

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

Pastor: Steven Karp

21290 Birch St. - Hayward, CA 94541-1538

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

Organist: Elizabeth Karp

+++



The Third Sunday After The Epiphany – 22 January
2017

Liturgy: The Order of Matins — Page 32 in The Lutheran
Hymnal

Hymn 540 With The Lord Begin Thy Task (1-4)

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

The Psalmody

Praise the LORD, all nations;

Laud Him all peoples!

For His steadfast love is great toward us, and the truth of
the LORD is ever lasting.

Praise the LORD!

That Your way may be known on the earth,

Your salvation among all nations.

Let the people praise You, O God;

Let all the peoples praise You.

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy;

**For You will judge the peoples with uprightness,
and guide the nations on the earth.**

God blesses us,

That all the end of the earth may fear Him.

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

Romans 12,16–21

Be of the same mind toward one another; do not be haughty
in mind, but associate with the lowly. ¹⁷ Never pay back
evil to anyone. Respect what is right in the sight of all men.
¹⁸ If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with
all men. ¹⁹ Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave

room for the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is Mine, I will repay, says the Lord.”²⁰ “But if your enemy is hungry, feed him, and if he is thirsty, give him a drink; for in so doing, you will heap burning coals on his head.”²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

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

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

Second Lesson

Matthew 8,1-13

And when He [Jesus] had come down from the mountain, great multitudes followed Him.² And behold a leper came to Him, and bowed down to Him saying, “Lord, if you are willing, You can make me clean.”³ And stretching out His hand, He touched him, saying, “I am willing; be cleansed.” And immediately his leprosy was cleansed.⁴ And Jesus said to him, “See that you tell no one, but go, show yourself to the priest, and present the offering that Moses prescribed, for a testimony to them.”

⁵ And when He had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him, entreating Him,⁶ and saying, “Sir, my servant is lying paralyzed at home, suffering great pain.”⁷ And He said to him, “I will come and heal him.”⁸ But the centurion answered and said, “Lord, I am not qualified for You to come under my roof, but just say the word, and my servant shall be healed.⁹ For I too am a man under authority, with soldiers under me, and I say to this one, ‘Go!’ and he goes, and to another, ‘Come!’ and he comes, and to my slave, ‘Do this!’ and he does it.”¹⁰ Now when Jesus heard this He marveled, and said to those who were following, “Truly, I say to you, I have not found such faith not even in Israel.”¹¹

And I say to you, that many shall come from east and west, and recline at table with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in

the Kingdom of Heaven,¹² but the sons of the Kingdom shall be cast out into the outer darkness; in that place there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”¹³

And Jesus said to the centurion, “Go your way; let it be done as you have believed.”

And the servant was healed at that very hour. [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 411 From Eternity, O God (1-4)

Sermon Text: Romans 12,16-21

Sermon Theme: Resisting Evil

1. Who Is The Enemy?
2. Jesus Defeated Our Enemies
3. Overcoming Evil With Good

Hymn 411 From Eternity, O God (5-7)

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]

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: Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities, and in all our dangers and necessities stretch forth the right hand of Your majesty to help and defend us; 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 90 Come, Your Hearts And Voices Raising (1-4)

† † †

Lessons for 29 January —The Fourth Sunday After

The Epiphany

Old Testament: Isaiah 61,10-11
Epistle: 2 Peter 1,16-21
The Holy Gospel: Matthew 17,21-9

Weekly Scripture Verse: And they will come from east and west, and from north and south, and will recline at table in the Kingdom of God. (Luke 13,29)

Pastor Bernthal's Installation – Pastor Bernthal will be installed at a joint service in Mountain View at 10 a.m. on Sunday, 29 January. Pastor Karp will officiate.

Hayward Worship Time Changes – On Sunday, 5 February, the worship time for the Sunday service in Hayward will change to 1 p.m

Today's **Psalmody** consists of selected verses from Psalms 117 and 67.

Next Service in Stockton: TBA

Bible Study - Stockton - Tuesday, 24 January, at 1 p.m..

ILL. In your prayers, please remember Nancy and Roy Cameron; Jean Niblett; Sue (the Karps' neighbor who is undergoing chemotherapy), Don Drews; Richard and Beth Hocker; Ruth Scheuermann; Pr. Doug Priestap (Florida); Pr. Steven Karp; Mary Ryan (of Eau Claire, WI); Deena; Peter; Jane Dimpel; Sheila (Jerry's friend); Sara Pfeiffer.



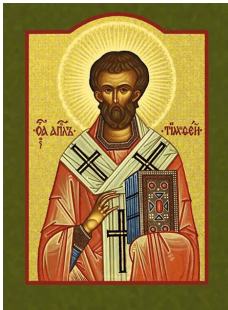
Call News: The Rev. George Dummann, First Lutheran, Faulkton, SD, has accepted the Call from Salem Lutheran, Eagle Lake, MN. The Tri-parish, consisting of Grace Lutheran, Valentine, NE, Peace Lutheran, Mission, and St. Paul's Lutheran, White River, SD, has called the Rev. Neal Radical, pastor of Luther Memorial, Fond du Lac WI. Mt.

Zion Lutheran, Madison Heights MI, has called the Rev. Rob Sauers, pastor of Bethel Lutheran, Morris, MN.

Pastor Karp's Retirement – My retirement will become effective after Pastor Bernthal is installed on 29 January.

Condolences – Warren Malach writes that his mother at age 101 years has fallen asleep in Jesus. “Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord” (Revelation 14,13).

St. Timothy, Pastor & Confessor (24 January). St. Timothy



had Christian believers in his family, his mother, Eunice, was a Christian and her mother, Lois, had also been a Christian (2 Timothy 1,5); however, Timothy's father was a Greek, that is, probably an unbeliever who also may have died by the time Paul came. Acts records that St. Paul met Timothy in Lystra on his second missionary journey and wanted Timothy to accompany

him (Acts 16,1-3). Because even though there was no synagogue in Lystra, Paul often began his missionary activities in the local synagogues, he circumcised Timothy because his mother had been a Jewess. Over time, Timothy became a dear friend and close associate of Paul to whom Paul entrusted mission work in Greece and Asia Minor (today's Turkey); Paul addressed two letters to Timothy. Timothy was also with Paul in Rome. According to tradition, after Paul's death Timothy went to Ephesus, where he served as bishop and was martyred around AD 92. He apparently was martyred by pagans because he opposed the “Katagogia,” which were licentious activities associated with the worship of the goddess Diana. In 356 his remains were transferred to

Constantinople. (Sources: Scott A. Kinnaman, ed., *Treasury of Daily Prayer* [St. Louis, CPH, 2008]: 1148; F.L. Cross, ed., *Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church* [N.Y.: Oxford University Press, 1983]: 1378).

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



Johann Matthäus Meyfart
Professor und Doktor der Theologie

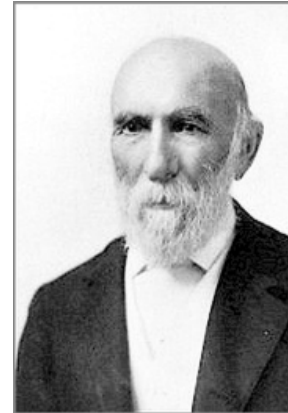
university in Erfurt. He worked throughout the Thirty Years War. With the Peace of Prague in 1635 he lost his professorship and became a parish pastor. When Swedish troops re-conquered Erfurt in 1636, however, he retained his parish but was appointed as a senior theological minister at the university 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 Meyfart 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 siminary in Gettysburg, PA – which was also the epi-center of liberalism. Before he could enrol, 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 to 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]