

St. Stephen Lutheran Church of the East Bay & Central Valley
(A Congregation of the Church of the Lutheran Confession)
www.ststephenclc.org

**Worshipping Every Sunday in the East Bay at 9 a.m. in
Grace Lutheran Church
1836 B St., Hayward, CA 94541-3140**

Worshipping in the Central Valley at 2 p.m. - 1st & 3rd Sundays of
the Month
Atria Senior Living - Bayside Landing - 1st Floor Activity Room
3318 Brookside Rd., Stockton, CA 95219

Pastor: Steven Karp
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Organist: Elizabeth Karp

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The Last Sunday After The Epiphany -
The Transfiguration of Our Lord - 25 January 2015 —
Page 32 in The Lutheran Hymnal

Hymn [insert] O Wondrous Type, O Vision Fair (stand for last stanza)

Matins page 32
The Invitatory page 33
The Venite pages 33-34

The Psalmody

The Lord's radiance is like the sunlight; He had rays
flashing from His hand,

And there is no hiding His power.

The Lord reigns; let the earth rejoice;

Let the many islands be glad.

Clouds and thick darkness surround Him;

**Righteousness and justice are the foundation of
His throne.**

The heavens declare His righteousness,

All the peoples have seen His glory.

He preserves the souls of His godly ones,

He delivers them from the hand of the wicked.

Light is sown like seed for the righteous,

And gladness for the upright in heart.

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

**For His merciful kindness is great toward us, and
the truth of the Lord endures forever. [sing: Glory
be to the Father ...]**

First Lesson

Exodus 3,1-15

Now Moses was pasturing the flock of Jethro his
father-in-law, the priest of Midian; and he led the flock to
the west side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the
mountain of God.² The Angel of the LORD appeared to him

in a blazing fire from the midst of a bush; and he looked, and behold, the bush was burning with fire, yet the bush was not consumed. ³ So Moses said, "I must turn aside now and see this marvelous sight, why the bush is not burned up." ⁴ When the LORD saw that he turned aside to look,



Paula Jordan

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God called to him from the midst of the bush and said, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." ⁵ Then He said, "Do not come near here; remove your sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is

holy ground." ⁶ He said also, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." Then Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

⁷ The LORD said, "I have surely seen the affliction of My people who are in Egypt, and have given heed to their cry because of their taskmasters, for I am aware of their sufferings. ⁸ So I have come down to deliver them from the power of the Egyptians, and to bring them up from that land to a good and spacious land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanite and the Hittite and the Amorite and the Perizzite and the Hivite and the Jebusite. ⁹ Now, behold, the cry of the sons of Israel has come to Me; furthermore, I have seen the oppression with which the Egyptians are oppressing them.

¹⁰ Therefore, come now, and I will send you to Pharaoh, so that you may bring My people, the sons of Israel, out of Egypt." ¹¹ But Moses said to God, "Who am

I, that I should go to Pharaoh, and that I should bring the sons of Israel out of Egypt?" ¹² And He said, "Certainly I will be with you, and this shall be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God at this mountain."

¹³ Then Moses said to God, "Behold, I am going to the sons of Israel, and I will say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you.' Now they may say to me, 'What is His name?' What shall I say to them?" ¹⁴ God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM"; and He said, "Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" ¹⁵ God, furthermore, said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, 'The LORD, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.' This is My name forever, and this is My memorial-name to all generations."

P] But Thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us.

C] **Thanks be to Thee, O Lord.**

Second Lesson

Matthew 17,1-9



And six days later Jesus took with Him Peter and James and John his brother, and brought them up to a high mountain by themselves. ² And He was transfigured before them; and His face shone like the sun, and His garments became white as light. ³ And behold,

Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Him. ⁴ And Peter answered and said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if You wish, I will make three tabernacles here, one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” ⁵ While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and behold, a voice out of the cloud, saying, “This is My beloved Son, with Whom I am well pleased; hear Him!” ⁶ And when the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces and were much afraid. ⁷ And Jesus came to them and touched them and said, “Arise, and do not be afraid.” ⁸ And lifting up their eyes, they saw no one, except Jesus Himself alone.

⁹ And as they were coming down from the mountain, Jesus commanded them, saying, “Tell the vision to no one until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.” [Scripture passages are from the *New American Standard Bible*, © The Lockman Foundation, used by permission]

P] But Thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us.

C] **Thanks be to Thee, O Lord.**

Hymn 40 The God Of Abraham Praise (stand for last stanza)

Sermon Text: Exodus 3,1-15

Sermon Theme: God Is The “I AM” – The Ever-Present God

- 1) God Calls Moses
- 2) God Tells Us Who He Is
- 3) God Calls His People To Himself

The Offering

The Te Deum Laudamus page 35-37

The Prayers [Morning Suffrages]

O Lord,
Have mercy upon us.

O Christ,
Have mercy upon us.

O Lord,
Have mercy upon us.

Confession Of Faith

**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 Ghost;
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 sitteth at the right hand of God the Father
Almighty;
From thence He shall come to judge the quick and
the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost;
The Holy Christian Church,
The communion of Saints;
The forgiveness of sins;
The resurrection of the body.
And the life everlasting. Amen.**

Unto Thee have I cried, O Lord:
**And in the morning shall my prayer come before
Thee.**

Let my mouth be filled with Thy praise:
And with Thine honor all the day.

O Lord, hide Thy face from my sins:
And blot out all mine iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God:

And renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from Thy presence:

And take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.

Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation:

And uphold me with Thy free Spirit.

Vouchsafe, O Lord, this day:

To keep us without sin.

Have mercy upon us, O Lord:

Have mercy upon us.

O Lord, let Thy mercy be upon us:

As our Trust is in Thee.

Hear my prayer, O Lord:

And let my cry come unto Thee.

Let us pray [special petitions, intercessions, or thanksgivings]

[Together we pray the morning prayer:] **We give thanks unto Thee, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Thy dear Son, That Thou hast kept us this night from all harm and danger; and we pray Thee that Thou wouldst keep us this day from sin and every evil, that all our doings and life may please Thee. For into Thy hands we commend ourselves, our bodies and souls, and all things. Let Thy holy angel be with us that the wicked Foe may have no power over us. Amen.**

The Kyrie [sung]

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

The 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.**

P] The Lord be with you.

C] **And with thy spirit.** [sung]

COLLECT: O God, in the glorious transfiguration of Your only-begotten Son, You once confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of the ancient fathers, and in the voice that came from the bright cloud You wondrously foreshadowed our adoption by grace. Therefore mercifully make us coheirs with our King of His glory, and bring us to the fulness of our inheritance in heaven; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, ever the one true God, world without end.

C] **Amen.** [sung]

P] Bless we the Lord.

C] **Thanks be to God.** [sung]

P] The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ (✠) and the Love of God and the Communion of the Holy Ghost be with you all.

C] **Amen.** [sung]

Hymn 135 'Tis Good Lord To Be Here

† † †

Lessons for 1 February — Septuagesima Sunday -

A Service with Holy Communion

Old Testament: Jeremiah 1,4-10

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 9,24-10,5

Gospel: Matthew 20,1-16

Weekly Scripture Verse: But the LORD will rise upon you, | And His glory will appear upon you. (Isaiah 60,2).

Today's Psalmody is based on selected verses from Psalms 66 and 145.

Bible Study – Hayward – no Bible Study on 28 January.
Stockton – Tuesday, 28 January, at 2 p.m.

Next Service in Stockton: Sunday, 1 February, at 2 p.m.

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 Karp's 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; she expects to be discharged this Tuesday); Eric Scheuermann.



Call News: Gethsemane Lutheran, Spokane Valley WA, has called Teacher Sara Pfeiffer of St. Stephen, Mountain View CA,

to be Principal and Teacher, as it reopens its school in the Fall. Redemption Lutheran, Lynnwood, WA, has called the Rev. David Pfeiffer, pastor of Ascension Lutheran, Batavia, IL. St. John's Lutheran, Clarkston, WA, has named its newly-opened school "Valley Bible Academy – St. John Lutheran," and has called Desirae Naumann, a member of the congregation, to its faculty. Calvary Lutheran, Marquette, MI, has called the Rev. Richard Kanzenbach, pastor of Morning Star Lutheran, Fairchild, WI, and Peace with God Lutheran, Onalaska, WI. Grace Lutheran, Valentine, NE, has called Candice Ohlmann of Faith Lutheran, Markesan, WI, to serve as principal and teacher of Grace Lutheran School which is set to reopen this fall. PULPIT VACANCIES: Mt. Olive, Lamar, CO; Calvary, Marquette, MI; Redemption, Lynnwood, WA; Grace. Fairbanks, AK; Resurrection, Corpus Christi, TX; Shepherd of the Valley, Weslaco, TX; Resurrection, Calgary, AB, Canada.

CLC Board of Missions Visitation to Myanmar – Missionary David Koenig (part-time visiting missionary to Myanmar) and Pastor Todd Ohlmann (CLC Board of Missions Chairman) will be working with the leaders and several pastors of our sister church-bodies in Myanmar from January 27–February 10. Plans are to conduct pastoral training seminars in two different locations and to visit as many congregations as possible while they are there. Please keep this visitation and teaching trip in your prayers. You can follow the trip blog at: <http://2015-clc-myanmar-visit.blogspot.com/>

Conversion of St. Paul (25 January). St. Paul's life-changing experience on the road to Damascus is told three times in the

Book of Acts (9,1-9; 22,6-11; 26,12-18). He had been an enemy of the early Christians and as Saul of Tarsus set out from Jerusalem to Damascus to arrest those whom he found



to be Christians and bring them back to Jerusalem for trial. Outside of Damascus he was overwhelmed by a blinding light and heard the words, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?” Saul asked,

“Who are You, Lord?” The

Lord’s reply was, “I am Jesus, Whom you are persecuting!” After having been blinded by the light, Saul was brought to Damascus, where the Lord told a disciple, Ananias, to go to Saul to restore his sight. Ananias was told, “Go, for he is a chosen instrument of Mine to carry My name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel” (Acts 9,15). After receiving his sight, Saul was baptized and went on to become known as Paul, the great apostle. (Source: Scott A. Kinnaman, ed., Treasury of Daily Prayer [St. Louis, CPH, 2008]: 1151-52).

Johann Matthäus Meyfart, Lutheran Theologian, Educator & Hymn Writer (9 November 1590 – 26 January 1642). Meyfart, the son of a Lutheran pastor, was born in Jena and died in Erfurt. Even though he began his theological studies at the University of Wittenberg, illness caused him to finish at the University of Jena. In 1617 he became a professor at the Gymnasium in Coburg and in 1623 became rector. He became a Doctor of Theology in 1624. In the same year he married Barbara Rösling, the daughter of the city secretary; she died in

1635 and in 1637 he married again. In 1633 he became professor of theology at the Lutheran university in Erfurt. He worked throughout the Thirty Years War. With the Peace of Prague in 1635 he lost his professorship and became a parish



Johann Matthäus Meyfart
Professor und Doktor der Theologie

pastor. When Swedish troops reconquered Erfurt in 1636, however, he retained his parish but was appointed as a senior theological minister at the university but without pay since the university had run out of money. From 1635-40 plague struck Erfurt and over half the inhabitants died; he ministered to the sick and dying.

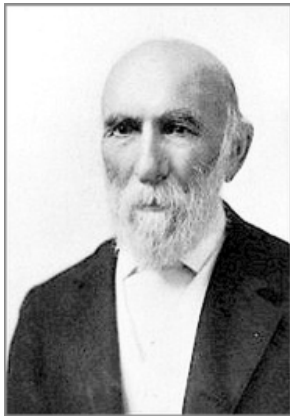
In his writings, he supported reforms in the Church and school.

He also denounced the practice of witch trials (probably a good thing, since most of those then accused of “witchcraft” today would be seen as herbalists and the like). He also wrote devotional works and, although an orthodox Lutheran, is considered to be a precursor of pietism. Today Meycraft is best remembered for his hymn, “Jerusalem, Thou City Fair and High” (619 in TLH).

Matthias Loy, American Lutheran Theologian (17 March 1828-26 January 1915). Loy was the fourth of seven children born to Matthias and Christina Loy, who were German immigrants and lived in poverty near Harrisburg, PA. Loy’s mother was Lutheran and raised the children in her faith. At age 14, Loy was apprenticed to a printer and for the next six

years worked for the printer and also took classes at the Harrisburg Academy. While there a Lutheran pastor urged him to prepare for the ministry, and so Loy took Latin and Greek and intended to enroll at the Lutheran seminary in Gettysburg, PA – which was also the epicenter of liberalism. Before he could enroll, Loy became ill and his doctor advised him to move West. Loy now moved to Circleville, OH, and became the printer for the Brethren's semimonthly German newspaper. A Lutheran pastor urged Loy prepare for the ministry by enrolling in the Ohio Synod's seminary in Columbus, OH; this seminary was conservative and confessional. Loy enrolled and after an intensive two year course of study graduated in 1849 and was installed as a pastor in Delaware, OH.

In 1860, the Joint Synod of Ohio elected Loy President. Four years later, he was appointed editor of the Lutheran



Standard. After sixteen years in the ministry, Capital University, Columbus, Ohio called Loy as professor of theology. He resigned as president of the Ohio Synod in 1878. Around this time he also returned the call to become English-language professor of theology at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. Wilhelm Friedrich Lehmann, Loy's successor as synodical president, died

in 1880 and Loy returned to that office, succeeding him also as President of Capital University. He started the Columbus Theological Magazine in 1881. Loy retired as professor emeritus in 1902 and died on 26 January 1915.

Matthias Loy was finally surrounded by orthodox

Lutheran theology and he made the most of his time at the seminary. As a student, he had begun reading *Der Lutheraner*, edited by C.F.W. Walther. This led to a long relationship with Walther, a friendship that grew so great that even their eventual disagreements over predestination and the fracturing of the Synodical Conference could not destroy.

Loy was instrumental in the formation of the Synodical Conference. However, at the Ohio Synod meeting at Wheeling in 1881, the synod withdrew from the Conference. This came about over sharp differences in understanding Predestination. Many Ohio Synod pastors taught that God predestined people according to His foreknowledge of whether they would come to faith while the Missouri Synod condemned this as false doctrine.

According to Loy's biographer, in the nineteenth century there were three individuals who were fundamental in preserving traditional Lutheran theology from the corrosive acids of modernity – C.F.W. Walther in the West, Charles Porterfield Krauth in the East, and Loy in the middle. These three could be compared to three anchors holding fast the ship of Lutheran Confessionalism during the ferocious storms of the Modernist-Fundamentalist Controversy.

During his life, Loy wrote several books. Of special note is his seminal work *The Augsburg Confession: An Introduction to Its Study and an Exposition of Its Contents*.

He also wrote at least twenty hymns, including *An Awe-full Mystery Is Here*, *The Law of God Is Good and Wise*, *The Gospel Shows the Father's Grace*, and *Jesus, Thou Art Mine Forever*. His hymn translations included: *All Mankind Fell in Adam's Fall*, *The Bridegroom Soon Will Call Us*, *Let Me Be*

Thine Forever, and Thy Table I Approach. [somewhat abridged
from Aardvark Alley Blog, which in turn reprinted this from a
biography from The Springfielder, October 1974, Volume 38,
Number 4]

O Wondrous Type! O Vision Fair

Latin, 15th century

Translated: J. M. Neale (1818-66)

Tune: Deo Gracias, LM

O Wondrous Type! O Vision Fair
Of glory that the Church may share,
Which Christ upon the mountain shows,
Where brighter than the sun He glows!

With Moses and Elijah nigh
The incarnate Lord holds converse high;
And From the cloud the Holy One
Bears record to the only Son.

With shining face and bright array
Christ deigns to manifest today
What glory shall be theirs above
Who trust in His atoning love.

And faithful hearts are raised on high
By this great vision's mystery;
For which in joyful strains we raise
The voice of prayer, the hymns of praise.

O Father, with the eternal Son,
And Holy Spirit, ever One,
We pray Thee, bring us by Thy grace
To see Thy glory face to face.