

St. Stephen Lutheran Church

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

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January 26, 2025 † Epiphany 3



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 909 Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

LSB 909



1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ, our head and
2 To this tem - ple, where we call You, Come, O Lord of
3 Grant, we pray, to all Your faith - ful All the gifts they
△ 4 Praise and hon - or to the Fa - ther, Praise and hon - or



cor - ner - stone, Cho - sen of the Lord and pre - cious,
hosts, and stay; Come with all Your lov - ing - kind - ness,
ask to gain; What they gain from You, for - ev - er
to the Son, Praise and hon - or to the Spir - it,



Bind - ing all the Church in one; Ho - ly Zi - on's
Hear Your peo - ple as they pray; And Your full - est
With the bless - ed to re - tain; And here - af - ter
Ev - er three and ev - er one: One in might and



help for - ev - er And our con - fi - dence a - lone.
ben - e - dic - tion Shed with - in these walls to - day.
in Your glo - ry Ev - er - more with You to reign.
one in glo - ry While un - end - ing a - ges run!

Text: Latin, c. 8th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.

Tune: Henry Purcell, 1659–95, adapt.

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.

Responsive Reading

(Psalm 100 NKJV)

- P** Make a joyful shout to the LORD, all you lands!
- C** **Serve the LORD with gladness; Come before His presence with singing.**
- P** Know that the LORD, He is God;
- C** **It is He who has made us, and not we ourselves; We are His people and the sheep of His pasture.**
- P** Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, And into His courts with praise.
- C** **Be thankful to Him, and bless His name.**
- P** For the LORD is good; His mercy is everlasting,
- C** **And His truth endures to all generations.**

Confession and Absolution

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

- C** **O most merciful God, I confess to You with a sorrowful heart all my sins. I have sinned against You in what I have thought, said, and done. Have mercy upon me, I pray, and forgive me for Jesus' sake. Send Your Holy Spirit to help me know Your holy will and willingly obey it in the spirit of Christian love and thankfulness. Preserve me in the Christian faith so that I finally enter the eternal life in heaven through our Savior Jesus Christ.**
- P** God our heavenly Father has been merciful to us, for He delivered up Jesus on the cross for our offenses and raised Him again for our justification. Since the Lord gave the keys of the kingdom of heaven to the Christian Church, saying that whoever sins you forgive in His stead they are forgiven, therefore according to Jesus' command, as a called servant of God I forgive you of all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

The Gloria

We glorify and praise God for His gift of forgiveness and salvation

946 Glory to God, We Give You Thanks and Praise

(LSB 946)



1 Glo - ry to God, we give You thanks and praise;
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the Fa - ther's on - ly Son,
△ 3 A - lone, O Christ, You on - ly are the Lord,



Of heav'n - ly joy and earth - ly peace we sing.
You bore for us the load of this world's sin.
At God's right hand in maj - es - ty most high:



We wor - ship You, to You our hearts we raise,
O Lamb of God, Your glo - rious vic - t'ry won,
Who with the Spir - it wor - shiped and a - dored,



Lord God, al - might - y Fa - ther, heav'n - ly King.
Re - ceive our prayer, grant us Your peace with - in.
With all the heav'n - ly host we glo - ri - fy.

Text: Edwin Le Grice, 1911–92

Tune: Walter Greatorex, 1877–1949

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Prayer of the Day

P We pray: Almighty God, You sent Your Son to proclaim Your Kingdom and to teach with authority. Anoint us with the power of Your Spirit that we, too, may bring good news to the afflicted, bind up the brokenhearted, and proclaim liberty to the captive; 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 61:1-6 (NKJV)

"The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon Me, Because the LORD has anointed Me To preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, And the opening of the prison to those who are bound; ² To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, And the day of vengeance of our God; To comfort all who mourn, ³ To console those who mourn in Zion, To give them beauty for ashes, The oil of joy for mourning, The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; That they may be called trees of righteousness, The planting of the LORD, that He may be glorified." ⁴ And they shall rebuild the old ruins, They shall raise up the former desolations, And they shall repair the ruined cities, The desolations of many generations. ⁵ Strangers shall stand and feed your flocks, And the sons of the foreigner Shall be your plowmen and your vinedressers. ⁶ But you shall be named the priests of the LORD, They shall call you the servants of our God. You shall eat the riches of the Gentiles, And in their glory you shall boast.

Second Reading

Luke 4:14-21 (NKJV)

P The second reading is from Luke 4:14-21

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

¹⁴ Then Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and news of Him went out through all the surrounding region. ¹⁵ And He taught in their synagogues, being glorified by all. ¹⁶ So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read. ¹⁷ And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written: ¹⁸ "The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed; ¹⁹ To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD." ²⁰ Then He closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him. ²¹ And He began to say to them, "Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."

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: 647 Lord Jesus Christ, the Church's Head

LSB 647



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, the Church's head, You are her one foun -
2 O Lord, let this Your lit - tle flock, Your name a - lone con -
3 Help us to serve You ev - er - more With hearts both pure and
4 And for Your Gos - pel let us dare To sac - ri - fice all



da - tion; In You she trusts, be - fore You bows, And
fess - ing, Con - tin - ue in Your lov - ing care, True
low - ly; And may Your Word, that light di - vine, Shine
trea - sure; Teach us to bear Your bless - ed cross, To



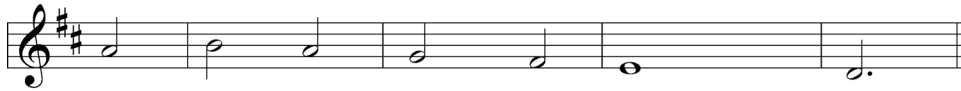
waits for Your sal - va - tion. Built on this rock se - cure,
 u - ni - ty pos - sess - ing. Your sac - ra - ments, O Lord,
 on in splen - dor ho - ly That we re - pen - tance show,
 find in You all plea - sure. O grant us stead - fast - ness



Your Church shall en - dure Though all the world de -
 And Your sav - ing Word To us, Lord, pure re -
 In faith ev - er grow; The pow'r of sin de -
 In joy and dis - tress, Lest we, Lord, You for -



cay And all things pass a - way.
 tain. Grant that they may re - main
 stroy And e - vils that an - noy.
 sake. Let us by grace par - take



O hear, O hear us, Je - sus!
 Our on - ly strength and com - fort.
 O make us faith - ful Chris - tians.
 Of end - less joy and glad - ness.

Text: Johann Mentzer, 1658–1734; tr. William J. Schaefer, 1891–1976, alt.

Tune: Friedrich O. Reuter, 1863–1924

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Tune: Public domain

Sermon Text: 1 Corinthians 12:12-27

(NKJV)

¹² For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ. ¹³ For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body -- whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free -- and have all been made to drink into one Spirit. ¹⁴ For in fact the body is not one member but many. ¹⁵ If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I am not of the body," is it therefore not of the body? ¹⁶ And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I am not of the body," is it therefore not of the body? ¹⁷ If the

whole body were an eye, where would be the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where would be the smelling? ¹⁸ But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased. ¹⁹ And if they were all one member, where would the body be? ²⁰ But now indeed there are many members, yet one body. ²¹ And the eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you"; nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." ²² No, much rather, those members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary. ²³ And those members of the body which we think to be less honorable, on these we bestow greater honor; and our unpresentable parts have greater modesty, ²⁴ but our presentable parts have no need. But God composed the body, having given greater honor to that part which lacks it, ²⁵ that there should be no schism in the body, but that the members should have the same care for one another. ²⁶ And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it. ²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually.

Sermon Theme: The Holy Christian Church - The Body of Christ

1. United together through faith in Christ
2. Made up of many members for the common good of the body
3. Each member has different gifts to use and roles to perform for the body

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.*

Prayers of the Church *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.**

Sermon Hymn: 649 Blest Be the Tie That Binds

LSB 649



1 Blest be the tie that binds Our hearts in Chris-tian love;
2 Be-fore our Fa-ther's throne We pour our ar-dent prayers;
3 We share our mu-tual woes, Our mu-tual bur-dens bear,
4 When here our path-ways part, We suf-fer bit-ter pain;
5 From sor-row, toil, and pain, And sin we shall be free



The fel-low-ship of kin-dred minds Is like to that a-bove.
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, Our com-forts and our cares.
And of-ten for each oth-er flows The sym-pa-thiz-ing tear.
Yet, one in Christ and one in heart, We hope to meet a-gain.
And per-fect love and friend-ship reign Through all e-ter-ni-ty.

Text: John Fawcett, 1740–1817, alt.

Tune: Lowell Mason, 1792–1872, alt.

Text and tune: Public domain

Responsive Reading

(Selected Verses of Psalm 92 NKJV)

- P** It is good to give thanks to the LORD,
C **And to sing praises to Your name, O Most High;**
P To declare Your lovingkindness in the morning,
C **And Your faithfulness every night,**
P Those who are planted in the house of the LORD
C **Shall flourish in the courts of our God.**
P They shall still bear fruit in old age;
C **They shall be fresh and flourishing,**
P To declare that the LORD is upright;
C **He is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in Him.**

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 \dagger give you peace.
C ♩ **Amen, Amen, Amen.**

Closing Hymn: 923 Almighty Father, Bless the Word

LSB 923



1 Al - might - y Fa - ther, bless the Word Which through Your
2 We praise You for the means of grace As home - ward
 \triangle 3 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Him, all



grace we now have heard. Oh, may the pre - cious
now our steps we trace. Grant, Lord, that we who
crea - tures here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye



seed take root, Spring up, and bear a - bun - dant fruit!
 wor - shiped here May all at last in heav'n ap - pear.
 heav'n - ly host: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Text (sts. 1-2): Church Poetry, 1823, Philadelphia, alt.; (st. 3): Thomas Ken, 1637-1711

Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois

Text and tune: Public domain

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today: **10:00 a.m. Worship Service**
 1/26/25 **11:00 a.m. Ladies' Auxiliary Meeting**

Next Sunday: **10:00 a.m. Worship Service with Holy Communion**
 2/2/25 **11:00 a.m. Church Council Meeting**

The Ladies' Auxiliary of St. Stephen will have their meeting today, following the worship service.

Decision on St. Stephen Lutheran School Due to low student enrollment at SLSL and therefore the funding for the school not keeping up with the budgeted needs, causing the school treasury to run in the red, the Board of Education recommended to the voters to discontinue operating the school for the next school year of 2025-26. Agreeing with this recommendation, the voters passed a resolution accordingly. In the hopes that the school can be reopened in the future, the voters also approved the recommendation to maintain the legal status of the school. Any money remaining in the treasury at the end of the school year will be kept in the school treasury for at least two years.

CBP Change Since St. Stephen of Hayward dissolved as a congregation and with their members having transferred to St. Stephen of Mountain View, it was approved by the voters to increase our offerings to the synod from \$4,836.00 to \$11,040.00 per year. This would involve sending to the C.L.C. \$920.00 per month. With the blessing of the Lord, it is our

hope and prayer that our congregation will be able to manage this increase.

Contribution Statements for 2024 have been printed up and are available in the distribution boxes. If any members living at a distance would like to have their statement emailed to them, please let the pastor know. Otherwise, they will be sent to you by regular mail.

February Church Calendar is available this morning and can be picked up in the distribution boxes. Extra calendars are on the table in the narthex.

Pastoral Visit This Wednesday, Pastor Mark will be traveling to Merced, CA in order to visit Jerry Dimpel and give him private communion.

Church Choir will be discussing plans to sing choral pieces at upcoming special worship services.