

# ***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

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**Church Office:** (650) 964-5915

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

**School Office:** (650) 961-2071

**School Website:** [ssls.org](http://ssls.org)

**March 9, 2025** † **Lent 1**



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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 32 (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.sslwest.org/worship.html>**

## Opening Prayer


### Opening Hymn 837 Lift High the Cross

(LSB 837)

*Refrain*




Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro-claim Till



all the world a - dore His sa - cred name.

1 Come, Chris-tians, fol - low where our Cap - tain trod,  
2 Led on their way by this tri - um - phant sign,  
3 All new - born sol - diers of the Cru - ci - fied  
4 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,

*Refrain*



Our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.  
The hosts of God in con - qu'ring ranks com-bine.  
Bear on their brows the seal of Him who died.  
As Thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to Thee.

5 Let ev'ry race and ev'ry language tell  
Of Him who saves our lives from death and hell. Refrain

6 So shall our song of triumph ever be:  
Praise to the Crucified for victory! Refrain

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956, alt.

Tune: Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947

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# **SERVICE OF THE WORD**

(Worship Supplement, p. 12)

## **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.

**G** **Amen.**

## **Confession and Absolution**

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

**P** We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.

**G** **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy upon me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

**P** God our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. Through faith in Him, which was created in you by the Holy Spirit, you are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will.

**G** **Amen.**

**Kyrie** *Latin for “O Lord.” We approach our Lord with a cry for help in all the needs of our earthly life.* *W.S. p. 13*

**♪ Lord have mercy on us. Christ have mercy on us. Lord have mercy on us.**

**Gloria in Excelsis** *Latin for “Glory to God in the highest.”* *W.S. p. 13*

**♪ Glory to God, we give You thanks and praise;  
Of heav’nly joy and peace on earth we sing.  
We worship You, to You our hearts we raise,  
Lord God, almighty Father, heav’nly King.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, the Father’s only Son,**

***You bore for us the load of this world's sin.  
O Lamb of God, Your glorious vict'ry won,  
Receive our prayer, grant us Your peace within.***

***Alone, O Christ, You only are the Lord,  
At God's right hand in majesty most high:  
Who with the Spirit worshiped and adored,  
With all the heav'nly host we glorify.***

## **Prayer of the Day**

**P** We pray:

Merciful God, Your Son, Jesus Christ, was lifted high upon the cross that He might bear the sins of the world and draw all people to Himself. Grant that we who glory in His death for our redemption may faithfully heed His call to bear the cross of a Christian and follow Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## **THE PASSION HISTORY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST** *According to the Four Gospels (New King James Version)*

### **II -- Trial and Denial**

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Then the detachment of troops and the captain and the officers of the Jews arrested Jesus and bound Him. And they led Him away and brought Him into the high priest's house. They led Him to Annas first; for he was high priest that year. Now it was Caiaphas who gave counsel to the Jews that it was expedient that one man should die for the people.

And Simon Peter followed Jesus at a distance, and so did the other disciple. Now that disciple was known to the high priest, and went with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest. But Peter stood at the door outside. Then the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out and spoke to her who kept the door and brought Peter in, right into the courtyard of the high priest.

And the servants and officers who had made a fire of coals in the midst of the courtyard stood there, for it was cold. And they warmed themselves. And Peter stood with them and warmed himself at the fire. And after they had sat down together, Peter sat down with the servants to see the end.

The high priest then asked Jesus about His disciples and His doctrine. Jesus answered him, "I spoke openly to the world; I always taught in the synagogues, and in the temple, where the Jews always meet, and in secret I have said nothing. Why do you ask Me? Ask those who have heard Me what I said to them; indeed, they know what I said."

And when He had said these things, one of the officers who stood by struck Jesus with the palm of his hand, saying, "Do You answer the high priest like that?" Jesus answered him, "If I have spoken evil, bear witness of the evil; but if well, why do you strike Me?"

Then Annas sent Jesus bound to Caiaphas the high priest; and with him were assembled all the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes. And the chief priests, the elders, and all the council sought false testimony against Jesus to put Him to death; and found none, even though many false witnesses came forward. For many bore false witness against Him, but their testimonies did not agree.

But at last two false witnesses came forward, and bore false witness against Him, saying, "This Fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days.'" "We heard Him say, 'I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and within three days I will build another made without hands.'" But not even then did their testimony agree. And the high priest stood up in the midst and asked Jesus, saying, "Do You answer nothing? What is it that these men testify against You?" But Jesus kept silent, and answered nothing.

And the high priest asked Him, saying to Him, "I adjure You by the living God that You tell us if You are the Christ, the Son of God, the Son of the Blessed?" And Jesus said, "I am. It is as you said. Nevertheless I say to you, hereafter you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of power and coming on the clouds of heaven."

Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "He has spoken blasphemy! What further need do we have of witnesses? Behold, now you have heard His blasphemy. What do you think?"

And they all condemned Him to be worthy of death. They answered and said, "He is deserving of death!"

Then some began to spit in His face. And the men who held Jesus mocked Him. They blindfolded Him and struck Him the face and asked Him, "Prophecy to us, Christ; who is the one that struck You?" And many other things they blasphemously spoke against Him. And the officers struck Him with the palms of their hands.

Now Peter was sitting outside, below in the courtyard. And a certain servant-girl, one of the servant-girls of the high priest, the one who kept the door, saw Peter warming

himself as he sat by the fire. She came to him, and said, "You are not also one of this Man's disciples, are you?" He said, "I am not."

She said, "You also were with Jesus of Galilee." She looked intently at him and said, "This man was also with Him." But Peter denied it before them all saying, "Woman, I do not know Him, I neither know nor understand what you are saying." And he went out on the porch. And a rooster crowed. And after a little while, when he had gone out to the gateway, another servant-girl saw him and began to say to those who stood by, "This fellow also was with Jesus of Nazareth. This is one of them." Now Simon Peter stood and warmed himself. Therefore they said to him, "You are not also one of His disciples, are you?" One saw him and said, "You also are of them." And again he denied it with an oath. He said, "Man, I am not. I do not know the Man."

Then after about an hour had passed, another confidently affirmed, saying, "Surely this fellow also was with Him; for he is a Galilean." Those who stood by said to Peter: "Surely you are one of them; for you are a Galilean, and your speech shows it." One of the servants of the high priest, a relative of him whose ear Peter cut off, said, "Did I not see you in the garden with Him?" Peter therefore denied it again. He said, "Man, I do not know what you are saying." He began to curse and swear, "I do not know the Man. I do not know this Man of whom you speak." And immediately, while he was still speaking, a rooster crowed a second time. And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter called to mind the word of the Lord, how He had said to him, "Before the rooster crows twice, you will deny Me three times." And when Peter thought about it, he went out and wept bitterly.

☐ Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world!

## **The 2<sup>nd</sup> Article of the Apostle's Creed** *with explanation from Luther's Catechism (Sydow, p. 87)*

**☑ I believe 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, dead, and buried;  
He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead;  
He ascended into heaven and sits on the right hand of God, the Father Almighty;  
from there He shall come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe that Jesus Christ, true God,  
begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man,  
born of the virgin Mary is my Lord.**

**He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person,**

**purchased and won me from all sin, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and His innocent suffering and death.**

**He did this that I should be His very own, live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in eternal righteousness, innocence, and joy; just as He is risen from death, lives and reigns in eternity.**

**This is most certainly true!**

**Hymn of the Day: 611 Chief of Sinners Though I Be** (LSB 611)



1 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Je - sus shed His  
 2 Oh, the height of Je - sus' love, High - er than the  
 3 On - ly Je - sus can im - part Balm to heal the  
 4 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Christ is all in  
 5 O my Sav - ior, help af - ford By Your Spir - it



blood for me, Died that I might live on high,  
 heav'ns a - bove, Deep - er than the depths of sea,  
 wound - ed heart, Peace that flows from sin for - giv'n,  
 all to me; All my wants to Him are known,  
 and Your Word! When my way - ward heart would stray,



Lives that I might nev - er die. As the branch is  
 Last - ing as e - ter - ni - ty! Love that found me—  
 Joy that lifts the soul to heav'n, Faith and hope to  
 All my sor - rows are His own. He sus - tains the  
 Keep me in the nar - row way; Grace in time of



to the vine, I am His, and He is mine.  
 won - drous thought! Found me when I sought Him not.  
 walk with God In the way that E - noch trod.  
 hid - den life Safe with Him from earth - ly strife.  
 need sup - ply While I live and when I die.

Text: William McComb, 1793–1873, alt.

Tune: Richard Redhead, 1820–1901


Text and tune: Public domain

## Isaiah's Passion History

**Sermon Text:** Isaiah 53:1-3 Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? <sup>2</sup> For He shall grow up before Him as a tender plant, And as a root out of dry ground. He has no form or comeliness; And when we see Him, There is no beauty that we should desire Him. <sup>3</sup> He is despised and rejected by men, A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him. (NKJV)

**Sermon Theme:** Isaiah Reveals the Man of Sorrows who Gives us Joy and Gladness

W.S. p. 16

 **Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
And renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from Your presence,  
Take not Your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore to me the joy of Your salvation.  
Uphold with Your Spirit free.**

**Offering** *We offer our gifts to the Lord, remembering that He has first given to us that we might have to give to Him.*  
(† *If you have an offering to give today, please place it in the plate in the church entryway.* †)

**Sermon Hymn: 420 Christ, the Life of All the Living** (LSB 420)



1 Christ, the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the death of  
2 Thou, ah! Thou, hast tak - en on Thee Bonds and stripes, a  
3 Thou hast borne the smit - ing on - ly That my wounds might  
4 Heart - less scof - fers did sur-round Thee, Treat - ing Thee with



death, our foe, Who, Thy - self for me once giv - ing  
cru - el rod; Pain and scorn were heaped up - on Thee,  
all be whole; Thou hast suf - fered, sad and lone - ly,  
shame - ful scorn And with pierc - ing thorns they crowned Thee.





To the dark - est depths of woe: Through Thy suf - f' rings,  
 O Thou sin - less Son of God! Thus didst Thou my  
 Rest to give my wea - ry soul; Yea, the curse of  
 All dis - grace Thou, Lord, hast borne, That as Thine Thou



death, and mer - it I e - ter - nal life in - her - it.  
 soul de - liv - er From the bonds of sin for - ev - er.  
 God en - dur - ing, Bless - ing un - to me se - cur - ing.  
 might - est own me And with heav'n - ly glo - ry crown me.



Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.  
 Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.  
 Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.  
 Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.

Text: Ernst Christoph Homburg, 1605–81; (sts. 1–2, 5, 7); tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.; (sts. 3–4, 6); tr. Evangelical Lutheran Hymn-Book, 1912, St. Louis  
 Tune: Das grosse Cantional, 1687, Darmstadt  
 Text and tune: Public domain

**Prayers** *We bring our prayers to God.*

**Lord's Prayer**

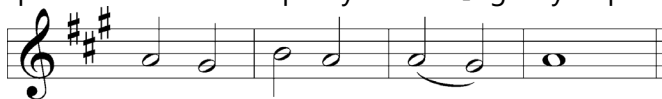
**☩ Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name,  
 Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;  
 give us this day our daily bread;  
 and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
 and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. 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

The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



☐ A-men, a-men, a - men.

**Closing Hymn: 420 st.5-7 Christ, the Life of All the Living** *(LSB 420)*

5 Thou hast suffered men to bruise Thee,

That from pain I might be free;

Falsely did Thy foes accuse Thee:

Thence I gain security;

Comfortless Thy soul did languish

Me to comfort in my anguish.

Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,

Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

6 Thou hast suffered great affliction

And hast borne it patiently,

Even death by crucifixion,

Fully to atone for me;

Thou didst choose to be tormented

That my doom should be prevented.

Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,

Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

7 Then, for all that wrought my pardon,

For Thy sorrows deep and sore,

For Thine anguish in the Garden,

I will thank Thee evermore,

Thank Thee for Thy groaning, sighing,

For Thy bleeding and Thy dying,  
For that last triumphant cry,  
And shall praise Thee, Lord, on high.

Text: Ernst Christoph Homburg, 1605–81; (sts. 1–2, 5, 7); tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.; (sts. 3–4, 6); tr. Evangelical Lutheran Hymn-Book, 1912, St. Louis

Tune: Das grosse Cantional, 1687, Darmstadt

Text and tune: Public domain

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today:

3/9/25           **10:00 a.m. Worship Service**  
                      **11:00 a.m. Choir Practice**  
                      **11:00 a.m. Church Council Meeting**  
                      **Volunteer Work on the Parsonage**

Monday           **4:30 p.m. Book Club Meeting**

3/10/25

Tuesday           **5:30 p.m. Board of Education Meeting**

3/11/25

Next Sunday:

3/16/25           **10:00 a.m. Worship Service**

**11:00 a.m. Choir Practice**

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

**Our Thanks** to Michael Slattengren for conducting the worship liturgy and to Timothy Blank for delivering the sermon in our worship service today. This past week, Pastor was diagnosed with pneumonia and therefore will be out of commission for the time being. Your prayers would be welcome.

**A Book Club** is being held this week, with the meeting at Leslie Horrillo's home on Monday at 4:30 p.m.

**Pastoral Call** At our voters' call meeting this past Sunday, the voters elected to extend a call to Pastor Tom Schuetze of St. Paul in Lakewood, CO. The following is his letter of response, acknowledging receipt of the call.

Pastor Thomas R. Schuetze  
7515 Pike View Ct. Lakewood, CO 80214  
(303) 428-5524  
[trschuetze@yahoo.com](mailto:trschuetze@yahoo.com)

St. Stephen Lutheran Church Mountain View, CA March 6, 2025

Dear parishioners of St Stephen Lutheran Church,  
Christian greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus.

With this letter I wish to acknowledge receipt of your call to serve as the pastor of your congregation. I received the call documents and accompanying information via email last Monday. I ask for your prayers that the Lord of the Church guide my deliberations so the decision I reach will be in accord with His will and serve for the spiritual well-being of His flocks in California and Colorado. When I reach my decision, I will be in touch. (During the coming days, in the process of my call consideration, I will plan to contact you to obtain additional information about the ministry needs of your parish.)

"Now may the Lord of peace Himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all" (2 Thessalonians 3:16,18).

Sincerely, Pastor Thomas Schuetze

**A Big Thank You** to all those who have participated in the volunteer work on the parsonage. It has been of tremendous help in readying the parsonage for our new resident pastor.

**Church Directory** St. Stephen's church directory has been updated for 2025. You will find a copy of it on the stand near the front door of the church. Please check through it for your information, family members, and others who are unable to do this in person. Make any necessary corrections. We will leave the copy of the directory there for a number of Sundays in order to give people enough time to look it over. Thank you.

