

St. Stephen Lutheran Church

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

320 Moorpark Way - Mountain View, California 94041-1600

Mark Gullerud: Vacancy Pastor

Email: markgull76@hotmail.com † **Cell: (605) 282-9185**

Church Office: (650) 964-5915



Online Video Production: Chris Holt, Michael Slattengren

Website: sslcwest.org

St. Stephen Lutheran School Staff: Isaac & Mikkela Schmitt (Teachers),
Julia Bernthal (Administrator), Isaac Schmitt (Principal)



School Office: (650) 961-2071

School Website: ssls.org

February 9, 2025 † Epiphany 5

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 113 (Lutheran Service Book or Pew Bible) †

Our Worship Service

**will be Posted to Our Website tomorrow at midafternoon.
To Watch our Worship Service Online Please Click This Link:**

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

Opening Prayer

Opening Hymn 904 Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

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 Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Responsive Reading

(Selected verses of Psalm 90 & 95 NKJV - A Call to Worship)

P: Oh come, let us worship and bow down;

C Let us kneel before the LORD our Maker.

P For He is our God,

C And we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand.

P LORD, You have been our dwelling place

C in all generations.

P Before the mountains were brought forth, Or ever You had formed the earth and the world,

C Even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God.

P The days of our lives are seventy years; And if by reason of strength they are eighty years,

C Yet their boast is only labor and sorrow; For it is soon cut off, and we fly away.

P Oh, satisfy us early with Your mercy,

C That we may rejoice and be glad all our days!

P Let Your work appear to Your servants,

C And Your glory to their children

P And let the beauty of the LORD our God be upon us,

C And establish the work of our hands for us; Yes, establish the work of our hands.

Confession

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

Almighty and most merciful Father, I have strayed from Your paths like a lost sheep. Out of my heart have come evil thoughts, emotions, and desires. I have offended against Your holy law of love in my words and actions. I am truly sorrow for all my offenses of thought, word, and deed. Have mercy on me and forgive me for Jesus' sake! Restore me and revive my spirits, according to the promise You have declared to me in Jesus Christ, my Lord. Fill my heart with Your love that I may lead a godly and righteous life, to the glory of Your name.

Absolution

The LORD declares His forgiveness through His called servant.

Lift up your hearts in peace and with joy. The Lord God, according to His promise, is slow to anger and abounding in mercy and love. By the command and in the stead of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

P We pray:

Lord Jesus Christ, who is the Light of the world, shine brightly in our hearts and in the hearts of people throughout the world. Let the good news of the Gospel be spread to the farthest corners of the earth. Open our mouths to tell of Your saving truths to those around us, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Job 7:1-7 "Is there not a time of hard service for man on earth? Are not his days also like the days of a hired man? ² Like a servant who earnestly desires the shade, And like a hired man who eagerly looks for his wages, ³ So I have been allotted months of futility, And wearisome nights have been appointed to me. ⁴ When I lie down, I say, 'When shall I arise, And the night be ended?' For I have had my fill of tossing till dawn. ⁵ My flesh is caked with worms and dust, My skin is cracked and breaks out afresh. ⁶ "My days are

swifter than a weaver's shuttle, And are spent without hope. ⁷ Oh, remember that my life is a breath! My eye will never again see good. (NKJV)

Responsive Reading

(Selected verses from Psalm 119)

P: Your word is a lamp to my feet

C: And a light to my path.

P: I have sworn and confirmed

C: That I will keep Your righteous judgments.

P: Your testimonies I have taken as a heritage forever,

C: For they are the rejoicing of my heart.

P: I have inclined my heart to perform Your statutes

C: Forever, to the very end.

P: I hate the double-minded,

C: But I love Your law.

P: You are my hiding place and my shield;

C: I hope in Your word.

P: Uphold me according to Your word, that I may live;

C: And do not let me be ashamed of my hope.

P: Hold me up, and I shall be safe,

C: And I shall observe Your statutes continually.

New Testament Reading

Mark 1:29-39 ²⁹ Now as soon as they had come out of the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰ But Simon's wife's mother lay sick with a fever, and they told Him about her at once. ³¹ So He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and immediately the fever left her. And she served them. ³² At evening, when the sun had set, they brought to Him all who were sick and those who were demon-possessed. ³³ And the whole city was gathered together at the door. ³⁴

Then He healed many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and He did not allow the demons to speak, because they knew Him. ³⁵ Now in the morning, having risen a long while before daylight, He went out and departed to a solitary place; and there He prayed. ³⁶ And Simon and those who were with Him searched for Him. ³⁷ When they found Him, they said to Him, "Everyone is looking for You." ³⁸ But He said to them, "Let us go into the next towns, that I may preach there also, because for this purpose I have come forth." ³⁹ And He was preaching in their synagogues throughout all Galilee, and casting out demons. (NKJV)

Confession of Faith

(Hymn 953 LSB)

**We all believe in one true God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
Ever present help in need, praised by all the heav'nly host;
All He made His love enfolds, all creation He upholds.**

**We all believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Mary's Son,
Who descended from His throne and for us salvation won;
By whose cross and death are we rescued from all misery.**

**We confess the Holy Ghost, Who from both in truth proceeds,
Who sustains and comforts us in all trials, fears, and needs.
Blessed, holy Trinity, praise forever be to Thee. Amen**

Hymn 852 O God of Mercy, God of Might

LSB 852



1 O God of mer - cy, God of might, In love and
2 And Thou, who cam'st on earth to die That our lost
3 Teach us the les - son Thou hast taught: To feel for
4 All are re - deemed, both far and wide, Since Thou, O



pit - y in - fi - nite, Teach us, as ev - er
world might live there - by, O hear us; for to
those Thy blood hath bought, That ev - 'ry word and
Lord, for all hast died. Grant us the will and



in Thy sight, To live our lives in Thee.
Thee we cry, In hope, O Lord, to Thee.
deed and thought May work a work for Thee.
grace pro - vide To love them all in Thee!

5 In sickness, sorrow, want, or care,
May we each other's burdens share;
May we, where help is needed, there
Give help as unto Thee!

6 And may Thy Holy Spirit move
All those who live to live in love
Till Thou shalt greet in heav'n above
All those who live in Thee.

Text: Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, alt.

Tune: Samuel Howard, 1710–82

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon Text: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23 ¹⁶ For if I preach the gospel, I have nothing to boast of, for necessity is laid upon me; yes, woe is me if I do not preach the gospel! ¹⁷ For if I do this willingly, I have a reward; but if against my will, I have been entrusted with a stewardship. ¹⁸ What is my reward then? That when I preach the gospel, I may present the gospel of Christ without charge, that I may not abuse my authority in the gospel. ¹⁹ For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win the more; ²⁰ and to the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might win Jews; to those who are under the law, as under the law, that I might win those who are under the law; ²¹ to those who are without law, as without law (not being without law toward God, but under

law toward Christ), that I might win those who are without law; ²² to the weak I became as weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all men, that I might by all means save some. ²³ Now this I do for the gospel's sake, that I may be partaker of it with you. (NKJV)

Sermon Theme: That We Might Gain Precious Souls for the Eternal Kingdom of God

1. Although we are free, we are willing to be of service to all others for the gospel's sake.
2. We are willing to become all things to all men for the gospel's sake.

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 *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.**

Hymn 830 Spread the Reign of God the Lord

LSB 830



1 Spread the reign of God the Lord, Spo - ken, writ - ten, might - y Word;
2 Tell how God the Fa - ther's will Made the world, up - holds it still,
3 Tell of our Re - deem - er's grace, Who, to save our hu - man race
4 Tell of God the Spir - it giv'n Now to guide us on to heav'n,



Ev - 'ry - where His crea - tures call To His heav'n - ly ban - quet hall.
How His own dear Son He gave Us from sin and death to save.
And to pay re - bel - lion's price, Gave Him - self as sac - ri - fice.
Strong and ho - ly, just and true, Work - ing both to will and do.

5 Enter, mighty Word, the field;
Ripe the promise of its yield.
But the reapers, oh, how few
For the work there is to do!

6 Lord of harvest, great and kind,
Rouse to action heart and mind;
Let the gath'ring nations all
See Your light and heed Your call.

Text: Jonathan Friedrich Bahnmaier, 1774–1841; tr. composite

Tune: Geist-reiches Gesang-Buch, 1704, Halle, ed. Johann A. Freylinghausen, alt.

Text and tune: Public domain

Responsive Reading (NKJV)

(Psalm 111)

P Praise the LORD! I will praise the LORD with my whole heart,

C **In the assembly of the upright and in the congregation.**

P The works of the LORD are great,

C **Studied by all who have pleasure in them.**

P His work is honorable and glorious,

C **And His righteousness endures forever.**

P He has made His wonderful works to be remembered;

C **The LORD is gracious and full of compassion.**

P The works of His hands are verity and justice;

C **All His precepts are sure.**

P They stand fast forever and ever,

C **And are done in truth and uprightness.**

P He has sent redemption to His people;

C **He has commanded His covenant forever: Holy and awesome is His name.**

P The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;

C **A good understanding have all those who do His commandments. His praise endures forever.**

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 ♪ **Amen, Amen, Amen.**

Closing Hymn 924 Lord, Dismiss us with Your Blessing

LSB 924



1 Lord, dis - miss us with Your bless - ing, Fill our hearts with
2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion For Your Gos - pel's
3 Sav - ior, when Your love shall call us From our strug - gling



joy and peace; Let us each, Your love pos - sess - ing,
joy - ful sound. May the fruits of Your sal - va - tion
pil - grim way, Let not fear of death ap - pall us,



Tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace. O re - fresh us;
In our hearts and lives a - bound. Ev - er faith - ful,
Glad Your sum - mons to o - bey. May we ev - er,



O re - fresh us, Trav - 'ling through this wil - der - ness.
ev - er faith - ful To Your truth may we be found.
may we ev - er Reign with You in end - less day.

Text (sts. 1-2): attr. John Fawcett, 1740-1817, alt.; (st. 3): Godfrey Thring, 1823-1903, alt.

Tune: Henry T. Smart, 1813-79

Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments - Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2024 Concordia Publishing House.

Scripture taken from the New King James Version®. Copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson. Used by permission.

All rights reserved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today	10:00 a.m. Worship Service
2/9/25	11:00 a.m. Church Council Meeting
Tuesday	5:30 p.m. Board of Education Meeting
2/11/25	
Thursday	12 Noon St. Stephen Lutheran School Volunteer Luncheon
2/13/25	
Friday	SSLS starts their Winter Break (No school 14-21)

Sunday **10:00 a.m. Worship Service**
2/16/25 **11:00 a.m. Choir Practice**

Voter's Meeting Report Last Sunday, St. Stephen issued a call to Pastor David Pfeiffer of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in West Columbia, SC. to serve as our resident pastor. <> Membership matters: The membership of Mrs. Corinne Nakashima and her son Hoksay was transferred into our congregation. Corinne is the daughter of Roy and Nancy Cameron. Dr. Ruth Colbert was granted a release of membership upon her request.

Letter of Receipt of Pastoral Call The following letter was received from Pastor David Pfeiffer whom we called to serve as our resident pastor:

Dear Members of St. Stephen,
Greetings in Christ. I have received your call request and want to thank you for entrusting me with this important decision. As I go through this process of prayer and reflection, please remember both our congregations in your prayers. May the Lord's will to be done to give His blessing to all of us through the process of prayer and dependence on Him.

I will be in touch with your president in the coming weeks.

Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.
May the Lord be with you.

David Pfeiffer

Holy Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church

CLC CALL NEWS Teacher Mikkela Schmitt of St. Stephen Lutheran School has **accepted** the call to Trinity Lutheran School, Watertown, SD. <> Teacher Cathy Augustin of Berea Lutheran School, Inver Grove Heights, MN, has announced her **retirement** at the end of the current school year. <> Pastor Cory Drehle of Berea Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls, SD has **received** the call to Pastor Faith Lutheran Church, Manchester, MO. <> Pastor Paul Nolting of Grace Lutheran Church, Valentine, NE, Peace Lutheran Church, Mission, SD, and St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church, White River, SD has announced his **retirement** effective Summer 2025. <> Pastor George Dumann of Salem Lutheran Church, Eagle Lake, MN has **received** the call to Faith Lutheran Church, New Ulm, MN to serve as their pastor along with his current call.