

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. at
Grace Lutheran Church
1836 B St., Hayward, CA 94541-3140**

Worshiping 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

21290 Birch St. - Hayward, CA 94541-1538

Phone: (510) 581-6637; e-mail: se-karp@sbcglobal.net

Organist: Elizabeth Karp

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Cantate – The Fourth Sunday After Easter – 3 May 2015 –

A Service with Holy Communion

(Visitors should speak with the Pastor before communing)

Liturgy — Page 15 in The Lutheran Hymnal

HYMNS: 188 Hallelujah! Jesus Lives! (1-4)

226 Come, Oh Come, Thou Quickening Spirit (1-5 & 6-9)

30 Oh, That I Had A Thousand Voices (1-2 & 5-6)

Sermon Text: John 16,5-16

Sermon Theme: Good Help Is Hard To Find

1. Jesus' Promise
2. God's Prosecutor
3. Our Helper

INTROIT: O sing unto the Lord a new song: for He has done marvelous things. The Lord has made known His salvation: His righteousness has He openly showed in the sight of the heathen. His right hand and His holy arm: have gotten Him the victory. **Glory be to the Father ...**

COLLECT: O God, Who makes the minds of the faithful to be of one will, grant unto Your people that they may love what You command and desire what You promise, that among the manifold changes of this world our hearts may there be fixed where true joys are to be found; 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. **Amen.**

Old Testament

Isaiah 12,1-6

Then you will say on that day,
“I will give thanks to You, O LORD;
For although You were angry with me,
Your anger is turned away,
And You comfort me.

² Behold, God is my salvation,
I will trust and not be afraid;
For the LORD GOD is my strength and song,
And He has become my salvation.”

³ Therefore you will joyously draw water
 From the springs of salvation.
⁴ And in that day you will say,
 “Give thanks to the LORD, call upon His name.
 Make known His deeds among the peoples;
 Make them remember that His name is exalted.
⁵ Praise the LORD in song, for He has done excellent
 things;
 Let this be known throughout the earth.
⁶ Cry aloud and shout for joy, O inhabitant of Zion,
 For great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.”

Epistle James 1,16–21

Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren. ¹⁷ Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow. ¹⁸ In the exercise of His will He brought us forth by the Word of Truth, so that we would be a kind of first fruits among His creatures.

¹⁹ *This* you know, my beloved brethren. But everyone must be quick to hear, slow to speak *and* slow to anger; ²⁰ for the anger of man does not achieve the righteousness of God. ²¹ Therefore, putting aside all filthiness and *all* that remains of wickedness, in humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls.

GRADUAL

O sing to the LORD a new song,

For He has done wonderful things.

The LORD has made known His salvation;

He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of

the nations.

Shout joyfully to the LORD, all the earth;

Break forth and sing for joy and sing praises.

Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre;

Sing with the lyre and the sound of melody.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn

shout joyfully to the King, the LORD.

I shall lift up the cup of salvation,

And call upon the name of the LORD. [sing: triple Hallelujah]

The Holy Gospel

John 16,5–16

Response: Glory be to Thee, O Lord!

[Jesus said to His disciples:] “But now I am going to Him Who sent Me; and none of you asks Me, ‘Where are You going?’ ⁶ But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. ⁷ But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away,



the Helper shall not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you. ⁸ And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin, and

righteousness, and judgment; ⁹ concerning sin, because they do not believe in Me; ¹⁰ and concerning righteousness,

because I go to the Father, and you no longer behold Me;
¹¹ and concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world
has been judged. ¹² I have many more things to say to you,
but you cannot bear them now. ¹³ But when He, the Spirit
of Truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He
will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears,
He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come.
¹⁴ He shall glorify Me; for He shall take of Mine, and shall
disclose it to you. ¹⁵ All things that the Father has are Mine;
therefore I said, that He takes of Mine, and will disclose it
to you.” [Scripture passages are 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 10 May – Rogate – The Fifth Sunday after
Easter

Old Testament: Jeremiah 29,11-14
Epistle: James 1,22-27
Gospel: John 16,23-30


Weekly Scripture Verse: O sing to the LORD a new song, | For
He has done wonderful things. (Psalm 98,1).

Cantate means “O sing [unto the Lord]” and comes from the
Latin version of the Introit and Gradual, which are based on
verses from Psalm 98.

Next Service in Stockton: Today, at 2 p.m.

Bible Study – Hayward – Tuesday, 5 May, at 2 p.m.
Stockton – Tuesday, 26 May, at 2 p.m.

Education Hour Brunch – Israel – the Royal Tour. After the
service in Hayward on Sunday 10 we will be showing a DVD on
Israel – The Royal Tour, which is narrated by Benjamin
Netanyahu and Daniel Greenberg. We will use one of the
rooms in the Parish hall at Grace. We plan on providing
refreshments and if you can help there is a sign-up sheet in
the narthex.

ILL In your prayers, please remember Nancy, Roy and his
brother Gerald; Cindy Hartman (Pr. Jay Hartman's wife); Jean
Niblett; Marlene Clappier; Don Luebke, and Rose,
 one of his care givers; Sue (the Karp's neighbor who
is undergoing chemotherapy), Sue (Carolyn's friend),
Don Drews; Richard Hocker; Ruth Scheuermann;
James Sandeen; the Breeden twins, Chloe and Dagny.

Call News: Teacher Sherman Carstensen of Trinity Lutheran,
Watertown, SD, has accepted the Call to be grades 3-5 teacher
and principal at Faith Lutheran school at Markesan, WI. Trinity
Lutheran, Watertown, and Zion Lutheran, Hidewood Twp., SD,
have called the Rev. Paul Krause, pastor of Faith Lutheran,
Markesan, WI. They have called the Rev. Daniel Fleischer,
emeritus, to serve during the pastoral vacancy and he has
accepted the Call. Messiah Lutheran, Eau Claire, WI, has called
Miss Naomi Bernthal of Eau Claire to teach the 2nd-3rd grade
level at Messiah School. Miss Bernthal is a 2014 graduate of
ILC's teacher training department. Gethsemane Lutheran,

Spokane Valley, WA, has called Teacher Quinn Sprengeler of Redemption Lutheran, Lynnwood, WA.

A Message from Pr. Todd Ohlmann: We just wanted to let everyone know that the ILC Seminary faculty has made arrangements to allow Raju Bhitrakoti, who is from Nepal, to graduate early. They will present Raju with his diploma on Monday, May 4th. This will allow him to return to Nepal three weeks earlier than scheduled so that he can be there to offer much needed help and leadership with the earthquake relief efforts.

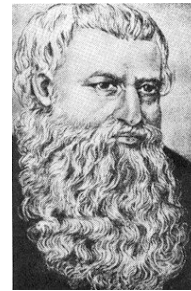
Monday will be Raju's final day on campus. He will leave after morning chapel.

Many will be sad to see him go...but we're also very thankful that the Lord will put his training to work in the harvest fields of Nepal. There is much to be done during these times of trial where he will work alongside his and our brothers and sisters in Christ to bring aid and comfort to those who are suffering.

Handout – An Insert Regarding Nepal Relief. Those who wish to donate can do so through our church or one can remit funds directly to the CLC and indicate that this is for Nepal Relief; CLC, 501 Grover Rd., Eau Claire, WI 54701-7134.

Nikolaus Hermann (c. 1480-3 May 1561). It is not known where he was born, but from 1518 on he lived and worked in Joachimsthal in Bohemia, just over the mountains from Saxony. He was the Master of the Latin School and Cantor or Organist. His hymns were written in large part for the boys

and girls in the schools and were designed to replace the profane songs they were learning. Many of his hymns are the best known of the reformation era. He wrote the lyrics for some in The Lutheran Hymnal: 105, Praise God the Lord, Ye Sons of Men; 331, Yea, as I Live, Jehovah Saith; 547, The Radiant Sun Shines in the Skies; 563, The Sun's Last Beam of Light is Gone; and, 594, When My Last Hour Is Close at Hand. He also wrote the melodies for other hymns in our hymnal.

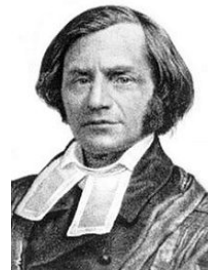


Michael Schirmer (18 July 1606 – 4 May 1673). He was a German Lutheran Pastor, Teacher and hymn writer. He was



born and studied in Leipzig and later served as a Pastor in Berlin. Until forced to retire because of ill health in 1668, from 1637 he was assistant rector at the Greyfriars Gymnasium. He was a life-long friend of Paul Gerhardt and supported Gerhardt's advocacy of orthodox Lutheranism. He wrote "O Holy Spirit, Enter In" (TLH 235).

Friedrich Conrad Dietrich Wyneken, Seminary President and President of the Missouri Synod (13 May 1810 – 4 May 1876) Friedrich Conrad Dietrich Wyneken stands along-side C.F.W. Walther and Wilhelm Sihler as one of the founding fathers of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod. He was born to Pastor Heinrich Christoph and Anne Catharine



Louise Wyneken on 13 May 1810 and baptized 22 May in St. Andreas Church, Verden, Kingdom of Hannover, Germany.

Wyneken came to Baltimore in 1838 and shortly thereafter accepted a call to be the pastor of congregations in Friedheim and Fort Wayne, Indiana. Supported by the mission society of Wilhelm Loehe's, he served as an itinerant missionary in Indiana, Ohio, and Michigan, particularly among Native Americans.

Together with Loehe and Sihler, Wyneken founded Concordia Theological Seminary in 1846 in Fort Wayne, Ind. He later served as the second president of the LCMS during a period of significant growth (1850–64). His leadership strongly influenced the confessional character of the LCMS and its commitment to an authentic Lutheran witness. He was relieved of the presidency because of ill-health and became an assistant to his son at Trinity Church in Cleveland, OH. He retired in 1875 and moved to San Francisco, where he died.

Godehard of Hildessheim, Monk and Bishop of Hildessheim (ca. 960–5 May 1038). Gotthard, or Godehard, was



born in the diocese of Passau and his father was a farmer on the grounds of Niederaltaich Abbey, where Gotthard was educated. After completing his studies, he moved to the episcopal court in Salzburgh, where he was an ecclesiastical administrator. He completed his studies in Passau and then in 990 he entered the monastery of Niederaltaich and by 996 was elected Abbot. In

1004 Emperor Henry I enlisted Gotthard to reform many of the monasteries in Upper Germany, a task at which he

was quite successful. In 1022, Emperor Henry II appointed Gotthard Bishop of Hildesheim. As Bishop in Hildesheim, he stressed learning and literacy and built more than 30 churches. He helped revise the Order of St. Benedict. It is said that the famous Gotthard Pass in the Alps takes its name from a former chapel on the summit which was dedicated to him. His successors pushed for his canonization, which occurred in 1131.

Frederick III the Wise, Elector of Saxony (17 January 1463–5 May AD 1525). Frederick the Wise, elector of Saxony from 1486 to 1525, was Martin Luther's sovereign in the early years of the Reformation. Indeed, were it not for Frederick, there might not have been a Lutheran Reformation. Born in Torgau in 1463, he became so well known for his skill in political diplomacy and his sense of justice and fairness that he was called "the Wise" by his subjects.

Though he probably never met Luther face-to-face, Frederick repeatedly protected and provided for him. In all likelihood he saved the reformer from a martyr's fate. Even in earlier days, Frederick unknowingly contributed to the Reformation, for in 1512, Vicar-General Johannes von Staupitz of the Augustinian Order came to the Elector, asking him to subsidize the expenses of the promising but poor scholar-monk as a means of strengthening Frederick's prized university in Wittenberg, a university which he founded.

Frederick was Pope Leo X's candidate for Holy Roman Emperor in 1519 — the pope had awarded him the Golden Rose of virtue on 3 September 1518 — but he helped secure the election of Charles V. Frederick ensured Luther would be

heard before the Diet of Worms in 1521 and subsequently secured an exemption from the Edict of Worms for Saxony.

While he never made public renunciation of Roman Catholicism, Frederick refused the pope's demand to extradite Luther to Rome for a heresy trial in 1518. When Emperor Charles V declared Luther an outlaw in 1521 at the Diet of Worms, Frederick provided sanctuary for Luther at the Wartburg castle.



Finally, at the end of his life, the elector gave the clearest indication of his beliefs and sympathies. On his deathbed, Frederick received the Lord's Supper in both kinds — a clear confession of the Evangelical faith.

Frederick received great encouragement in his support of Luther and the Evangelical Reformation from his brother John, who wholeheartedly embraced the Reformation in its early years. Upon Frederick's death and since Frederick had never married, Duke John became Elector of Saxony. John's nickname was "the Steadfast" — indicating how he continued his brother's protection and encouragement of the Reformation.

Frederick's life illustrates many of the rapid changes sweeping across Europe during the Renaissance and Reformation. He went from being a collector and venerator of relics (his collection exceeded 19,000 relics!) — and a believer in meritorious human works — to one who trusted in God's salvation given by grace through faith in Christ. (Source:

mostly Aardvark Alley).

Julian of Norwich, English Mystic (ca. 1342–8 May 1414). Little is known about her life save that she probably lived as an anchoress outside the walls of St. Julian's Church, Norwich,



England (an anchoress would be a female hermit). She is known for her book, *The Sixteen Revelations of Divine Love*. She said that she had these revelations when she was about 30 years of age and then meditated on them for the next 20 years before putting her thoughts in writing. There is both a short version and a long version of the *Sixteen Revelations*. While she described herself as "simple and

unlettered,' it is obvious that she was influenced by other mystical writings such as *The Cloud of Unknowing*; which says that the cloud which separates man and God is only pierced by the dart of God's love. Her writings emphasize the all-encompassing embrace of God's love, downplaying wrath and sin and at times verging on universalism. She depicted God as both our Father and Mother. She is probably the first woman to write a book in English. She is venerated in the Anglican Church on 8 May. In the Roman Church she is venerated on 18 May, but has never been canonized .

C.F.W. Walther (25 October 1811– 7 May 1887). Walther was the preeminent Lutheran theologian of the nineteenth century. He was born and educated in Germany and came to America (Perry County, Missouri – south of St. Louis) in 1839 as part of

a group of Saxon refugees from the rationalism that prevailed in the Saxon Church. In 1847, along with other Lutheran pastors, he organized what became known as the Lutheran



Church–Missouri Synod. He was a Professor at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, and also served as President of the LC–MS (1847–50; 1864–78). He worked tirelessly for the promotion of Confessional Lutheranism in North America. His best known written work is *The Proper Distinction Between Law and Gospel*. He loved music and was an

accomplished musician and one of his hymns is in our hymnal: 195, *He's Risen, He's Risen, Christ Jesus the Lord*.

Zinzendorf, Nikolaus Ludwig, Count von (26 May 1700 – 9 May 1760). Zinzendorf was born in Dresden and educated at



Halle and Wittenberg. At Halle he was strongly influenced by Pietism and at Wittenberg he was repelled by what he perceived to be dead orthodoxy and rejected the Lutheran Church. In 1722, he settled refugee Moravians at his estate of Berthelsdorf; the colony was called Herrnhut (the Lord's Shelter) and is the birthplace of the Moravian Church.

In 1736, he was expelled from Saxony for thirteen years on charges of preaching false doctrine. He spent this time in preaching and traveling from St. Petersburg to the West Indies. He planted Moravian missions in America and founded settlements of the Brethren in Germany, Holland, England, and

Scotland; Bethlehem, PA, was founded by Moravian missionaries. His later years were spent in Herrnhut. In 1737 he was consecrated as a bishop in Berlin. He spent his whole fortune in support of the Church and died a poor man, he wrote over 2,000 hymns, some of them good, but most of little merit, and many which were excessive in their emotionalism. Two of his hymns are in *The Lutheran Hymnal*: 371 (*Jesus, Thy Blood And Righteousness*) and 416 (*Jesus, Lead Thou On*). (From: Pollack, *Handbook to the Lutheran Hymnal*, 603)

Holy Communion

Concerning Holy Communion, we believe, teach and confess that:

- a. in, with, and under the bread Jesus gives us His true Body;
- b. in, with, and under the wine Jesus gives us His true Blood;
- c. whoever receives Holy Communion, receives it either for salvation or for judgment;
- d. whoever believes the words, “given and shed for you...”, receives the Body and Blood of Christ for salvation;
- e. whoever does not believe the words, “given and shed for you...”, receives the Body and Blood of Christ to judgment;
- f. out of a pastoral concern for your soul, we ask that visitors speak with the pastor before receiving Holy Communion.



We practice Close Communion. We welcome those to the Lord's Supper who are baptized and confirmed members in good standing of our congregation and sister congregations within the Church of the Lutheran Confession. This reflects the practice of the ancient and apostolic church which opened the Lord's Table only to those who had been baptized and publicly confessed doctrinal agreement with all that Christ had commanded. If you are a visitor and would like to learn more about what we teach, please speak with Pastor Karp.