

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

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Organist: Elizabeth Karp

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**The Second Last Sunday of the Church Year –
15 November 2015**

Liturgy — Page 5 in The Lutheran Hymnal

HYMNS: 605 The World Is Very Evil (stand for last stanza)
393 From God Shall Naught Divide Me (1-3 & 4-6)
552 Abide With Me (1-2 & 4 & 8)

Sermon Text: 2 Peter 3,3-14

Sermon Theme: The Purpose Of Time

1. God Measures Time
2. Time Enough For patience
3. Kingdom Time

INTROIT: Save me, O God, by Your name: and judge me by
Your strength. Hear my prayer, O God: give ear to the
words of my mouth. He shall reward evil unto mine
enemies: cut them off in Your truth. **Glory be to the
Father ...**

COLLECT: O God, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by
Your Holy Spirit, that, being ever mindful of the end of all
things and the Day of Your Last Judgment, we may be
stirred up to holiness of living here and dwell with you
forever hereafter; 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 40,9-11

Get yourself up on a high mountain,
O Zion, bearer of good news.
Lift up your voice mightily,
O Jerusalem, bearer of good news,
Lift it up, do not fear.
Say to the cities of Judah,
“Here is your God!”

- ¹⁰ Behold, the Lord GOD will come with might,
With His arm ruling for Him.
Behold, His reward is with Him,
And His recompense before Him.
- ¹¹ Like a shepherd He will lead His flock,
In His arm He will gather the lambs,

And carry them in His bosom;
He will gently lead the nursing ewes.

Epistle

2 Peter 3,3-14

Know this first of all, that in the last days mockers will come with their mocking, following after their own lusts, ⁴ and saying, “Where is the promise of His coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all continues just as it was from the beginning of creation.” ⁵ For when they maintain this, it escapes their notice that by the Word of God the heavens existed long ago and the earth was formed out of water and by water, ⁶ through which the world at that time was destroyed, being flooded by water. ⁷ But the present heavens and earth by His Word are being reserved for fire, kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men.



⁸ But do not let this one fact escape your notice, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years

as one day. ⁹ The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance. ¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its

works will be burned up.

¹¹ Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, ¹² looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, on account of which the heavens will be destroyed by burning, and the elements will melt away with intense heat. ¹³ But according to His promise we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells.

¹⁴ Therefore, beloved, since you look for these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, spotless and blameless.

GRADUAL

For the LORD is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world in righteousness,

And the peoples in His faithfulness.

Hear my prayer, O LORD,

Give ear to my supplications!

Answer me in Your faithfulness,

in Your righteousness!

And do not enter into judgment with Your servant,

For in Your sight no man living is righteous.

I stretch out my hands to You;

My soul longs for You, as a parched land.

Let me hear Your steadfast love in the morning;

For I trust in You.

Teach me the ways in which I should walk;

For to You I lift up my soul.

Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God;

Let Your good Spirit lead me on level ground.

Hallelujah! O Lord, deal with Your servant according to

Your mercy and teach me Your statutes.

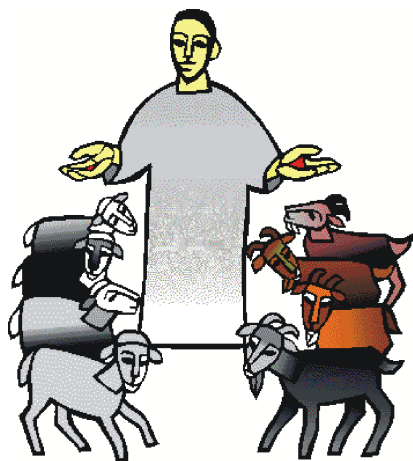
I am Your servant, give me understanding that I may know Your testimonies. [sing: triple Hallelujah]

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 25,31–46

Response: Glory be to Thee, O Lord!

[Jesus said to His disciples:] “But when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all of the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne. ³² And all the nations will be gathered before Him; and He will separate them from one another, as the shepherd separates the sheep



from the goats; ³³ and He will put the sheep on His right, and the goats on the left. ³⁴ Then the King will say to those on His right, ‘Come, you who are blessed of My Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundations of the world. ³⁵ For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat; I was thirsty, and you

gave Me something to drink; I was a stranger, and you invited Me in; ³⁶ naked, and you clothed Me; I was sick, and you visited Me; I was in prison, and you came to Me.’

³⁷ Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry, and feed You, or thirsty, and give You drink? ³⁸ And when did we see You a stranger, and invite You in, or naked, and clothe You? ³⁹ And when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?’ ⁴⁰ And the King will answer and say to them, ‘Truly I say to you,

to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of Mine, even the least of them, you did it to Me.’ ⁴¹ Then He will say to those on His left, ‘Depart from me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels; ⁴² for I was hungry, and you gave Me nothing to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me nothing to drink; ⁴³ I was a stranger, and you did not invite Me in; naked, and you did not clothe Me; sick, and in prison, and you did not visit Me.’ ⁴⁴ Then they themselves also will answer, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry, or thirsty, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not take care of You?’ ⁴⁵ Then He will answer them, saying, ‘Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.’ ⁴⁶ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.” [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 22 November — The Last Sunday of the Church Year](#)

Old Testament: Isaiah 65,17–25
Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 5,1–11
The Holy Gospel: Matthew 25,1–13

Weekly Scripture Verse: For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ. (2 Corinthians 5,10)

Today’s Gradual is based on selected verses from Psalms 96 and 143.

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

Thanksgiving Day Service in Hayward on Thursday, 26 November, at 9 a.m.

Voter's Meeting in Hayward after the morning service on 29 November, about 10:30 a.m. Major Topics – election of officers for 2016 and the 2016 budget.

Bible Study. Stockton, Tuesday, 17 November, at 2 p.m.

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



Call News. Gethsemane Lutheran, Spokane Valley, WA, has called the Rev. Michael Gurath, pastor of Holy Cross Lutheran, Phoenix, AZ.

Pulpit Exchange – Pastors Kesterson and Karp will exchange pulpits on Sunday, 22 November.

Johann Hermann Schein, Lutheran Musician (20 January 1586 – 18 November 1630). Schein was the son of a pastor and was

born in Gruehain. His father died in 1594 and his mother moved back to Dresden, where he became part of the cathedral boys choir and was introduced to Italian and German choral composition. In 1603 he received a stipend which enabled him to enrol at the University of Leipzig. Even though he loved music, he also studied law. In 1612, with the end of stipends, he became a private tutor. In 1613 he moved to Weissenfels, continuing as a tutor and musical director; while there he became friends with Heinrich Schütz. In 1615, Duke Joahannes Ernst called Schein to be the cathedral choir director in Weimar. In 1616 he was called to be the Cantor of the Church of St. Thomas in Leipzig (a position which would later be held by J. S. Bach). As Cantor, however, he was engaged in seemingly endless disputes with the Pastor as well as city officials (it must have been an occupational hazard). Because of continuing ill health (tuberculosis, gout, scurvy, and kidney problems), he was dismissed in 1629 and died in Leipzig in 1630. He was married, but four of his five children died in infancy and his wife died after the birth of their fifth child.



He is noted for composing many secular and religious works, combining the Italian madrigal with the German motet. His principal work is The Hymnal of the Augsburg Confession (1627), containing 286 hymns and 206 tunes, of which 57 were by him. Two of his tunes are included in The Lutheran Hymnal: 268 (Zion Klagt) and 421 (Mach's mit mir, Gott).