

# 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

Church Office: (650) 964-5915

Online Video Production: Chris Holt, Julia Bernthal & Scott Mueller

Organist: Barb Gullerud

Website: [sslcwest.org](http://sslcwest.org)

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)

**June 2, 2024 † Pentecost 2**

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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 126 (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: 904 Blessed Jesus, at Your Word** (please stand for last verse) LSB 904

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at Your Word We are gath - ered  
2 All our knowl - edge, sense, and sight Lie in deep - est  
3 Gra - cious Sav - ior, good and kind, Light of Light, from  
△ 4 Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it, Lord, Praise to You and  
all to hear You. Let our hearts and souls be stirred  
dark - ness shroud - ed Till Your Spir - it breaks our night  
God pro - ceed - ing, O - pen now our heart and mind;  
ad - o - ra - tion! Grant that we may trust Your Word,  
Now to seek and love and fear You, By Your teach - ings,  
With the beams of truth un - cloud - ed. You a - lone to  
Help us by Your Spir - it's plead - ing. Hear the cry Your  
Con - fi - dent of our sal - va - tion, While we here be -  
sweet and ho - ly, Drawn from earth to love You sole - ly.  
God can win us; You must work all good with - in us.  
Church now rais - es; Hear and bless our prayers and prais - es.  
low must wan - der, Till we sing Your prais - es yon - der.

Text (sts. 1–3): Tobias Clausnitzer, 1619–84; (sts. 1–3): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.; (st. 4): Geistreiches Gesang-Büchlein, 1707, Berlin; (st. 4): tr. unknown, alt.  
Tune: Johann Rudolph Ahle, 1625–73, alt.  
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, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, 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:

Eternal God, Your Son Jesus Christ is our true Sabbath rest. Help us to keep each day holy by receiving His Word of comfort that we may find our rest in Him. 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

*Isaiah 64:6-9 (EHV)*

<sup>6</sup> *All of us have become like something unclean,  
and all our righteous acts are like a filthy cloth.*

*All of us have withered like a leaf,  
and our guilt carries us away like the wind.*

<sup>7</sup> *There is no one who calls on your name,  
who rouses himself to take hold of you.*

*So you hid your face from us.  
You made us melt by the power of our guilt.*

<sup>8</sup> *But now, LORD, you are our father.  
We are the clay, and you are our potter.*

*All of us are the work of your hand.*

<sup>9</sup> *Do not be angry, LORD, without limit.  
Do not remember our guilt forever.*

*Please look closely.*

*All of us are your people.*

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

**G** Thanks be to God.

## Second Reading

*Mark 2:23-28 (EHV)*

**P** The second reading is from Mark 2:23-28.

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

<sup>23</sup> *Once on a Sabbath day, Jesus was passing through the grain fields, and his disciples began to pick heads of grain as they walked along.* <sup>24</sup> *The Pharisees said to him, "Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the Sabbath day?"*

<sup>25</sup> *He replied to them, "Have you never read what David did when he was in need and hungry (he and his companions)?"* <sup>26</sup> *He entered the house of God in the time of Abiathar the high priest and ate the Bread of the Presence, which is not lawful for anyone to eat, except for the priests. He also gave some to his companions."*

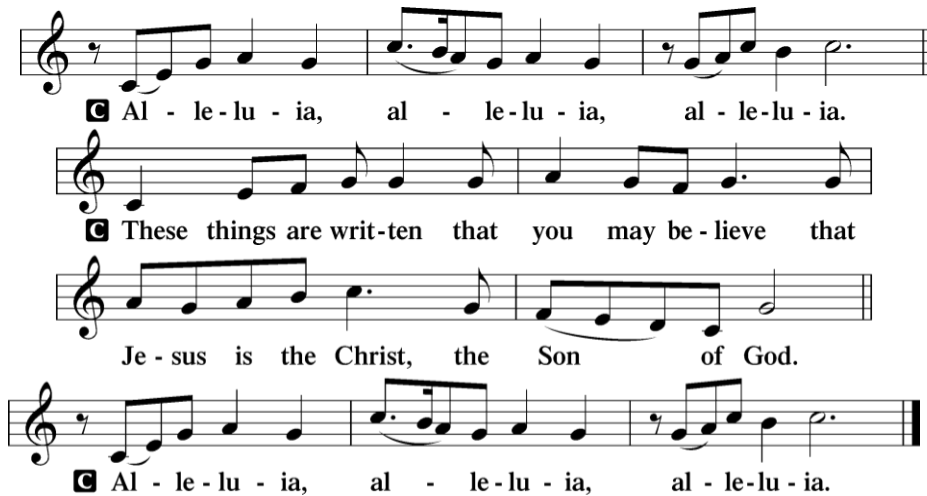
<sup>27</sup> *Then Jesus said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath."* <sup>28</sup> *So the Son of Man is the Lord even of the Sabbath."*

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

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

## 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!"



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.

## Nicene Creed *We boldly confess what we believe.*

LSB 206

**I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.**

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,  
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
 who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
 who spoke by the prophets.  
 And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
 I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
 and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
 and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**Hymn of the Day: 584 Faith and Truth and Life Bestowing**

LSB 584

1 Faith and truth and life be - stow - ing, O - pen now the  
 2 May the Spir - it's pow'r un - ceas - ing Bring to life the

Scrip - tures, Lord, Seed to life e - ter - nal sow - ing,  
 hid - den grain, Dai - ly in our hearts in - creas - ing,

Scat - tered on the wind a - broad. Let not hearts, Your  
 Bear - ing fruit that shall re - main. So in Scrip - ture,

Word re - ceiv - ing, Like a bar - ren field be found, Choked with  
 song, and sto - ry, Sav - ior, may Your voice be heard. Till our

thorns and un - be - liev - ing, Shal - low earth or ston - y ground.  
 eyes be - hold Your glo - ry Give us ears to hear Your Word.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1926  
 Tune: Columbian Harmony, 1825, Cincinnati  
 Text: © 1997 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 130003862  
 Tune: Public domain

## Sermon Text: 2 Corinthians 4:5-12 (EHV)

<sup>5</sup> Indeed, we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. <sup>6</sup> 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.

<sup>7</sup> We hold this treasure in clay jars to show that its extraordinary power is from God and not from us. <sup>8</sup> We are hard pressed on every side, yet not crushed; perplexed, yet not despairing; <sup>9</sup> persecuted, yet not forsaken; struck down, yet not destroyed. <sup>10</sup> We always carry around in our body the death of the Lord Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body. <sup>11</sup> To be sure, while we are living we are continually being handed over to death because of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our mortal flesh. <sup>12</sup> So then, death is working in us, but life is working in you.

## Sermon Theme: Treasure in Clay Jars

- † Whom did God choose to use to carry and deliver the great "**treasure**" of His Gospel of salvation?
- † How does Paul describe us? (**v. 5, 7**)
- † What does this illustration/description show us? (**v. 7b**)

## 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.

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.*

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

**Sermon Hymn: 728 How Firm a Foundation**

LSB 728

1 How firm a foun-da-tion, O saints of the Lord,  
2 "Fear not! I am with you, O be not dis-mayed,  
3 "The soul that on Je-sus has leaned for re- pose  
4 "When through fi-ery tri-als your path-way will lie,  
5 "Through-out all their life-time My peo-ple will prove

Is laid for your faith in His ex-cel-lent Word!  
For I am your God and will still give you aid;  
I will not, I will not, de-sert to his foes;  
My grace, all-suf-fi-cient, will be your sup-ply.  
My sov-'reign, e-ter-nal, un-change-a-ble love;

What more can He say than to you He has said  
I'll strength-en you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
That soul, though all hell should en-deav-or to shake,  
The flames will not hurt you; I on-ly de-sign  
And then, when gray hairs will their tem-ples a-dorn,

Who un-to the Sav-ior for ref-uge have fled?  
Up-held by My righ-teous, om-nip-o-tent hand.  
I'll nev-er, no nev-er, no nev-er, for-sake!  
Your dross to con-sume and your gold to re-fine.  
Like lambs they will still in My bos-om be borne."

## Service of the Sacrament

*Now we approach the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper in which Jesus comes to bless us with His very body and blood.  
We move toward the Sacrament with prayers of thanksgiving and songs of adoration.*

### Preface

LSB 208

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** **We lift them up to the Lord.**

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

**P** It is truly fitting, right, and spiritually beneficial that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock till he comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

### Sanctus *Latin: "Holy."*

LSB 208



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** We give You thanks, O Lord our God, for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ and His cross. Give us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood. In His name we pray, as we now join in the prayer that He taught us:

## Lord's Prayer

LSB 209

- 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.**

## The Words of Institution

*The words spoken by Jesus the night He instituted the Lord's Supper, by which our Lord assured to His Church the real presence of His body and blood in the Sacrament.*

## Pax Domini ("The Peace of the Lord")

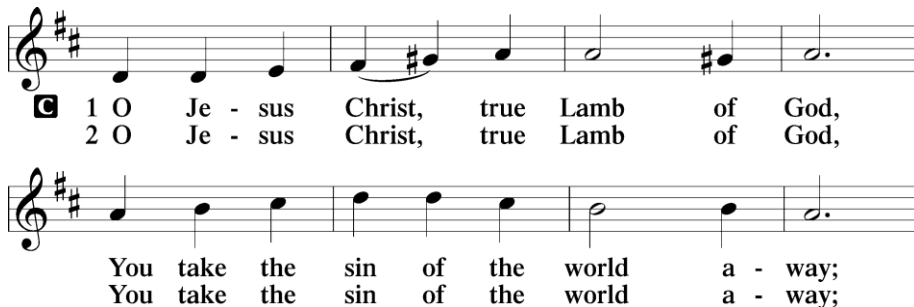
LSB 209

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**C** Amen.

## Agnus Dei

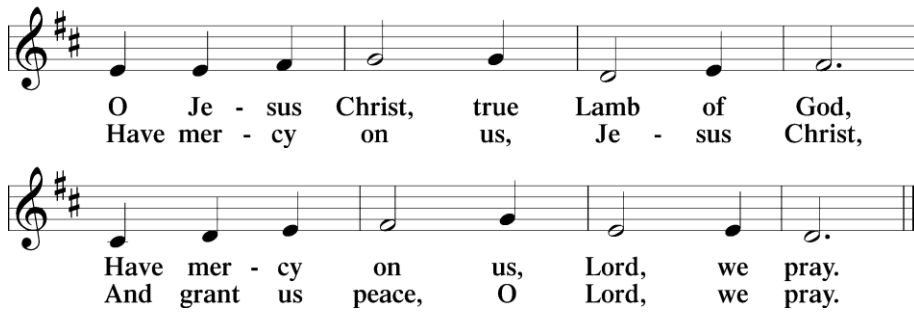
LSB 210

*Latin: "Lamb of God." Jesus is the "Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world" (John 1:29)*



**C** 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world a - way;  
You take the sin of the world a - way;

*(Song continues on next page ->)*



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,  
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

## The Distribution

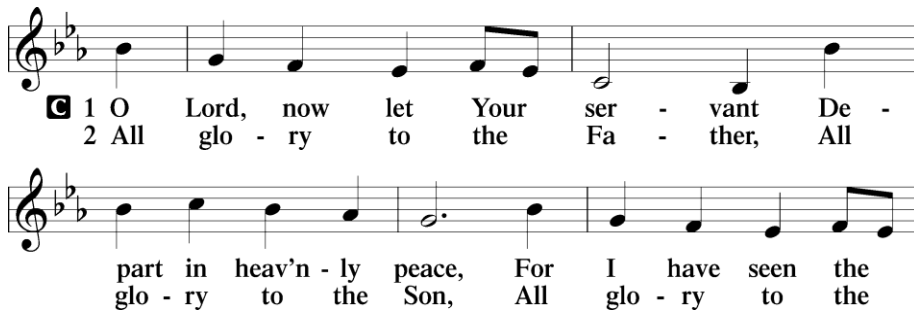
- ✠ For the distribution we will start with those who would like to partake of the Lord's Supper from the pew. After that, those who would like to come up to the altar steps will partake as directed by our usher.

*Note to our Guests: We are so glad you are worshiping with us this morning. The Word of God treats the Lord's Supper with great care. The Word of God considers the Lord's Supper to be a wonderful Means of Grace – a way in which Christ forgives and blesses. It is also considered an opportunity for congregations to express unity and oneness (1 Corinthians 10:16-17) – that is, to say to the world "This is what we believe!" But God's Word also warns against taking the Sacrament to our judgment (1 Corinthians 11:27-30). For these reasons our congregation asks that you fully understand our teachings before partaking. We respectfully ask that those who have joined this congregation through public confession of faith, or who are members of another congregation of the Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC) approach the altar at the usher's direction. By following this practice we do not make any judgment on your faith. Rather we do this out of love for you, as a public confession of our unity, and out of obedience to and love for God's Word. Speak to our pastor anytime and he will be glad to provide the information you would need – and want. We look forward to communing together, Lord willing, in the future.*

## Nunc Dimittis

LSB 211

Latin: "Now Dismiss." Simeon's words after seeing the Christ Child. (Luke 2:29-32)



1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -  
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All  
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the  
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the



glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:  
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in - One;

A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -  
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is

to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your  
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -

peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.  
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

**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: 729 I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus** (please stand for last verse)



1 I am trust-ing Thee, Lord Je - sus, Trust - ing on - ly Thee;  
2 I am trust-ing Thee for par - don; At Thy feet I bow,  
3 I am trust-ing Thee for cleans - ing In the crim - son flood;  
4 I am trust-ing Thee to guide me; Thou a - lone shalt lead,



Trust - ing Thee for full sal - va - tion, Great and free.  
For Thy grace and ten - der mer - cy Trust - ing now.  
Trust - ing Thee to make me ho - ly By Thy blood.  
Ev - 'ry day and hour sup - ply - ing All my need.

***5. I am trusting Thee for power; Thine can never fail.  
Words which Thou Thyself shalt give me Must prevail.***

***6. I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus; Never let me fall.  
I am trusting Thee forever And for all.***

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-79 Tune: Henry W. Baker, 1821-77 Text and tune: Public domain

**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:  
6/2/24

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

**Worship w/ Communion– 10am**

**Voter’s Meeting (Annual Budgets) – 11am**

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

**Church Council – 2pm**

This Week:

Wednesday – **Confirmation Class – Written Examination (Lang) – 4pm**

Thursday – **SSLS Family Fun Night – “Hurry Up and Wait” – 6:30pm**

Friday – **SSLS Last Day of School Year**

Saturday – **SSLS School Clean-Up Day – 10am-12noon**

Next Sunday: *Graduation / Confirmation Sunday*

6/9/24

**St. Stephen – West (Mt. View): Examination (Natalie Lang) – 9am**

**Choir Practice – 9:30am**

**Worship w/ Confirmation & Communion – 10am**

**Cake Reception in Fellowship Hall – 11am**

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

**St. Stephen – South (Anaheim): Worship & Bible Study – 6:30pm**

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

**Voter's Meeting – Annual Budget Meeting – TODAY - Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> – 11am** – Our annual financial voter's meeting is **TODAY, Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>** after our worship service. We will be setting the budgets for both our church and school. Our voters as well as the rest of the members of our congregation are invited and encouraged to attend this important meeting.

**SSLS Family Fun Night / School Play – this Thursday, June 6<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm** – You are invited to join us for our SSLS Family Fun Night this **Thursday, June 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm**. The students will be performing their school play for this year, which is a series of funny skits for entitled, *"Hurry Up and Wait!"* Please make plans to come and join us!

**Confirmation Sunday – Natalie Lang – NEXT Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup>** – We rejoice to announce that Natalie Lang, a former student at SSLS, will be completing her confirmation instruction this Wed., June 5th and will be confirmed in her faith on **Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup>** at our **10am** Worship Service in Mountain View. Natalie will have her oral examination before the worship service during our Bible Class hour at **9am**. A cake reception will follow our worship service. Please join us in welcoming Natalie!

**"Certainly, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved." – Romans 10:9 (EHV)**

**Southern California Worship & Bible Study in Anaheim – NEXT Sunday – 6/9/24 @ 6:30pm** - We'll be meeting outdoors at **Peralta Canyon Park in Anaheim** (it is the same park we met at for our worship service several times). We'll plan to meet in the picnic table area near the parking lot. Here is the address:

**Peralta Canyon Park  
115 N Pinney Dr.  
Anaheim, CA 92807**

**Pastor & Jewels' Home Phone Number No Longer In Use** – As of June 1<sup>st</sup> Pastor & Jewels' home phone number is no longer in use. Please use their cell phone numbers if you'd like to contact them. The church office phone number is still active, **(650) 964-5915**, and is forwarded to Pastor Luke's cell phone. Please make a note of this in your church directories.

**SSLS Run-a-Thon Donation Update** – We are happy to announce that our total donations for this year's Run-A-Thon fundraiser for SSLS came to **\$1,427**. We plan on using the donations for some new safety padding under the swing set area of the playground, as well as some technology and/or STEM kits for the classroom. We thank all of you for your support of our school!

**Lutheran Spokesman Subscriptions** - If you are interested in renewing or starting a new subscription to the Lutheran Spokesman devotional magazine please see the sign-up sheet in the entryway. Please sign up by **Sunday, June 16<sup>th</sup>** so that we can get our congregation's order in before the subscription deadline. Subscriptions are **\$15 per year**. Please mark your offering "Lutheran Spokesman." Please speak with Pastor Luke for more info.

**Daily Rest Subscription Renewal** – Our congregation provides each family with a subscription to the *Daily Rest* daily devotions. If you would like an additional subscription for yourself or someone else, please speak with Pastor Luke. Subscriptions are **\$15 per year**.

**CLC News** - Pastor Sam Rodebaugh of Faith Lutheran in Manchester, MO *has received a call* to Grace Lutheran, Sleepy Eye, MN. <> Teacher Andrew Roehl of Grace Lutheran School in Valentine, NE *has received a call* to Luther Memorial School, Fond du Lac, WI. He has *returned the call*. <> Mr. Mark Wales (member of Holy Trinity) *has accepted the call* as principal of Holy Trinity Lutheran School, West Columbia, SC for the 2024-2025 school year.

<> **Prayers for Bangladesh** - Last weekend, Cyclone Demal struck the northeast coast of India and the southern coastal areas of Bangladesh. The Bangladesh Lutheran Church Mission (BLCM) has congregations, preaching stations, and many members in this area. Pastor Banarjee reports that fifteen homes of BLCM members have been destroyed, with an additional twenty-four homes severely damaged. Furthermore, two church buildings have been severely affected. These are some of the only Christian churches in the area. The cyclone has impacted over fifty BLCM families. These congregations mainly consist of marginalized and impoverished former Hindus who live day to day as subsistence farmers. The cyclone has destroyed this year's crops and future crops, including many established fruit trees.

The CLC Board of Missions was able to respond quickly by sending immediate Kinship humanitarian aid, praying that the Lord will bless and multiply these funds for the care of the sheep in the BLCM flock.