

St. Stephen Lutheran Church

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

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June 22, 2025 † Pentecost 2

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 3 (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.StstephenCLC.org/worship.html>

Opening Hymn 702 My Faith Looks Up to Thee (LSB 702)



1 My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
2 May Thy rich grace im - part Strength to my faint - ing heart;
3 While life's dark maze I tread And griefs a - round me spread,
4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, When death's cold, sul - len stream



Sav - ior di - vine. Now hear me while I pray; Take all my
My zeal in - spire! As Thou hast died for me, Oh, may my
Be Thou my guide; Bid dark-ness turn to day, Wipe sor-row's
Shall o'er me roll, Blest Sav - ior, then, in love, Fear and dis -



guilt a - way; O let me from this day Be whol - ly Thine!
love to Thee Pure, warm, and change-less be, A liv - ing fire!
tears a - way, Nor let me ev - er stray From Thee a - side.
trust re-move; O bear me safe a -bove, A ran-somed soul!

Text: Ray Palmer, 1808–87

Tune: Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

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, the strength of all who trust in You, mercifully hear our prayers. Be gracious to us in our weakness, give us a true and abiding faith in Your Son for forgiveness and eternal

salvation, and give us strength to keep Your commandments in all we say and do for Jesus' sake, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading

1 Kings 8:22-23, 41-43 (NKJV)

²² Then Solomon stood before the altar of the LORD in the presence of all the assembly of Israel, and spread out his hands toward heaven; ²³ and he said: "LORD God of Israel, there is no God in heaven above or on earth below like You, who keep Your covenant and mercy with Your servants who walk before You with all their hearts... ⁴¹ " Moreover, concerning a foreigner, who is not of Your people Israel, but has come from a far country for Your name's sake ⁴² ' (for they will hear of Your great name and Your strong hand and Your outstretched arm), when he comes and prays toward this temple, ⁴³ "hear in heaven Your dwelling place, and do according to all for which the foreigner calls to You, that all peoples of the earth may know Your name and fear You, as do Your people Israel, and that they may know that this temple which I have built is called by Your name.

Second Reading

Galatians 1:1-10 (NKJV)

P The second reading is from Galatians 1:1-10

Paul, an apostle (not from men nor through man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father who raised Him from the dead), ² and all the brethren who are with me, To the churches of Galatia: ³ Grace to you and peace from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁴ who gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, ⁵ to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen. ⁶ I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, ⁷ which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. ⁸ But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. ⁹ As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed. ¹⁰ For do I now persuade men, or God? Or do I seek to please men? For if I still pleased men, I would not be a bondservant of Christ.

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

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: 732 All Depends on Our Possessing

(LSB 732)



1 All de - pends on our pos - sess - ing God's a - bun - dant
2 He who to this day has fed me And to man - y
3 Man - y spend their lives in fret - ting O - ver tri - fles
4 When with sor - row I am strick - en, Hope a - new my



grace and bless - ing, Though all earth - ly wealth de - part.
joys has led me Is and ev - er shall be mine.
and in get - ting Things that have no sol - id ground.
heart will quick - en; All my long - ing shall be stilled.



They who trust with faith un - shak - en By their God are
He who ev - er gent - ly schools me, He who dai - ly
I shall strive to win a trea - sure That will bring me
To His lov - ing - kind - ness ten - der Soul and bod - y



not for - sak - en And will keep a daunt - less heart.
guides and rules me Will re - main my help di - vine.
last - ing plea - sure And that now is sel - dom found.
I sur - ren - der, For on God a - lone I build.

5 Well He knows what best to grant me;

All the longing hopes that haunt me,

Joy and sorrow, have their day.

I shall doubt His wisdom never;

As God wills, so be it ever;

I commit to Him my way.

6 If my days on earth He lengthen,

God my weary soul will strengthen;

All my trust in Him I place.

Earthly wealth is not abiding,

Like a stream away is gliding;

Safe I anchor in His grace.

Text: Andächtige Haus-Kirche, 1676, Nürnberg; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Tune: Johann Löhner, 1645–1705; adapt. Johann Balthasar König, 1691–1758

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon Text: John 4:43-54 ⁴³ Now after the two days He departed from there and went to Galilee. ⁴⁴ For Jesus Himself testified that a prophet has no honor in his own country. ⁴⁵ So when He came to Galilee, the Galileans received Him, having seen all the things He did in Jerusalem at the feast; for they also had gone to the feast. ⁴⁶ So Jesus came again to Cana of Galilee where He had made the water wine. And there was a certain nobleman whose son was sick at Capernaum. ⁴⁷ When he heard that Jesus had come out of Judea into Galilee, he went to Him and implored Him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death. ⁴⁸ Then Jesus said to him, "Unless you people see signs and wonders, you will by no means believe." ⁴⁹ The nobleman said to Him, "Sir, come down before my child dies!" ⁵⁰ Jesus said to him, "Go your way; your son lives." So the man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him, and he went his way. ⁵¹ And as he was now going down, his servants met him and told him, saying, "Your son lives!" ⁵² Then he inquired of them the hour when he got better. And they said to him, "Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him." ⁵³ So the father knew that it was at the same hour in which Jesus said to him, "Your son lives." And he himself believed, and his whole household. ⁵⁴ This again is the second sign Jesus did when He had come out of Judea into Galilee.

Sermon Theme: The Healing of the Nobleman's Son, an Occasion for the Strengthening of Faith.

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: 587 I Know My Faith is Founded

(LSB 587)



1 I know my faith is found - ed On Je - sus Christ, my
2 In - crease my faith, dear Sav - ior, For Sa - tan seeks by
3 In faith, Lord, let me serve You; Though per - se - cu - tion,



God and Lord; And this my faith con - fess - ing, Un -
night and day To rob me of this trea - sure And
grief, and pain Should seek to o - ver - whelm me, Let



moved I stand on His sure Word. Our rea - son can - not
take my hope of bliss a - way. But, Lord, with You be -
me a stead - fast trust re - tain; And then at my de -



fath - om The truth of God pro - found; Who trusts in hu - man
side me, I shall be un - dis - mayed; And led by Your good
par - ture, Lord, take me home to You, Your rich - es to in -



wis - dom Re - lies on shift - ing ground. God's Word is
Spir - it, I shall be un - a - fraid. A - bide with
her - it As all You said holds true. In life and



all - suf - fi - cient, It makes di - vine - ly sure; And
me, O Sav - ior, A firm - er faith be - stow; Then
death, Lord, keep me Un - til Your heav'n I gain, Where



trust - ing in its wis - dom, My faith shall rest se - cure.
I shall bid de - fi - ance To ev - 'ry e - vil foe.
I by Your great mer - cy The end of faith at - tain.

Text: Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.
Tune: Cententus novi, 1540, Augsburg
Text and tune: Public domain

Prayers *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 to shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



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

Closing Hymn: 733 O God, Our Help in Ages Past

(LSB 733)



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, Our hope for years to come,
2 Un - der the shad - ow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt se - cure;
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood Or earth re - ceived her frame,
4 A thou-sand a - ges in Thy sight Are like an eve - ning gone,



Our shel - ter from the storm-y blast, And our e - ter - nal home:
Suf - fi - cient is Thine arm a - lone, And our de - fense is sure.
From ev - er - last - ing Thou art God, To end - less years the same.
Short as the watch that ends the night Be - fore the ris - ing sun.

**5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
Soon bears us all away;
We fly forgotten as a dream
Dies at the op'ning day.**

**6 O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while troubles last
And our eternal home!**

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.

Tune: William Croft, 1678–1727

Text and tune: Public domain

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today:

6/22/25 **10:00 a.m. Worship Service**
 11:00 a.m. Schmitt Farewell Luncheon

Next Sunday:

6/29/25 **10:00 a.m. Worship Service**
 11:00 a.m. Women's Auxiliary Meeting

Upcoming: **9-11:30 a.m. Vacation Bible School**

7/21-25/25

7/27/25 **11:30 a.m. Church Picnic at Cuesta Park, Mountain View**

Online Worship Services -

<https://www.StstephenCLC.org/worship.html>

Schmitt Farewell Luncheon will be held following the worship service today. The Schmitts are planning to move to their new home in Watertown, SD toward the end of this month, where Mikkela will be teaching in the Christian Day School of Trinity Lutheran. They will be transferring their membership to Trinity as of July 1st. We pray the Lord's blessings upon the Schmitts as they start a new chapter in their lives.

CLC General Pastoral Conference was held this past week on the campus of Immanuel Lutheran College in Eau Claire, WI. The papers and discussions were edifying and helpful. The following is a list of papers presented. If any want to receive a copy of any of these papers, please let pastor know which of the papers is desired.

- A study of Amos 2:4ff. in the original language of Hebrew. by Missionary Peter Evensen
- Lay Committee Report by Professor Steven Sippert
- Online Communion by Pastor Timothy Daub
- Pastoral Self-Care by Professor Paul Naumann
- A study of 2 Thessalonians 3:1ff. in the original language of Greek by Pastor Jonathan Schnose
- Motivation for the Ministry by Pastor Ben Libby, who is a committee member of the Recruitment for the Preaching and Teaching Ministry
- A study of the Pastor's Role as both Servant and Leader by Pastor Andrew Schaller

The General Pastoral Conference was directed by the 2024 CLC Convention "to address any remaining concerns regarding previous studies on church fellowship and its termination on the basis of God's Word." Those concerns were addressed by the Conference. The Conference then passed the following statement to be reported to the next CLC Convention: "We affirm that we are in doctrinal agreement concerning the Bible's confessional statement, *Concerning Church Fellowship*." This official confessional document of the CLC thoroughly addresses the matter of church fellowship and separation from false teachers and church bodies.

St. Stephen Treasury Update Treasurer Brenton Horrillo reported the following update: For the period of July 1, 2024 to June 7, 2025 the income was \$90,370.87 and the expenses were \$88,080.40 which resulted in a net positive of \$2,290.47. This figure does include the \$295,144.29 which was given to our congregation from St. Stephen Lutheran Church in Hayward, CA.

CLC Financial Report - May 2025

Operating Funds	Balance 7/1/2024	YTD Revenue	YTD Disbursed	Budget 11 Months	Balance 5/31/2025
General Fund	0	1,053,637	1,132,842	1,203,565	(79,205)
ILC Operations (incl. CLC subsidy)	0	1,631,394	1,520,408	1,580,425	110,986
Auxiliary Funds					
ILC Improvement Fund (IIF)	110,979	46,386	61,244		96,121
ILC Building Projects	1,560,282	447,301	1,842		2,005,741
Mission Development Fund (MDF)	120,784	258,046	226,130		152,700
Kinship	169,884	178,791	177,627		171,048
Church Extension Fund (CEF)	2,684,208	442,530	609,385		2,517,353
Student Aid Fund (SAF)	117,317	165,299	202,068		80,548
EduK8 Fund	47,692	24,486	3,500		68,678
Reserve Fund	79,964	80,848	0		160,812
Auxiliary Funds Totals	\$4,891,110	\$1,643,687	\$1,281,796		\$5,253,001

General Fund – Our deficit in the General Fund increased since last month, and now sits at almost \$80,000. We have not met our budget for the past several years and while we have been blessed to have a reserve fund that has covered our shortfall, we cannot continue to deficit spend. With only the remainder of June in our fiscal year, it will be beneficial for each of us to prayerfully consider what we can do to support the General Fund. May our Gracious Lord bless our humble efforts.

ILC Operations - While ILC Operations is subsidized by the General Fund and currently has a balance of about \$111,000, based on past history, that balance will likely be eliminated by the end of the year since there is very little revenue in the month of June. Last year, for example, June had a deficit of \$124,000.

ILC Building Projects – Year-to-date contributions have been about \$338,000. The remaining year-to-date revenue of around \$109,000 is from increases in the market value of the investments in this fund.

Church Extension Fund – Year to date revenue consists of payments received of about \$267,000 from congregations on the loans they owe the CLC, just over \$174,000 of increases in the market value of the investments and just over \$1,000 of contributions to the fund. The fund issued a new loan in May in the amount of \$320,000 to a member congregation.

Student Aid Fund – Revenue includes \$70,000 of earnings from the SAF Endowment Fund that were transferred to the Student Aid Fund in May.

Other Auxiliary Funds – The activity in the other funds in the table above is similar to the activity in the same period a year ago.

Stephen R. Lentz, CLC Treasurer

Thomas J. Lentz, Chairman, CLC Board of Trustees