

**St. Stephen Lutheran Church of the East Bay & Central Valley**

(A Congregation of the Church of the Lutheran Confession)

www.ststephenclc.org

**Worshiping Every Sunday in the East Bay at 9 a.m. in**

**Grace Lutheran Church**

**1836 B St., Hayward, CA 94541-3140**

Worshiping in the Central Valley at 2 p.m. - 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of  
the Month

Atria Senior Living - Bayside Landing - 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Activity Room  
3318 Brookside Rd., Stockton, CA 95219

**Pastor: Steven Karp**

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**Organist: Elizabeth Karp**

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The First Sunday After The Epiphany – 11 January 2015

Liturgy — Page 5 in The Lutheran Hymnal — A Service in  
which we will Install Church Officers for 2015

HYMNS: 133 Within The Father's House (1-3,& 5 & 7; stand for 7)  
371 Jesus Thy Blood And Righteousness (1-4 & 5-7)  
472 Rise Ye Children Of Salvation

Sermon Text: Isaiah 61,10-11

Sermon Theme: God Dresses His People for Success

1. A Robe Of Righteousness
2. A Garment of Salvation
3. Rejoice In Our New Clothes.

**INTROIT:** I also saw the LORD sitting upon a throne: high and  
lifted up. And I heard the voice of a great multitude, saying,  
Hallelujah: for the LORD our God Omnipotent reigns. Make  
a joyful noise to the LORD, all you lands: serve the LORD  
with gladness. **Glory be to the Father ...**

**COLLECT:** O Lord God, we beseech You mercifully to  
receive the prayers of Your people who call upon You; and  
grant that they may both perceive and know what things  
they ought to do and also may have grace and power  
faithfully to fulfill the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
Who with You and the Holy Ghost, lives and reigns, ever  
the One true God, world without end. **Amen.**

Old Testament

Isaiah 61,10-11

I will rejoice greatly in the LORD,  
My soul will exult in my God;  
For He has clothed me with garments of salvation,  
He has wrapped me with a robe of righteousness,  
As a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,  
And as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

11 For as the earth brings forth its sprouts,  
And as a garden causes the things sown in it to  
spring up,  
So the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise  
To spring up before all the nations.

Epistle

Romans 12,1-8

I urge you therefore brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. <sup>2</sup> And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

<sup>3</sup> For through the grace given to me I say to every man among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith. <sup>4</sup> For just as we have many members in one body and all the members do not have the same function, <sup>5</sup> so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. <sup>6</sup> And since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given us, let each exercise them accordingly: if prophecy, according to the proportion of his faith; <sup>7</sup> if service, in his serving; or he who teaches, in his teaching; <sup>8</sup> or he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who gives with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

**GRADUAL**

Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty,

**Indeed everything that is in the heavens and the earth;**

Yours is the dominion, O LORD,

**And You exult Yourself as head over all.**

I have found David My servant;

**With My holy oil I have anointed him.**

And My faithfulness and My lovingkindness will be with him,

**And in My name his horn will be exalted.**

He will cry to Me, “You are my Father,

**My God, and the Rock of my salvation.”**

I shall also make him My first-born,

**The highest of the kings of the earth.**

My loving kindness I will keep for him forever,

**And My covenant shall be confirmed to him.**

Hallelujah! Oh, praise the LORD, all you nations, and laud Him all you peoples.

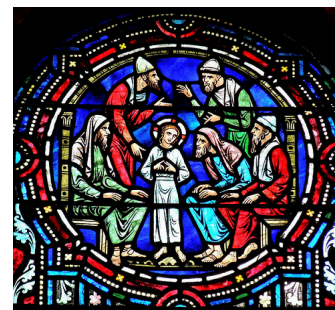
**For His merciful kindness is great toward us, and the truth of the Lord endures forever.** [sing triple Hallelujah]

Gospel

Luke 2,41-52

Response: Glory be to Thee, O Lord!

Now His [that is, Jesus’] parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. <sup>42</sup> And when He became twelve, they went up there according to the custom of the Feast; <sup>43</sup> and as they were returning, after spending the full number of days, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. But



His parents were unaware of it, <sup>44</sup> but supposed Him to be in the caravan, and went a day’s journey; and they began looking for Him among their relatives and acquaintances. <sup>45</sup> When they did not find Him, they returned to Jerusalem

looking for Him.

<sup>46</sup> Then, after three days they found Him in the Temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, both listening to them and asking them questions. <sup>47</sup> And all who heard Him were amazed at His understanding and His answers. <sup>48</sup> When they saw Him, they were astonished; and His mother said to Him, “Son, why have You treated us this way?



Behold, Your father and I have been anxiously looking for You.” <sup>49</sup> And He said to them, “Why is it that you were looking for Me? Did you not know that I had to be in My Father’s

house?” <sup>50</sup> But they did not understand the statement which He had made to them.

<sup>51</sup> And He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and He continued in subjection to them; and His mother treasured all these things in her heart. [Scripture from the *New American Standard Bible*, © The Lockman Foundation, used by permission]

Response: Praise be to Thee, O Christ!

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Lessons for 18 January – The Second Sunday After the Epiphany of Our Lord

Old Testament: Deuteronomy 18,15-19  
Epistle: Romans 12,9-16  
Gospel: John 2,1-11

Weekly Scripture Verse: For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are the sons of God. (Romans 8,14)

Next Service in Stockton: Sunday, 18 January, at 2 p.m.

Bible Study – Hayward – Tuesday, 13 January, at 2 p.m.  
Stockton – Tuesday, 27 January, at 2 p.m.

Today’s Gradual is based on selected verses from 1 Chronicles 29 and Psalm 72.

ILL. In your prayers, please remember Nancy, Roy and his brother and sister-in-law, Alex and Judy; Cindy Hartman (Pr. Jay Hartman's wife); Jean Niblett; Don Luebke; Sue (the Karps’ neighbor who is undergoing chemotherapy), Sue (Carolyn’s friend), Don Drews; Janet Drews; Pr. Doug Priestap; Richard Hocker; Ruth Scheuermann (who currently is undergoing physiotherapy at the Alameda Health and Wellness Center at 430 Willow St., Alameda); Eric Scheuermann.



Call News —The Rev. Matthew Hanel, pastor of St. Matthew Lutheran, Dallas, TX, has returned the Call to Redemption Lutheran, Lynnwood, WA. Resurrection Lutheran, Corpus Christi, TX, has called the Rev. Vance Fossum, pastor of Holy Trinity Lutheran, West Columbia SC.

Bay Area CLC Pastors are planning on getting together on Wednesday, 21 January, in Redwood City at 11:30 a.m.

Installation of Officers for 2015 – In this morning’s service, we are installing our officers for 2015. After the service, there will be a Church Council meeting at the parsonage; after lunch, the audit committee will meet.

#### Church Officers for 2015

President	Timothy Blank
Vice President/Head Elder	Don Luebke
Secretary–Treasurer	Jim Niblett
Financial Secretary	Roy Cameron
Board of Education	Roy Cameron
Mission Committee	Timothy Blank
Property Committee	Dr. Richard Colbert
Audit Committee	Timothy Blank & Roy Cameron

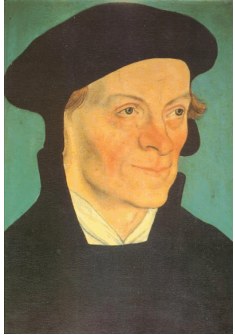
Ernst I “der Bekenner (the Confessor),” Duke of Braunschweig–Lüneburg, Reformer (26 June 1497 – 11 January 1546). Ernst was a nephew of Frederick the Wise, Elector of Saxony and the son of Heinrich I of Lüneburg, who united his principality with Braunschweig. In 1514 he was sent to his mother’s brother’s Court at Wittenberg and attended university there, coming under the influence of Luther and other reformers. In 1520, on account of administrative incompetence, Ernst’s father was deposed by the emperor, Charles V, and fled to France, and Ernst and his brother, Otto, became co-rulers; with the



retirement of Otto in 1527, Ernst became the sole ruler. Ernest moved slowly to implement the Reformation, but after Roman Catholics tried to reinstate his father in 1527, he became more committed. In July 1527 a Lutheran book of discipline (Church order) was introduced and between 1527 and 1530 Lutheran preachers were introduced in most parishes. In 1530 he signed the Augsburg Confession. During the Smalcald War his territory remained true to the Lutheran faith. He persuaded the northern German cities of Hamburg, Bremen, Brunswick, Göttingen and others to join the Smalcald League and also mediated disputes within the League in order to keep it together. In 1535 he founded a territorial court of justice based on Roman law and laid the foundation for territorial absolutism. His administrative reforms were bound up with his passion for religious reform. In 1528 in Schwerin, Ernst married Sophia, the daughter of Henry V, Duke of Mecklenburg–Schwerin and Ursula of Brandenburg; they had eight children who reached adulthood. His sons and grandsons signed the Book of Concord (1580). Ernst was a champion of the Lutheran cause.

Georg Spalatin, Reformer (17 January 1484 – 16 January 1543). Spalatin’s real name was Burckhardt and he was born at Spalt (near Nuremberg). He studied law and theology at Erfurt and Wittenberg, but quit his legal studies at Erfurt in 1505 to become a teacher in the cloister at Georgenthal. In 1507 he became pastor at Hohenkirchen and in 1508 was consecrated as a priest. In 1509 he became the tutor to Prince John Frederick, the son of Frederick the Wise of Saxony. From 1511 to 1516 he taught Princes Otto and Ernst of Brunswick–

Luenenberg at Wittenberg and in 1512 became the librarian of the Elector's castle library. From 1516 he became the most trusted counselor of Frederick the Wise (privy secretary, historiographer, father confessor, and court chaplain). He was particularly responsible for church and university affairs. It was this function that enabled him to give great assistance to



**Portrait of  
Spalatin in 1537 by  
Lucas Cranach the  
Elder**

the cause of Luther, whom he had come to know in 1513. He gained the Elector's good will for Luther, served as go-between, and always stood at Luther's side with his good counsel. The correspondence between him and Luther is extensive. As pastor of Altenberg, where he had been a member of the monastery chapter since 1511, he reformed city and monastery in 1525. From 1526 he participated in visitations which led to the introduction of the Reformation in the electorate of Saxony. Later he took

part in the visitation held in the duchy of Saxony. After Frederick's death in 1525, he served his successors in drafting the Augsburg Confession. The "Annals of Saxony" is his most important literary work. His translations of the Latin works of Luther, Erasmus, and Melanchthon became note-worthy. He died in Altenberg and is buried in the walls of the St. Bartholomew Church. (Source: The Encyclopedia of the Lutheran Church, N-Z [Minneapolis: Augsburg Publishing House, 1965]: 2244)