

# 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

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

Organist: Barb Gullerud

**Website: 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**

**July 21, 2024 † Pentecost 9**

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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 23 (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: 646 Church of God, Elect and Glorious

LSB 646



1 Church of God, e - lect and glo - rious, Ho - ly  
2 God has called you out of dark - ness In - to  
3 Once you were an al - ien peo - ple, Strang - ers  
4 Church of God, e - lect and ho - ly, Be the



na - tion, cho - sen race; Called as God's own  
His most mar - v'ulous light; Brought His truth to  
to God's heart of love; But He brought you  
peo - ple He in - tends; Strong in faith and



spe - cial peo - ple, Roy - al priests and heirs of  
life with - in you, Turned your blind - ness in - to  
home in mer - cy, Cit - i - zens of heav'n a -  
swift to an - swer Each com - mand your Mas - ter



grace: Know the pur - pose of your call - ing,  
sight. Let your light so shine a - round you  
bove. Let His love flow out to oth - ers,  
sends: Roy - al priests, ful - fill your call - ing



Show to all His might - y deeds; Tell of love that  
That God's name is glo - ri - fied And all find fresh  
Let them feel a Fa - ther's care; That they too may  
Through your sac - ri - fice and prayer; Give your lives in



knows no lim - its, Grace that meets all hu - man needs.  
hope and pur - pose In Christ Je - sus cru - ci - fied.  
know His wel - come And His count - less bless - ings share.  
joy - ful ser - vice— Sing His praise, His love de - clare.

Text: James Edward Seddon, 1915-83

Tune: Cyril V. Taylor, 1907-92

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## Invocation

*We invoke ("call upon") the name of the one true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

**P** In the name of the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## Confession and Absolution

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

**P** God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

**C** **If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.**

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C** **If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** (1 John 1:5, 7-9)

**P** Let us pray...

**C** **Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer:**

**We confess that we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have not loved You above all things. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Have mercy on us, and, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive us our sins.**

**P** Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. We are forgiven! With boldness and confidence we may approach the throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the joy and peace of forgiveness let us praise the Lord...

**"Christ is the World's Redeemer"** LSB 539 v. 1 (tune of "The Church's One Foundation" – LSB 644)

**♪ 1 Christ is the world's Redeemer, The lover of the pure,  
The font of heav'nly wisdom, Our trust and hope secure,  
The armor of His soldiers, The Lord of earth and sky,  
Our health while we are living, Our life when we shall die.**

Text: attr. Columba, 521-597; tr. Duncan MacGregor, 1854-1923, alt.  
Text: Public domain

## Prayer of the Day

**P** We pray:

Heavenly Father, though we do not deserve Your goodness, still You provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge Your gifts, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You willingly in love all of our days. We pray this through the same 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

**Jeremiah 23:1-6 (EHV)**

*"Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture!" declares the LORD. <sup>2</sup>Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who care for my people: "You have scattered my flock and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. Behold, I will attend to you for your evil deeds, declares the LORD. <sup>3</sup>Then I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the countries where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. <sup>4</sup>I will set shepherds over them who will care for them, and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall any be missing, declares the LORD.*

*<sup>5</sup>"Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. <sup>6</sup>In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely. And this is the name by which he will be called: 'The LORD is our righteousness.'*

## Second Reading

**Ephesians 2:13-22 (EHV)**

**P** The second reading is from Ephesians 2:13-22.

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

*<sup>13</sup>But now in Christ Jesus you [Gentiles] who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. <sup>14</sup>For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility <sup>15</sup>by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, <sup>16</sup>and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. <sup>17</sup>And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. <sup>18</sup>For through him we both*

*have access in one Spirit to the Father. <sup>19</sup> So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, <sup>20</sup> built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, <sup>21</sup> in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. <sup>22</sup> In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.*

**P** Here ends our Scripture readings.

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

**“Glory to God the Father”** LSB 539 v. 4 (tune of “The Church’s One Foundation” – LSB 644)

**4** *Glory to God the Father, The unbegotten One,  
All honor be to Jesus, His sole-begotten Son,  
And to the Holy Spirit—The perfect Trinity.  
Let all the worlds give answer: Amen! So let it be.*

Text: attr. Columba, 521–597; tr. Duncan MacGregor, 1854–1923, alt.  
Text: Public domain

**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: 690 *Hope of the World*

LSB 690



1 Hope of the world, Thou Christ of great com - pas - sion;  
2 Hope of the world, God's gift from high - est heav - en,  
3 Hope of the world, a - foot on dust - y high - ways,  
4 Hope of the world, who by Thy cross didst save us  
5 Hope of the world, O Christ, o'er death vic - to - rious,



Speak to our fear - ful hearts by con - flict rent.  
Bring - ing to hun - gry souls the bread of life,  
Show - ing to wan - d'ring souls the path of light,  
From death and dark de - spair, from sin and guilt,  
Who by this sign didst con - quer grief and pain,



Save us, Thy peo - ple, from con - sum - ing pas - sion,  
Still let Thy Spir - it un - to us be giv - en  
Walk Thou be - side us lest the tempt - ing by - ways  
We ren - der back the love Thy mer - cy gave us;  
We would be faith - ful to Thy Gos - pel glo - rious.



Who by our own false hopes and aims are spent.  
To heal earth's wounds and end our bit - ter strife.  
Lure us a - way from Thee to end - less night.  
Take Thou our lives and use them as Thou wilt.  
Thou art our Lord! Thou dost for - ev - er reign!

Text: Georgia Harkness, 1891-1974

Tune: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-79

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Tune: Public domain

## Sermon Text: Mark 6:30-34 (EHV)

<sup>30</sup>The apostles returned to Jesus and told him all that they had done and taught. <sup>31</sup>And he said to them, "Come away by yourselves to a desolate place and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. <sup>32</sup>And they went away in the boat to a desolate place by themselves. <sup>33</sup>Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they ran there on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them. <sup>34</sup>When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. And he began to teach them many things.

## Sermon Theme: Who is Your "Leader"?

*"A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way, and shows the way."*

– John C. Maxwell

† How well do we live up to this definition of a **leader**?

And yet, how often do we make ourselves the **leader** of our lives?

† How does Jesus fit this definition of a **Leader** perfectly? (see above)

## 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

*(song continues on next page ->)*



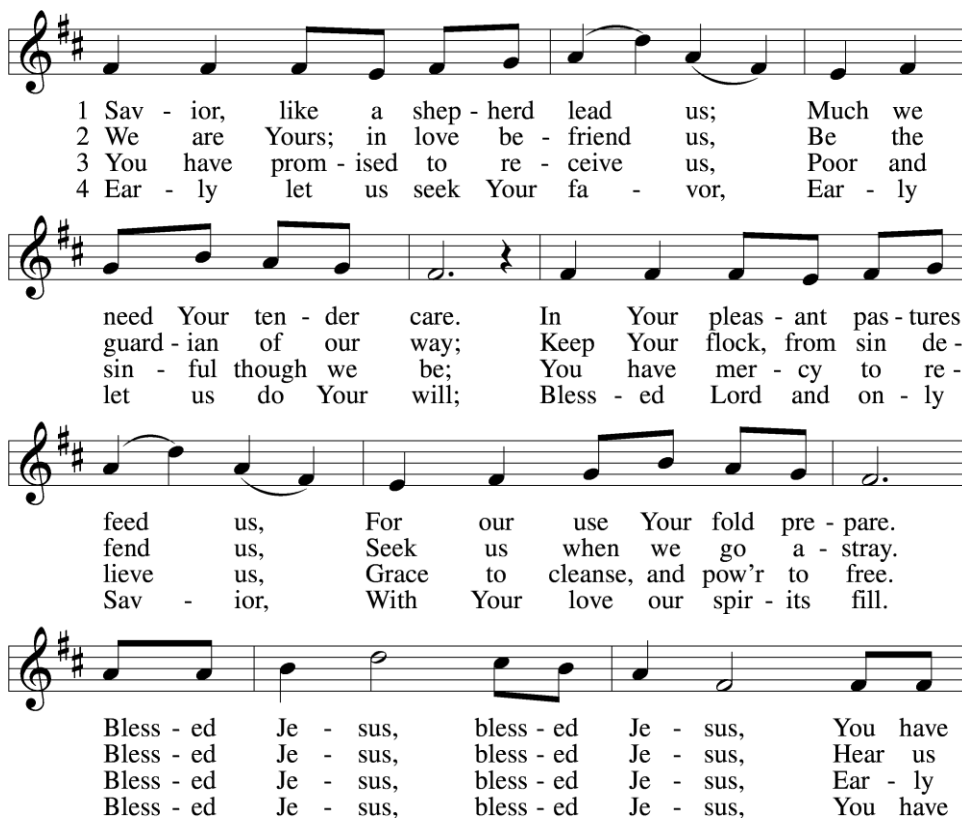
from me. Re-store un-to me the joy of Thy sal-va-tion;  
and up-hold me with Thy free spir-it. A-men.

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**Offering** *We offer our gifts to the Lord, remembering that He has first given to us that we might have to give to Him.*

**Sermon Hymn: 711 Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us**

LSB 711



1 Sav-ior, like a shep-herd lead us; Much we  
2 We are Yours; in love be-friend us, Be the  
3 You have prom-ised to re-ceive us, Poor and  
4 Ear-ly let us seek Your fa-vor, Ear-ly  
need Your ten-der care. In Your pleas-ant pas-tures  
guard-ian of our way; Keep Your flock, from sin de-  
sin-ful though we be; You have mer-cy to re-  
let us do Your will; Bless-ed Lord and on-ly  
feed us, For our use Your fold pre-pare.  
fend us, Seek us when we go a-stray.  
lieve us, Grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.  
Sav-ior, With Your love our spir-its fill.  
Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, You have  
Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, Hear us  
Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, Ear-ly  
Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, You have



bought us; we are Yours. Bless - ed Je - sus,  
 chil - dren when we pray. Bless - ed Je - sus,  
 let us turn to You. Bless - ed Je - sus,  
 loved us, love us still. Bless - ed Je - sus,

bless - ed Je - sus, You have bought us; we are Yours.  
 bless - ed Je - sus, Hear us chil - dren when we pray.  
 bless - ed Je - sus, Ear - ly let us turn to You.  
 bless - ed Je - sus, You have loved us, love us still.

Text: Hymns for the Young, 1836, 4th ed., London, alt.  
 Tune: William B. Bradbury, 1816-68  
 Text and tune: Public domain

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

### Lord's Prayer

LSB 209

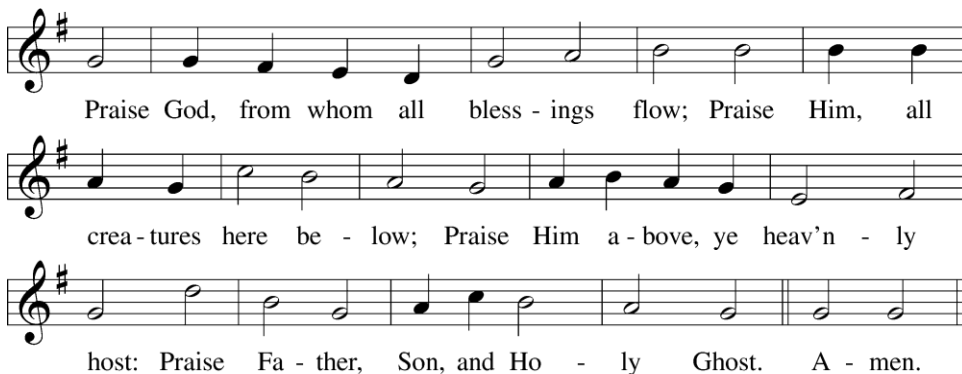
- ☩ Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name,  
 Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;  
 give us this day our daily bread;  
 and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
 and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
 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).*

- ☩** 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.

## The Doxology

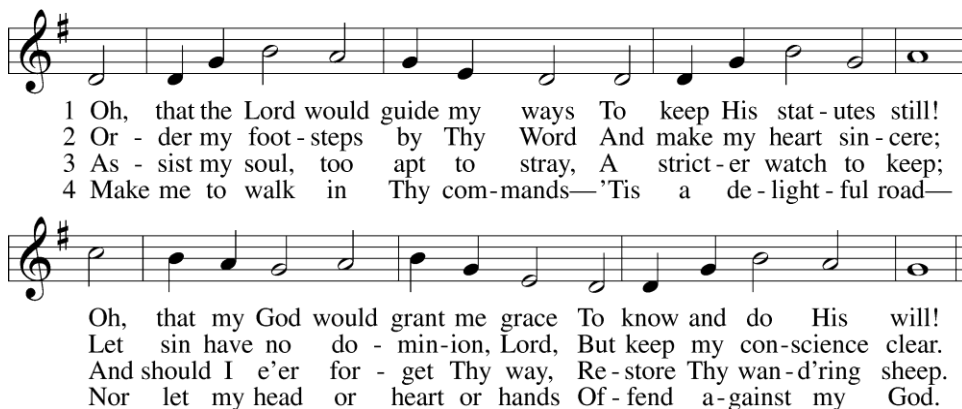
LSB 805



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Him, all  
crea - tures here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly  
host: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

Public domain

## Closing Hymn: 707 *Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways* (please stand for last verse)



1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways To keep His stat - utes still!  
2 Or - der my foot - steps by Thy Word And make my heart sin - cere;  
3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, A strict - er watch to keep;  
4 Make me to walk in Thy com - mands—'Tis a de - light - ful road—

Oh, that my God would grant me grace To know and do His will!  
Let sin have no do - min - ion, Lord, But keep my con - science clear.  
And should I e'er for - get Thy way, Re - store Thy wan - d'ring sheep.  
Nor let my head or heart or hands Of - fend a - gainst my God.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.  
Tune: William H. Havergal, 1793–1870  
Text and tune: Public domain

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today: **St. Stephen – West (Mt. View): Bible Class – 9am**  
**Worship – 10am**  
**VBS Volunteer Meeting – 11am**  
(meet in sanctuary)  
**Church Kitchen “Restocking” – 11am**  
**VBS Teachers’ Meeting / Set up – 6pm**

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

This Week: Mon. – Fri. – **Vacation Bible School (VBS) (Mt. View) – 9am – 11:30am**

Next Sunday: **St. Stephen – West (Mt. View): Joint Worship Service – 10am**  
**Church Picnic (Cuesta Park) – 11:30am**  
**(No East Bay Worship Service)**

### **VBS is this Week – July 22<sup>nd</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> – Ages 4-13 – We Welcome our TVBS Volunteers –**

Our Vacation Bible School (VBS) will be held this week **Mon.–Fri., July 22<sup>nd</sup>–26<sup>th</sup> from 9am-11:30am**. We currently have 20 students registered. Registration can be done online through our school’s website ([ssls.org](http://ssls.org)).

We welcome our Traveling Vacation Bible School teacher volunteers: Sam Schmitt (SSLS teacher Isaac Schmitt’s sister), and Grant Bernthal (nephew of Pastor Luke and Jewels). Sam has already arrived, and Grant will be flying in, Lord willing, later this evening.

**Vacation Bible School**

July 22 - July 26, 2024  
Monday through Friday  
9 am-11:30 am

**ST. STEPHEN LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
320 Moorpark Way, Mountain View  
[WWW.SSLS.ORG](http://WWW.SSLS.ORG)  
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pastor@sslcwest.org  
[facebook.com/ststephenlutherschool](https://facebook.com/ststephenlutherschool)

fun and creative games, crafts,  
music, playground time, snacks,  
and Bible stories!

AGES  
4-13  
FREE

Safe Church policies: our congregation commits to  
safeguarding all the children and nurtures good conduct  
consistent with our Christian values.

**VBS/TVBS Snack & Lunch Sign-Up Sheet** – If you’d like to help provide snacks and drinks for the VBS, or if you’d like to help provide lunches for the VBS teaching staff please sign the sheet in the entryway.

**TVBS Volunteer Donations** – We have two volunteer TVBS teachers helping with our Vacation Bible School July 22<sup>nd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>. During that week we usually try and do one or two sightseeing activities with them in the area. This year we plan to take our teachers on the Alcatraz tour in San Francisco, and do an afternoon in Santa Cruz. If you would like to donate to help pay for our volunteers' activities during the week of VBS please mark your offering "TVBS." If you have any questions please speak with Pastor Luke or Mikkela Schmitt.

**THANK YOU! Kitchen Flooring & Cabinets / Front Doors / Hallway Flooring Projects** –

A number of projects were wrapped up this week. The kitchen cabinets were re-done by Michael Horrillo and his crew, as were the front doors of our church. (**\*Please don't touch the wood portions of the front doors for a few more days. Thank you!\***) Peninsula Flooring finished up the kitchen flooring install. Scott Mueller finished installing new tile in the school hallway. We thank these men for their time, skill, and efforts in these projects. We also give a big THANK YOU to the Women's Auxiliary for all their work in unloading and sorting all the kitchen items.

**We are looking for volunteers today** after the worship service to help re-stock the kitchen and get the fellowship hall ready for use for VBS this week. Please meet with Grace Reim in the fellowship hall after the worship service if you are willing and able to help. Thank you!

**Church Picnic & Joint Worship Service – Sun., July 28<sup>th</sup> – Cuesta Park in Mountain View-**

Our annual church picnic will be held on **Sunday, July 28<sup>th</sup>** starting at approx. **11:30am**, after our **10am joint worship service in Mountain View**. We will be having our picnic at a new location this year: **Cuesta Park** (615 Cuesta Park Dr.) in Mountain View. There is a sign-up sheet in the entryway if you'd like to help provide food for the picnic.

**Directions to the reserved picnic area:** Turn in to the first parking lot opposite Nilda Ave. At the picnic area at the end of the parking lot, go to the left.

**Voter's Meeting to Fill Church Council Position – Sunday, August 11<sup>th</sup>** - Voting members who are interested in serving on our St. Stephen council and being elected to one of our council positions please inform either Pastor Luke or our congregation president, Michael Slattengren, of your willingness to serve and which position(s) you'd be willing to serve. We will be conducting a voter's meeting on Sunday, August 11<sup>th</sup> (after the worship service) to fill our slate of officers for the remaining months of 2024. **NOTE:** This will likely also be the date of our congregational meeting & potential pastoral call meeting. More details will be given soon.

**CLC News** - Pastor Aaron Ude of Good Shepherd in Rapid City, SD has *returned* the call to Grace Lutheran, Sleepy Eye, MN. <> Pastor James Albrecht, St. John's, Okabena, MN, will be retiring from the ministry at the end of this year.