

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

March 30, 2025 † Lent 4

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 108 (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 434 Lamb of God, Pure and Holy

LSB 434



1 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, Who on the cross didst suf - fer,
2 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, Who on the cross didst suf - fer,
3 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, Who on the cross didst suf - fer,



Ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, Thy - self to scorn didst of - fer.
Ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, Thy - self to scorn didst of - fer.
Ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, Thy - self to scorn didst of - fer.



All sins Thou bor - est for us, Else had de - spair reigned o'er us:
All sins Thou bor - est for us, Else had de - spair reigned o'er us:
All sins Thou bor - est for us, Else had de - spair reigned o'er us:



Have mer - cy on us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!
Have mer - cy on us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!
Thy peace be with us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941

Text and tune: Nicolaus Decius, c. 1485–after 1546

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.

☩ Amen

☩ We pray:

Almighty God, we confess that we deserve to be punished for our evil deeds. But we ask You graciously to cleanse us from all sin and to comfort us with Your salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

☩ Amen.

The Passion History of Our Lord Jesus Christ

(According to the Four Gospels (New King James Version))

V -- The Humble King

So then Pilate took Jesus and scourged Him. Then the soldiers of the governor led Jesus away into the hall called Praetorium, and they called together and gathered around Him the whole garrison.

And they stripped Him, and put a scarlet robe on Him, clothing Him in purple. And the soldiers twisted a crown of thorns and put it on His head, and they put a reed in His right hand. And they bowed the knee before Him and worshiped Him, mocking Him.

They saluted Him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" Then they spat on Him, and took the reed and struck Him on the head with it. And they struck Him with their hands. And when they had mocked Him, Pilate went out again, and said to them, "Behold, I am bringing

Him out to you, that you may know I find no fault in Him." Then Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe.

And Pilate said to them, "Behold, the Man!" Therefore when the chief priests and officers saw Him, they cried out, saying, "Crucify Him! Crucify Him!" Pilate said to them, "You take Him and crucify Him, for I find no fault in Him." The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to our law He ought to die, because He made Himself the Son of God."

Therefore when Pilate heard that saying, he was the more afraid; and went again into the Praetorium, and said to Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. Then Pilate said to Him, "Are You not speaking to me? Do You not know that I have power to crucify You, and power to release You?" Jesus answered, "You could have no power at all against Me, unless it had been given to you from above; therefore the one who delivered Me to you has the greater sin."

From then on Pilate sought to release Him, but the Jews cried out, saying, "If you let this Man go, you are not Caesar's friend. Whoever makes himself a king speaks against Caesar."

When Pilate therefore heard that saying, he brought Jesus out, and sat down in the judgment seat in a place that is called the Pavement, but in Hebrew, Gabbatha. Now it was the preparation day of the Passover; and about the sixth hour (about 6:00am; Roman time). And he said to the Jews, "Behold, your King!" But they cried out, "Away with Him, away with Him, crucify Him!"

Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar."

And so Pilate delivered Jesus to their will. He delivered Him to them to be crucified. The soldiers took Jesus' purple robe off Him, and put His own clothes on Him. They took Jesus, and led Him out to crucify Him; and He, bearing His cross, went out. Now as they came out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name, the father of Alexander and Rufus, who was coming from the country. On him they laid the cross that he might bear it after Jesus.

And a great multitude of the people followed Him. But Jesus turning to them said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for Me, but weep for yourselves and for your children, for indeed the days are coming in which they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, the wombs that never bore, and the breasts which never nursed'. Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us', and to the hills, 'Cover us'. For if they do these things in the green wood, what will be done in the dry?"

There were also two others, criminals, led with Him to be put to death. And they brought Him to the place called Calvary, in Hebrew Golgatha, which is the Place of a Skull. And when they had come there, they gave Him sour wine mingled with myrrh and gall to drink. But when He had tasted it, He would not drink; He did not take it.

Confession of Faith

The 2nd 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 439 st.1-9 O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken LSB 439



1 O dear - est Je - sus, what law hast Thou bro - ken
2 They crown Thy head with thorns, they smite, they scourge Thee;
3 Whence come these sor - rows, whence this mor - tal an - guish?
4 What pun - ish - ment so strange is suf - fered yon - der!



That such sharp sen - tence should on Thee be spo - ken?
With cru - el mock - ings to the cross they urge Thee;
It is my sins for which Thou, Lord, must lan - guish;
The Shep - herd dies for sheep that loved to wan - der;



Of what great crime hast Thou to make con -
They give Thee gall to drink, they still de -
Yea, all the wrath, the woe, Thou dost in -
The Mas - ter pays the debt His ser - vants



fes - sion, What dark trans - gres - sion?
cry Thee; They cru - ci - fy Thee.
her - it, This I do mer - it.
owe Him, Who would not know Him.

5 The sinless Son of God must die in sadness;
The sinful child of man may live in gladness;
Man forfeited his life and is acquitted;
God is committed.

6 There was no spot in me by sin untainted;
Sick with sin's poison, all my heart had fainted;
My heavy guilt to hell had well-nigh brought me,
Such woe it wrought me.

7 O wondrous love, whose depth no heart hath sounded,
That brought Thee here, by foes and thieves surrounded!
All worldly pleasures, heedless, I was trying
While Thou wert dying.

8 O mighty King, no time can dim Thy glory!
How shall I spread abroad Thy wondrous story?
How shall I find some worthy gifts to proffer?
What dare I offer?

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662
Text and tune: Public domain

Isaiah's Passion History

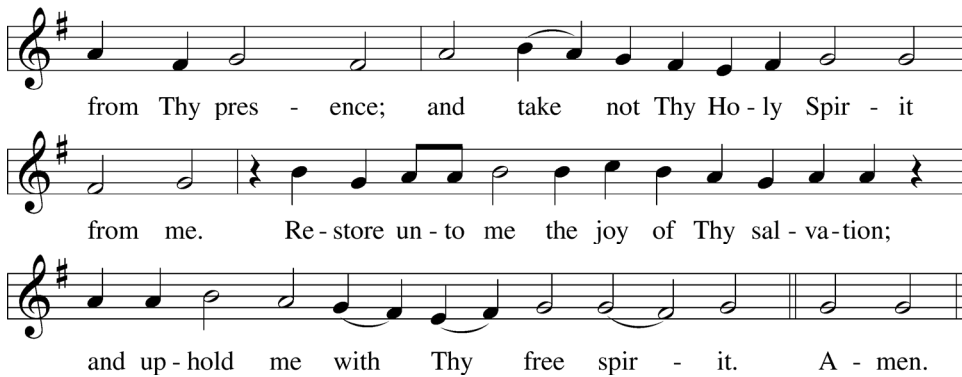
Sermon Text: Isaiah 53:7-8 ⁷ He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, And as a sheep before its shearers is silent, So He opened not His mouth. ⁸ He was taken from prison and from judgment, And who will declare His generation? For He was cut off from the land of the living; For the transgressions of My people He was stricken.

Sermon Theme: Isaiah Reveals our Submissive Savior.

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 439 st.9-15 O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken *LSB 439*

9 For vainly doth our human wisdom ponder—
 Thy woes, Thy mercy, still transcend our wonder.
 Oh, how should I do aught that could delight Thee!
 Can I requite Thee?

10 Yet unrequited, Lord, I would not leave Thee;
 I will renounce whate'er doth vex or grieve Thee
 And quench with thoughts of Thee and prayers most lowly

All fires unholy.

11 But since my strength will nevermore suffice me
To crucify desires that still entice me,
To all good deeds O let Thy Spirit win me
And reign within me!

12 I'll think upon Thy mercy without ceasing,
That earth's vain joys to me no more be pleasing;
To do Thy will shall be my sole endeavor
Henceforth forever.

13 Whate'er of earthly good this life may grant me,
I'll risk for Thee; no shame, no cross, shall daunt me.
I shall not fear what foes can do to harm me
Nor death alarm me.

14 But worthless is my sacrifice, I own it;
Yet, Lord, for love's sake Thou wilt not disown it;
Thou wilt accept my gift in Thy great meekness
Nor shame my weakness.

15 And when, dear Lord, before Thy throne in heaven
To me the crown of joy at last is given,
Where sweetest hymns Thy saints forever raise Thee,
I, too, shall praise Thee.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

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 438 A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth *LSB 438*



1 A Lamb goes un - com - plain - ing forth, The
 2 This Lamb is Christ, the soul's great friend, The
 3 "Yes, Fa - ther, yes, most will - ing - ly I'll
 4 Lord, when Your glo - ry I shall see And



guilt of sin - ners bear - ing And, lad - en with the
 Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, Whom God the Fa - ther
 bear what You com - mand Me. My will con - forms to
 taste Your king - dom's plea - sure, Your blood my roy - al



sins of earth, None else the bur - den shar - ing; Goes
 chose to send To gain for us His fa - vor. "Go
 Your de - cree, I'll do what You have asked Me." O
 robe shall be, My joy be - yond all mea - sure! When



pa - tient on, grows weak and faint, To slaugh - ter led with -
 forth, My Son," the Fa - ther said, "And free My chil - dren
 won - drous Love, what have You done! The Fa - ther of - fers
 I ap - pear be - fore Your throne, Your righ - teous - ness shall



out com - plaint, That spot - less life to of - fer, He bears the
 from their dread Of guilt and con - dem - na - tion. The wrath and
 up His Son, De - sir - ing our sal - va - tion. O Love, how
 be my crown; With these I need not hide me. And there, in



stripes, the wounds, the lies, The mock - er - y, and
 stripes are hard to bear, But by Your pas - sion
 strong You are to save! You lay the One in -
 gar - ments rich - ly wrought, As Your own bride shall



yet re - plies, "All this I glad - ly suf - fer."
 they will share The fruit of Your sal - va - tion."
 to the grave Who built the earth's foun - da - tion.
 we be brought To stand in joy be - side You.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.

Tune: Wolfgang Dachstein, c. 1487–1553

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 130003862

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
3/30/25	11:00 a.m. Choir Practice
Sunday	10:00 a.m. Worship Service with Holy Communion
4/6/25	11:00 a.m. Voter’s Call Meeting

Upcoming:

4/18/25	6:30 p.m. Good Friday Service with Communion
4/20/25	10:00 a.m. Easter Worship Service
	11:00 a.m. Easter Brunch

Letter from Pastor Schuetze

Dear Members of St. Stephen Lutheran Church,

After prayerful deliberation on the pastoral call you extended to me, I have been led to the decision that it is God’s will that I continue serving Him in my present capacity as the pastor of St. Paul in Lakewood.

The spiritual welfare of God’s people residing in Mountain View and environs is also important to Him. It is my prayer that the Lord of the Church will, according to His perfect wisdom and timing, supply you with a full-time spiritual shepherd to proclaim His pure Word in your midst and lead you in His Good Shepherd paths.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit abide with you all.

Sincerely,

Pastor Thomas Schuetze

Voter's Call Meeting Since Pastor Schuetze has returned our call to him, President Blank is scheduling a call meeting for next Sunday, following the worship service. For voters unable to attend the meeting in person you can participate Via Zoom. Please text President Blank (530-574-6459) to inform him of the pastor you are voting for. Here is the Zoom link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86876579256?pwd=N0I1aS9QK0svanBsVjNiMW8vZnVJQT09>

Church Directory Correction On the second page where Michael Slattengren is listed as Secretary and Board of Education Chairman, his phone number should be (925)837-6238.

Church Calendars for April are available and can be found in the distribution boxes. Extra copies are on the table in the entryway.

ILC Tour Choir Concert at Messiah in Eau Claire, WI is being held today at 4:30 p.m. It can be viewed online at eauclairemessiah.com. On the first page of the website, press the livestream button.

ILC After Banquet Party The following letter comes from the ILHS Parents' Association:
Dear Congregations of the CLC:

Parents of Immanuel Lutheran High School are currently working on this year's After Banquet Party to be held May 17, 2025. The ILHS Banquet is held at a local restaurant with the After Banquet Party immediately afterwards in the high school gymnasium. The After Banquet Party is held to provide a fun, safe place for the students to enjoy this special evening honoring the Senior class. The gym is decorated in a prom-type setting with games, prizes, refreshments and entertainment provided at no cost to the students.

We do rely on donations from school parents, church members, and local businesses. We are able to buy some prizes, but if you are able to donate a prize, that

would be greatly appreciated. Even homemade items or care packages are a great gift idea. Monetary donations are also very much appreciated and may be sent to:

ILC After Banquet Committee
c/o Immanuel Lutheran College
501 Grover Road
Eau Claire, WI 54701

While this is a fun evening for the students, if your group has limited funds, please continue your support of CLC efforts in your own congregation and overseas. Please contact me if you have any questions or would like direction on donation ideas:

Jen LeDuc
715-864-3341
jenleduc04@gmailcom

Thank You!

ILHS Parents' Association/After Banquet Committee

(It should be noted that all ILC students are invited to attend the After Banquet Party whether they go to the banquet or not.)

CLC CALL NEWS Pastor Paul Tiefel, Jr of Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI, has announced his **retirement** as of August, 2025. <> Teacher Amy Mielke of Messiah Lutheran School, Eau Claire, WI, has **received** the call to Luther Memorial School, Fond du Lac WI. <> Pastor Tom Schuetze of St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church, Lakewood, CO, has **returned** the call to St. Stephen Lutheran Church, Mountain View, CA.<> Grace Lutheran Church, Sleepy Eye, MN, has **called** Mrs. Vanessa Wales and Mrs. Danielle Sippert to teach language arts and other courses for the 2025-2026 school year to replace Mrs. Debra Mayhew whose call will expire at the end of the 2024-2025 school year. <> Pastor Caleb Schaller of Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI, has **accepted** the call to Grace Lutheran Church, Valentine, NE, Peace Lutheran Church, Mission, SD, and St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church, White River, SD. <> Pastor Paul Krause of Trinity Lutheran Church and School, Watertown, SD, and Zion Lutheran Church, Hidewood Township, SD, has **received** the call to Faith Lutheran Church, Manchester, MO.

