

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

+++



The Second Sunday After Trinity – 14 June 2015
Liturgy — Page 5 in The Lutheran Hymnal

HYMNS: 404 Soul, What Return Has God Thy Savior?
442 Lord Of Glory, Who Hast Bought Us
279 Today Thy Mercy Calls Us

Sermon Text: 1 John 3,11-18
Sermon Theme: Loving In Deed And In Truth
1. Cain And The World Hate
2. Jesus Overcame Hatred With Sacrificial Love
3. In Christ We Love In Deed And In Truth

INTROIT: The Lord was my Stay: He brought me forth also into a large place. He delivered me: because He delighted in me. I will love You, O Lord, my Strength: the Lord is my Rock and my Fortress. **Glory be to the Father ...**

COLLECT: O Lord God, heavenly Father: You are merciful, and through Christ promised us that You will neither judge nor condemn us, but graciously forgive us all our sins, and abundantly provide for all our wants of body and soul: We pray that by Your Holy Spirit You would establish in our hearts a confident faith in Your mercy, and teach us also to be merciful to our neighbor, that we may not judge or condemn others, but willingly forgive all, and, judging only ourselves, lead blessed lives in Your fear; 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 55,1-5

[Thus says the LORD:]

“Ho! Every one who thirsts, come to the waters;
And you who have no money come, buy and eat.
Come, buy wine and milk
Without money and without cost.

2 Why do you spend money for what is not bread,
 And your wages for what does not satisfy?
 Listen carefully to Me, and eat what is good,
 And delight yourself in abundance.

3 Incline your ear and come to Me.
 Listen, that you may live;
 And I will make an everlasting covenant with you,
 According to the faithful mercies shown to David.

4 Behold, I have made him a witness to the peoples,
 A leader and commander for the peoples.

5 Behold, you will call a nation you do not know,
 And a nation which knows you not will run to you,
 Because of the LORD your God, even the Holy One
 of Israel;
 For He has glorified you.”

Epistle

1 John 3,11-18

For this is the message which you have heard from
 the beginning, that we should love one
 another; ¹² not as Cain, *who* was of the
 evil one and slew
 his brother. And
 for what reason did
 he slay him?
 Because his deeds
 were evil, and his
 brother's were righteous.



¹³ Do not be surprised,
 brethren, if the world hates you. ¹⁴
 We know that we have passed out of
 death into life, because we love the
 brethren. He who does not love abides in death. ¹⁵ Everyone



who hates his brother is a murderer; and you know that no
 murderer has eternal life abiding in him. ¹⁶ We know love
 by this, that He laid down His life for us; and we ought to
 lay down our lives for the brethren. ¹⁷ But whoever has the
 world's goods, and sees his brother in need and closes his
 heart against him, how does the love of God abide in him?
¹⁸ Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue,
 but in deed and truth.

GRADUAL

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
For they shall be satisfied.
 Your steadfast love, O LORD, extends to the heavens,
Your faithfulness reaches to the skies.
 Your righteousness is like mighty mountains;
Your judgments are like a great deep.
 How precious is Your steadfast love, O God!
**And the children of men take refuge in the
 shadow of Your wings.**
 They drink their fill of the abundance of Your house;
**And You give them to drink of the river of Your
 delights.**
 For with You is the fountain of life,
In Your light we see light.
 O Lord, deal with Your servant according to Your mercy
 and teach me Your statutes.
**I am Your servant, give me understanding that I
 may know Your testimonies.** [sing: triple Hallelujah]

The Holy Gospel

Luke 14,15-24

Response: Glory be to Thee, O Lord!

And when one of those who were reclining at table with Jesus heard this, he said to Him: "Blessed is everyone who shall eat bread in the kingdom of God!"¹⁶ But Jesus



said to him, "A certain man was giving a big dinner, and he invited many;¹⁷ and at the dinner hour, he sent his slave to say to those who had been invited, 'Come, for everything is ready now.'¹⁸ But they all alike began to make excuses. The first one said to him, 'I have bought a piece of land and I need to go out and look at it; please consider

me excused.'¹⁹ And another one said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to try them out; please consider me excused.'²⁰ And another one said, 'I have married a wife, and for that reason I cannot come.'²¹ And



the slave came back and reported this to his master. Then the head of the household became angry and said to his slave, 'Go out at once into

the streets and lanes of the city and bring in here the poor and the crippled and the blind and the lame.'²² And the slave said, 'Master, what you commanded has been done, and there is still room.'²³ And the master said to the slave,

'Go out into the highways along the hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.'²⁴ For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste of my dinner.'

[Scripture passage are from the *New American Standard Bible*, © The Lockman Foundation, used by permission]

Response: Praise be to Thee, O Christ!

† † †

Lessons for 21 July - The Third Sunday After Trinity

Old Testament: Micah 7,18-20
Epistle: 1 Peter 5,6-11
The Holy Gospel: Luke 15,1-10

Weekly Scripture Verse: Jesus says: "Come unto Me, all who are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11,28).

Today's Gradual is based on selected verses from Matthew 5 and Psalm 36.

Service in Stockton: Sunday, 21 June, at 2 p.m.

Bible Study. Hayward - June 16, at 2 p.m.

Stockton - June 23, at 2 p.m.

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 Karps' neighbor who is undergoing chemotherapy), Sue (Carolyn's friend), Don Drews; Richard Hocker; Ruth Scheuermann; James Sandeen; the Breeden twins, Chloe and Dagny; Pr. Doug Priestap (Calgary).

Call News. 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. Immanuel Lutheran, Mankato, MN, has called Mr. Matthew Kranz, Eau Claire, WI, to serve as 5th and 6th grade teacher beginning in the Fall 2015. Faith Lutheran Church, Markesan, WI, has called Pastor Michael Schierenbeck. Faith has also called two half-time teachers for one year: Marie Muehlenhaupt and Barry Hay; Teacher Hay has accepted. Collette Krause, Markesan, WI, has the Call to teach at Trinity Lutheran school, Watertown, SD. PULPIT VACANCIES: Mt. Olive, Lamar, CO; Grace, Fairbanks, AK; Shepherd of the Valley, Weslaco, TX; Resurrection, Calgary, AB; 2nd Foreign Missionary.

Council Meeting on Sunday, 28 June, after the morning service in Hayward.

CLC General Pastoral Conference will meet in Eau Claire, WI, from Tuesday–Thursday of this week. The topics to be discussed are listed in the June Lutheran Spokesman. We pray God would watch over all those attending and grant them a safe journey and also watch over their discussions.

Cruise the Bay on the USS Potomac. Roy Cameron is

organizing a church outing for a two hour cruise of San Francisco Bay on FDR's former presidential yacht, the USS Potomac, on Saturday, 11 July, beginning at 9:30 a.m. The cost would be \$35 for children (3–12), \$50 for seniors and \$55



for others. The place to meet would be 540 Water St., Oakland (near Jack London Square). If you are interested, please log onto the USS Potomac web site and follow the directions to order tickets on Ticket Web; if you'd like to go but do not have web access, Pastor Karp can make the reservations for you.

Johannes Tauler, German Mystic (cs. 1300 – 16 June 1361). Tauler was born to prosperous middle-class parents in Strassburg and in 1315 entered the Dominican monastery



there; where he studied with Meister Eckart, another mystic, who was professor of theology. From 1338–1343 Tauler was in Basel, where he came into contact with “the Friend of God,” a pietistic, mystical fellowship. From them, it seems, he came close to advocating a pantheistic view that saw God in every person. Tauler is best known for his sermons, in which he set forth the path for a mystical union with God which then would be expressed in a life of suffering and sacrificial service to others as one abandons one's will to God's. In 1348, when plague struck Strassburg, he was one of the few who remained to comfort the stricken. Tauler's sermon books became influential throughout Germany and Luther drew inspiration

from them; Luther did not agree with the mysticism but rather looked to them to help better understand the dependence we have on God and His mercy.

Johann Franck, Lawyer & Hymn Writer (1 June 1618–18 June 1677). Franck's father was also a lawyer in Guben, Brandenburg, but died in 1620; Franck was then adopted by his uncle, who was the town judge. In 1638 Franck began his



study of law at the University of Königsberg, which was untouched by the Thirty Years' War. He was a pious student who apparently did not join in the excesses of student life. Heinrich Held, a pious and prominent professor of poetry, guided Franck's poetic talents. Upon his mother's request, Franck returned to Guben in 1640 as the town was frequently occupied by Saxon and

Swedish troops. In 1645, Franck began to practice law and soon became known for his legal ability as well as his poetic ability. In 1648, he was elected burgess and counselor and in 1661 mayor. In 1671 he was appointed deputy from Guben to the Landtag (parliament) of Lower Lusatia. In 1674, his hymns were published in Guben as Geistliches Sion. Franck is ranked next to Paul Gerhardt as a hymn-writer of his period. Of his 110 hymns, which are more subjective than Gerhardt's, most are still in use. Franck marks the transition from the objective form of church song prevalent in his time, to the more individual and mystical type. His main idea is the union of the soul with its Savior. Hymns of his in The Lutheran Hymnal are: Thou Light of Gentile Nations (138); Soul, Adorn Thyself With

Gladness (305); Lord, To Thee I Make Confession (326); Jesus, priceless Treasure (347). (Source: Pollock, ed., Handbook to the Lutheran Hymnal).

A Reading from the Book of Concord
Formula of Concord, Solid Declaration
Article III – The Righteousness of Faith Before God

¹⁴ Love is a fruit which certainly and necessarily follows true faith. For if person does not love, this indicates that he has again lost the righteousness of faith, as St. John says (1 John 3,14). But when St. Paul says, "We are justified by faith apart from works" (Romans 3,28), he indicates thereby that neither the preceding contrition nor the subsequent works belong in the article or matter of justification by faith. For good works do not precede justification; rather they follow it, since a person must first be righteous before he can do any good works.