

St. Stephen Lutheran Church

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

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January 19, 2025 † Epiphany 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.

† Preparation for Worship: Read Psalm 128 (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: Cationale 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 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...

“Oh, That I Had a Thousand Voices” *LSB 811*

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Oh, That I Had a Thousand Voices" in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The score consists of four staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "I Oh, that I had a thou - sand voic - es To praise my God with thou-sand tongues! My heart, which in the Lord re - joic - es, Would then pro-claim in grate - ful songs To all, wher - ev - er I might be, What great things God has done for me." The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#).

Text: Johann Mentzer, 1658–1734; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt. Tune: Johann Balthasar König, 1691–1758
Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 130003862 Tune: Public domain

Prayer of the Day

P We pray: Almighty God, You gave Your one and only Son to be the light of the world. Grant that Your people, illumined by Your Word and sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ’s glory, that He may be known, worshiped, and believed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with You and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

First Reading

Isaiah 61:1-5 (NKJV)

For Zion's sake I will not hold My peace, And for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, Until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, And her salvation as a lamp that burns. ² The Gentiles shall see your righteousness, And all kings your glory. You shall be called by a new name, Which the mouth of the LORD will name. ³ You shall also be a crown of glory In the hand of the LORD, And a royal diadem In the hand of your God. ⁴ You shall no longer be termed Forsaken, Nor shall your land any more be termed Desolate; But you shall be called Hephzibah, and your land Beulah; For the LORD delights in you, And your land shall be married. ⁵ For as a young man marries a virgin, So shall your sons marry you; And as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, So shall your God rejoice over you.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 12:1-11 (NKJV)

- P** The second reading is from I Corinthians 12:1-11
- C** Sanctify us by Your truth, O LORD. Your Word is truth!

Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant: ² You know that you were Gentiles, carried away to these dumb idols, however you were led. ³ Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God calls Jesus accursed, and no one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit. ⁴ There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. ⁵ There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. ⁶ And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. ⁷ But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all: ⁸ for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, ¹⁰ to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.

- P** Here ends our Scripture readings.
- C** Praise to You, O Christ.

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: 408 Come, Join in Cana's Feast

(LSB408)



1 Come, join in Ca - na's feast Where
2 The old wine now is gone From
3 But Christ, the Word made flesh, Bids
4 Come, friends, and share the feast; Here
△ 5 For now He lives and reigns Through



Christ is hon - ored guest. He wel - comes all who
jars that stand a - part. No long - er can it
wa - ter turn to wine. He fills our emp - ty
drink the wine sup - plied By Him who is both
all e - ter - ni - ty With Fa - ther, Spir - it,



come to taste The wine His hands have blessed.
sat - is - fy The yearn - ing, thirst - ing heart.
cups a - gain With grace and truth di - vine.
guest and host— For us, the cru - ci - fied.
Three in One, The glo - rious Trin - i - ty.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007

Tune: Johann Balthasar König, 1691–1758; adapt. William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

Text: © 1993 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 130003862

Tune: Public domain

Sermon Text: John 2:1-11 On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ² Now both Jesus and His disciples were invited to the wedding. ³ And when they ran out of wine, the mother of Jesus said to Him, "They have no wine." ⁴ Jesus said to her, "Woman, what does your concern have to do with Me? My hour has not yet come." ⁵ His mother said to the servants, "Whatever He says to you, do it." ⁶ Now there were set there six waterpots of stone, according to the manner of purification of the Jews, containing twenty or thirty gallons apiece. ⁷ Jesus said to them, "Fill the waterpots with water." And they filled them up to the brim. ⁸ And He said to them, "Draw some out now, and take it to the master of the feast." And they took it. ⁹ When the master of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine, and did not know where it came from (but the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom. ¹⁰ And he said to him, "Every man at the beginning sets out the good wine, and when the guests have well drunk, then the inferior. You have kept the good wine until now!" ¹¹ This beginning of signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory; and His disciples believed in Him.

Sermon Theme: As Jesus Manifests His Glory He Reveals Himself as our Best Friend

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.

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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: 770 What a Friend We Have in Jesus

LSB 770

1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, All our sins and griefs to bear!
2 Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?
3 Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, Cum - bered with a load of care?
What a priv - i - lege to car - ry Ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!
We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged— Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge— Take it to the Lord in prayer.



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; Oh, what need-less pain we bear—
 Can we find a friend so faith - ful Who will all our sor-rows share?
 Do thy friends de-spise, for-sake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



All be - cause we do not car - ry Ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!
 Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak-ness—Take it to the Lord in prayer.
 In His arms He'll take and shield thee; Thou wilt find a sol-ace there.

Text: Joseph M. Scriven, 1819–86

Tune: Charles C. Converse, 1832–1918

Text and tune: Public domain

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

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.

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.

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.

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Closing Hymn: 537 Beautiful Savior

LSB 537

1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion, Son of
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, Fair are the wood - lands, Robed in
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, Fair is the moon - light, Bright the
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions, Son of
 God and Son of Man! Tru-ly I'd love Thee, Tru - ly I'd
 flow'rs of bloom-ing spring; Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is
 spar - kling stars on high; Je - sus shines bright-er, Je - sus shines
 God and Son of Man! Glo-ry and hon - or, Praise, ad - o -
 serve Thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
 pur - er, He makes our sor - r'wing spir - it sing.
 pur - er Than all the an - gels in the sky.
 ra - tion Now and for - ev - er - more be Thine!

Text: Münsterisch Gesangbuch, 1677, Münster; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904

Tune: Silesian, 19th cent.

Text and tune: Public domain

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today: **10:00 a.m. Worship Service**
1/19/25 **11:00 a.m. Annual Voters' Meeting**

This Week: **Monday - SSLS has vacation day on MLK Day**
Saturday – 9 a.m.-11 a.m. Zoom CLC Women's Retreat

Next Sunday: **10:00 a.m. Worship Service**
1/26/25 **11:00 a.m. St. Stephen Ladies' Auxiliary Meeting**

Upcoming: **10:00 a.m. Communion Worship Service**
2/2/25 **11:00 a.m. Church Council Meeting**

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

Annual Report Meeting of the voters will be held today after the worship service. Voters will be reviewing the reports from various church boards concerning the activity at St. Stephen in 2024. Also at the meeting, voters will be considering the Board of Education's recommendation concerning future plans relating to SSLS conducting classes for the next school year.

National CLC Women's Zoom Retreat Tina and Emily from our Pacific Northwest are, once again, hosting the annual Zoom CLC Women's Retreat. It will be held this Saturday, January 25th from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. and includes women from all across the nation and Canada. Please consider joining them in encouraging one another in Grace-Full Stewardship. The following is the registration link: <https://tinyurl.com/PressPause25> Let Leslie Horrillo know of any questions or concerns you might have.

St. Stephen Ladies' Auxiliary Meeting will be held next Sunday after the worship service. This is a good opportunity for Christian fellowship and discussion of any planning the ladies might have for future events.

CLC Financial Report - December 2024

Operating Funds	Balance 7/1/2024	YTD Revenue	YTD Disbursed	Budget 6 Months	Balance 12/31/2024
General Fund	0	524,119	607,627	656,490	(83,508)
ILC Operations (incl. CLC subsidy)	0	936,481	819,402	862,050	117,079
Auxiliary Funds					
ILC Improvement Fund (IIF)	110,979	29,719	53,954		86,744
ILC Building Projects	1,560,282	268,933	0		1,829,215
Mission Development Fund (MDF)	120,784	99,847	80,323		140,308
Kinship	169,884	73,929	83,932		159,881
Church Extension Fund (CEF)	2,684,208	269,397	210,651		2,742,954
Student Aid Fund (SAF)	117,317	49,443	134,694		32,066
EduK8 Fund	47,692	17,661	0		65,353
Reserve Fund	79,964	78,184	0		158,148
Auxiliary Funds Totals	\$4,891,110	\$887,113	\$563,554		\$5,214,669

General Fund – In the month of December we received about \$28,000 more than we spent. This reduced the deficit in the fund to just over of \$83,000 compared to a year ago when it we had a deficit of under \$19,000. Contributions through December are down about \$36,000 compared to last year at this time.

ILC Operations – Revenue is up about \$63,000 over the same period as last year while disbursements are up about \$14,000.

ILC Building Projects – Year-to-date contributions have been about \$188,000. December brought a decline in the market value of the investments in this fund but there is still a positive increase in market value of approximately \$80,000 for the year.

Church Extension Fund – Year to date revenue consists of payments received of almost \$137,000 from congregations on the loans they owe the CLC, about \$131,000 of increases in the market value of the investments and just under \$1,000 of contributions to the fund. Expenditures in December included a loan of \$150,000 to a congregation

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