

**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. - 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

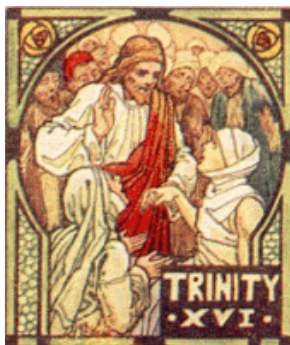
**Pastor: Steven Karp**

21290 Birch St. - Hayward, CA 94541-1538

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

**Organist: Elizabeth Karp**

+++



**The Sixteenth Sunday After Trinity – 20 September 2015**

Liturgy — Page 5 in The Lutheran Hymnal

HYMNS: 345 Jesus Lover Of My Soul (1 & 4-5)  
522 When In The Hour Of Utmost Need (1-4 & 5-7)  
519 Beloved, "It Is Well!"

Sermon Text: Deuteronomy 32,34-43

Sermon Theme: God Speaks Words Of Death And Life

1. God's Word Of Judgment On Sin Means Death
2. God's Word Of Life In Jesus

**INTROIT:** Bow down Your ear, O Lord, hear me: O my God,  
save Your servant who trusts in You. Be merciful to me, O  
Lord: for I cry unto You daily. Rejoice the soul of Your  
servant: for unto You, O Lord, do I lift up my soul. **Glory  
be to the Father ...**

**COLLECT:** O Lord God, heavenly Father, You sent Your Son  
to be made flesh, that by His death He might atone for our  
sins and deliver us from eternal death: We pray, confirm in  
our hearts that hope that our Lord Jesus Christ, Who with  
but a Word raised the widow's son, in like manner will  
raise us on the Last Day and grant us eternal life; 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

Deuteronomy 32,34-43

[Then Moses spoke in the hearing of all the people of the  
assembly of Israel the words of this song:]

[Then the LORD said:] Is it not laid up in store with  
Me,

Sealed up in My treasuries?

<sup>35</sup> Vengeance is Mine, and retribution,  
In due time their foot will slip;  
For the day of their calamity is near,  
And the impending things are hastening upon them.

<sup>36</sup> For the LORD will vindicate His people,  
And will have compassion on His servants;

When He sees that their strength is gone,  
And there is none remaining, bond or free.  
37 And He will say, "Where are their gods,  
The rock in which they sought refuge?  
38 Who ate the fat of their sacrifices,  
And drank the wine of their libation?  
Let them rise up and help you,  
Let them be your hiding place!  
39 See now that I, I am He,  
And there is no god beside Me;  
It is I who put to death and give life.  
I have wounded, and it is I who heal;  
And there is no one who can deliver from My hand.  
40 Indeed, I lift up my hand to heaven,  
and say, as I live forever,  
41 If I fashion My flashing sword,  
And My hand takes hold of justice,  
I will render vengeance on My adversaries,  
And I will repay those who hate Me.  
42 I will make My arrows drunk with blood,  
And My sword shall devour flesh,  
With the blood of the slain and the captives,  
From the long-haired leaders of the enemy."  
43 Rejoice, O nations, with His people;  
For He will avenge the blood of His servants,  
And will render vengeance on His adversaries,  
And will atone for His land and people.

Epistle

Ephesians 3,13-21

Therefore I ask you not to lose heart at my tribulations on your behalf, for they are your glory.

<sup>14</sup> For this reason I bow my knees before the Father,

<sup>15</sup> from Whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name, <sup>16</sup> that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man, <sup>17</sup> so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; and that you, being rooted and grounded in love, <sup>18</sup> may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, <sup>19</sup> and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God.

<sup>20</sup> Now to Him Who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us, <sup>21</sup> to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.

**GRADUAL**

For You will not abandon my soul to Sheol,

**You will make known to me the path of life.**

I will extol You, O LORD, for You have lifted me up,

**And have not let my enemies rejoice over me.**

O LORD my God,

**I cried to You for help, and You did heal me.**

O LORD, You have brought up my soul from Sheol;

**You have kept me alive, that I should not go down to the pit.**

Sing praise to the LORD, you His godly ones,

**And give thanks to His holy name.**

For His anger is but for a moment,

**His favor is for a lifetime;**

Weeping may last for the night,

**But a shout of joy comes in the morning.**

Hallelujah! O Lord, deal with Your servant according to Your mercy and teach me Your statutes.

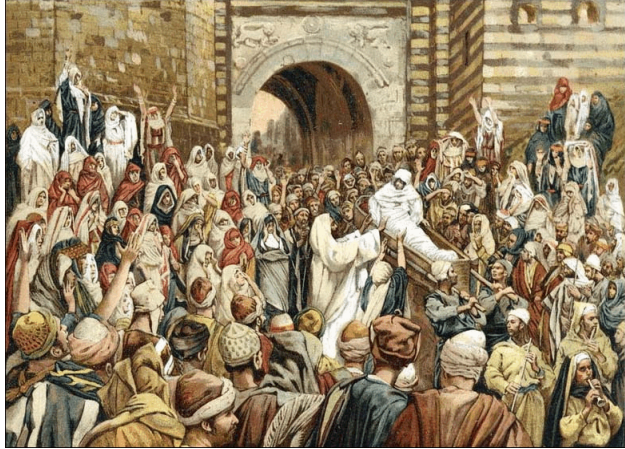
**I am Your servant, give me understanding that I may know Your testimonies.** [sing: triple Hallelujah]

The Holy Gospel

Luke 7,11-17

Response: Glory be to Thee, O Lord!

And it came about soon afterwards, that Jesus went to a city called Nain; and His disciples were going along with Him, accompanied by a large multitude.<sup>12</sup> Now as He approached the



gate of the city, behold, a dead man was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow; and a sizeable crowd from the city

was with her.<sup>13</sup> And when the Lord saw her, He felt compassion for her, and said to her, “Do not weep.”<sup>14</sup> And He came up and touched the coffin; and the bearers came to a halt. And He said, “Young man, I say to you, arise!”<sup>15</sup> And the dead man sat up, and began to speak. And Jesus gave him back to his mother.<sup>16</sup> And fear gripped them all, and they began glorifying God, saying, “A great prophet has arisen among us!” and, “God has visited His people!”<sup>17</sup> And this report concerning Him went out over Judea, and

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

Response: Praise be to Thee, O Christ!

† † †

Lessons for 27 September – The Seventeenth Sunday

After Trinity

Old Testament: 1 Samuel 2,1-10

Epistle: Ephesians 4,1-6

Gospel: Luke 14,1-11

Weekly Scripture Verse: Christ Jesus abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the Gospel. (2 Timothy 1,10b)

Today’s Gradual consists of selected verses from Psalm 86.

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

Bible Study. Hayward – Tuesday, 23 September, 2 p.m.

Stockton – Tuesday, 29 September, at 2 p.m.

Call News. Immanuel Lutheran, Mankato, MN, has called Mr. Matthew Kranz, Eau Claire, WI, to serve as 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade teacher beginning in the Fall 2015. Leah Ude has returned the Call to serve as preschool teacher at Redeemer Lutheran school, Cheyenne WY. The CLC Board of Missions has called the Rev. Peter Evensen, pastor of Rock of Ages Lutheran, Grand Rapids, MI, to be a Resident CLC Foreign Missionary to India.

ILL. In your prayers, please remember Nancy, Roy and his brother Gerald; Jean Niblett; Marlene Clappier; Don Luebckeman (who is now at home), Don's nephew Leigh, and Rose, one of Don's care givers and her husband; 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).



Church Picnic - Next week after the morning service in Hayward at the Karps.

20 Years of Grace. Next Sunday, our sister congregation in Mountain View will have a Christian Education Sunday and after the service will have a special luncheon and program to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of their school.

Immanuel Begins: On Monday, 24 August, the academic year began at Immanuel Lutheran in Eau Claire, WI. During the opening service, President Sippert reminded the student body of our Savior's growth plan through the Word of God. High school enrollment begins with 111 total students (24 freshmen, 25 sophomores, 29 juniors, and 33 seniors). This is a drop of 13 students from last year, mostly because the incoming freshman class is a little smaller than last year's graduating class. In the college there are 23 total students, a nice increase from last year's enrollment of 15. At this time six of these students are pursuing the teaching ministry and ten are preparing for seminary training. While seminary will begin later, six students are expected for the year. We thank the

Lord for all those blood-bought souls that will be immersed in His Word during their Immanuel experience.

A Note from the Moderator of the CLC re CLC Convention in June 2016: This is a reminder that the 2016 CLC Convention will be held for the first time over a weekend. The dates established by the 2014 Convention are Thursday, June 23 (8:00 a.m. Registration; 10:00 a.m. Opening Session) through Sunday, June 26 (3:00 p.m. Closing).

The Convention Communion service will also serve to begin our CLC's celebration of the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation. The service will be held Saturday afternoon with a time tentatively set for 3:30 p.m.

St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist (21 September). St. Matthew, also known as Levi, identifies himself as a former tax



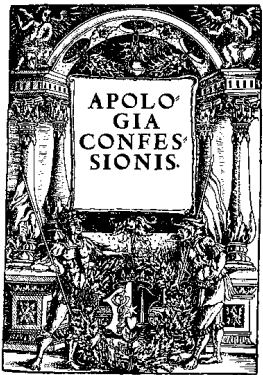
collector, one who was therefore considered to be unclean, a public sinner, outcast from the Jews. Yet it was such a one as this whom Jesus called away from his occupation and wealth to become a disciple (Mt 9,9-13). Not only did Matthew become a disciple of Jesus, he was also called and sent as one of the Lord's twelve apostles (Mt 10,2-4). In time, he became the evangelist whose inspired Gospel was granted first place in the ordering of the New

Testament. Among the four Gospels, Matthew's portrays Christ especially as the new and greater Moses, who graciously fulfills the Law and the Prophets (Mt 5,17) and establishes a new covenant of salvation in and with His own blood (Mt

26,27–28). Matthew’s Gospel is also known and beloved for its record of the visit of the Magi (Mt 2,1–12); for the Sermon on the Mount, including the Beatitudes and the Lord’s Prayer (Mt 5–7); and for the institution of Holy Baptism and the most explicit revelation of the Holy Trinity (Mt 29,16–20). Tradition is uncertain where his final field of labor was and whether Matthew died naturally or a martyr’s death. In the symbolism of Christian art, Matthew is represented as a man with wings. [In large part, taken from Treasury of Daily Prayer, general editor, Scott A. Kinnaman (St. Louis, Concordia Publishing House, 2008)]

Apology of the Augsburg Confession (22 September 1630). After the public reading of the Augsburg Confession on 25 June 1530, the Lutherans were to receive the emperor’s reply, which came on 3 August. It was read to the Lutherans and soon became known as the Pontifical Confutation of the

Augsburg Confession. The Lutherans heard the reply but were not given a copy of it; although during the reading they made extensive stenographic notes, which later proved to be quite accurate (the Confutation was not published until 1573). The Confutation, although diplomatic, had a message that was clear: back down, or else. Further meetings between the theologians of both sides were called



for.

Two series of meetings were held, 13–21 August and 24 August. Although Melanchthon was willing to compromise

somewhat, the Lutherans held firm. In private, Emperor Charles V pressured the Lutheran princes, even threatening to exile them and confiscate their realms and possessions. Luther urged the princes to stand firm.

By 22 September the first draft of the Lutheran reply, the “Apology to the Augsburg Confession,” was ready; the word “Apology” means “defense.” Even though the Lutherans tried to give Charles a copy, he refused to accept it. Melanchthon then began working on a revision, which was published on 15 April 1531.

The Apology is the longest and most detailed confession in the Book of Concord (1580). It carefully works through the Confutation, specifically refuting errors and setting forth the correct Scriptural teaching on each disputed point. The driving force in the Apology is the repeated insistence that the Bible’s most important and comforting teaching is the justification by grace alone, through faith alone, on account of Christ alone. Even though the Apology was originally considered to be Melanchthon’s private opinion, it was adopted as one of the binding confessions of the Lutheran Church. [In large part, adapted from “Editor’s Introduction to the Apology of the Augsburg Confession,” in Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions: A Reader’s Edition of the Book of Concord, general editor, Paul Timothy McCain (St. Louis, Concordia Publishing House, 2006)]