pm**  
Guest Preacher: Pastor Dave Naumann – St. John’s, Clarkston, WA

Next Sunday: **St. Stephen – West** (Mt. View): **Bible Study – 9am**  
10/6/24 **Worship w/ Communion – 10am**  
Guest Preacher: Pastor Em. Mark Bernthal  
**St. Stephen – East Bay** (Hayward): **Worship w/ Communion – 1pm**  
Guest Preacher: Pastor Em. Mark Bernthal  
**East Bay “Farewell” – Refreshments & Fellowship Hour – 2pm**  
**Online Worship Services** - <https://www.sslcwest.org/worship.html>

**Call Meeting – Mountain View – TODAY Sunday, Sept. 29<sup>th</sup> @ 11:15am** – There will be another voters’ meeting / pastor call meeting next Sunday, September 29<sup>th</sup> after the joint worship service in Mountain View at 11:15am. Members at a distance who cannot attend in person will be able to attend via Zoom.  
Pastor’s Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8729663333>

Also, the East Bay church council and the Women’s Auxiliary will have their meeting after the call meeting.

**CLC Convention “Proceedings”** – Printed copies of the *Proceedings* from the 2024 CLC Convention are on the table in the church entryway. These were also emailed out. Please let Pastor Luke know if additional printed copies are needed.

**Meal Sign-up / Donations Requested – Pacific Coast Pastoral Conf. – Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> – Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup>**

We will be hosting the Pacific Coast Pastoral Conference this week, Tues. Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> – Thurs. Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup>, here at St. Stephen-West in Mountain View. There will be a total of 8 pastors in attendance. We are in need of volunteers to provide snacks and meals for the sessions from Tues.-Thurs., and we are having a fellowship meal “Taco Bar” on Wednesday evening **Oct. 2nd at 6pm** before the **Worship Service at 7pm**. Please see the sign-up sheet in the entryway if you’d like help provide food for the meals or the snacks.

Also, we have reserved tickets for the Alcatraz Tour on Tues. Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> for the pastors’ recreational outing. We also plan to treat the pastors to a meal afterwards. If you would like to make a donation to help pay for the outing please mark your offering “Pastoral Conference.”

NOTE: We have housing volunteers in place already for all of the pastors.

Please speak with Pastor Luke if you have any questions. Thank You!

**Upcoming “Farewell” Schedule –**

**-East Bay “Farewell” Sunday – Sun. Oct. 6<sup>th</sup> @ 1pm** (Grace Lutheran, 1836 B Street, Hayward)  
**Light refreshments and fellowship hour after worship service.**

**-Loading Day for Pastor Luke and Jewels – Sat. October 12<sup>th</sup> – time: TBD**

**-Joint “Farewell” Worship Service – Mountain View - Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup> @ 10am**  
**Farewell Fellowship Meal for Pastor Luke and Jewels – 11am**

**-Moving Day for Pastor Luke & Jewels – Tues. October 15<sup>th</sup>**

**CLC News** - Pastor Timothy Daub of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Hecla, SD has **returned** the call to Faith Lutheran Church, Manchester, MO and has **accepted** the call to serve as vacancy pastor of Redeemer Ev. Lutheran Church, Bowdle, SD <> Pastor Jim Naumann has **received and accepted** the call to serve as vacancy pastor of Zion Ev. Lutheran Church Ipswich, SD. <> Pastor Zachary Sippert will be **installed** at Grace Ev. Lutheran Church, Sleepy Eye, MN on September 29, 2024.