HEPHATHA
LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

EVERY THOUGHT CAPTIVE

October 11, 2026
Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome!

If you are visiting with us today, welcome! We are delighted that you have joined us for worship. We believe God has brought you here for a reason, and we pray that you experience His love, grace, and peace through our time together.

Thank you for being our guest. We would love the opportunity to meet you, answer any questions you may have, and help you get connected. We hope you feel at home among us and will join us again soon.

God's blessings to you, and thank you for worshiping with us today!

In Christ,

Pastor Arthur Andrews

8:30 AM WORSHIP

PRESERVICE Marilyn Dielmann

WELCOME AND INVOCATION
Leader: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: Amen.

OPENING HYMN "At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing"
LSB 633 Sts. 1, 2, 5, 6, 8

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION LSB 151

SCRIPTURE READING Numbers 13:1–2, 17–20, 27–33
Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF THE DAY "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"
LSB 770 Sts. 1–3

SERMON "Think About These Things"
Text: various passages from Numbers
Sermon notes on pages 5/6.

OFFERING *(For online giving, please scan the QR code.)*

APOSTLES' CREED

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH
Leader: Lord, in Your mercy,
People: hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

LORD'S PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN "Fight the Good Fight"
LSB 664 Sts. 1–4

RECESSIONAL

10:15 AM WORSHIP

WELCOME

INVOCATION
Leader: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: Amen.

PRAISE AND WORSHIP "Lion and the Lamb"
"Goodness of God"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAISE AND WORSHIP "Gratitude"

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

SERMON "Think About These Things"
Text: various passages from Numbers
Sermon notes on pages 5/6.

RESPONSE SONG "Holy Forever"

OFFERING *(For online giving, please scan the QR code.)*

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH
Leader: Lord, in Your mercy,
People: hear our prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

CLOSING SONG "Lion and the Lamb"

DISMISSAL

"EVERY THOUGHT CAPTIVE: THINK ABOUT THESE THINGS"

Text: Various Passages from Numbers

INTRODUCTION:

- Thoughts
- Perspective
- Experience
- Memory
- Reinforcement
- Repeat

I. THE PERSPECTIVE PARADIGM:

II. TEN VS TWO: A TALE OF TWO LENSES:

The LORD said to Moses, "Send some men to explore the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the Israelites. From each ancestral tribe send one of its leaders" **(Numbers 13:1–2, NIV).**

"Do your best to bring back some of the fruit of the land" **(Numbers 13:20, NIV).**

"We entered the land... and it is indeed a bountiful country—a land flowing with milk and honey. Here is the kind of fruit it produces. But the people living there are powerful, and their towns are large and fortified. We even saw giants there..." **(Numbers 13:27–28, NLT).**

Then the men who had gone up with him said, "We are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we are." So they brought to the people of Israel a bad report of the land that they had spied out, saying, "The land, through which we have gone to spy it out, is a land that devours its inhabitants, and all the people that we saw in it are of great height. And there we saw the Nephilim (the sons of Anak, who come from the Nephilim), and we seemed to ourselves like grasshoppers, and so we seemed to them" **(Numbers 13:31–33, ESV).**

"If only we had died in Egypt, or even here in the wilderness!" they complained. "Why is the LORD taking us to this country only to have us die in battle? Our wives and our little ones will be carried off as plunder! Wouldn't it be better for us to return to Egypt?" Then they plotted among themselves, "Let's choose a new leader and go back to Egypt!" **(Numbers 14:2–4, NLT).**

MESSAGE NOTES

"Let's go at once to take the land," he said. "We can certainly conquer it!" **(Numbers 13:30, NLT).**

Two of the men who had explored the land, Joshua son of Nun and Caleb son of Jephunneh, tore their clothing. They said to all the people of Israel, "The land we traveled through and explored is a wonderful land! And if the LORD is pleased with us, he will bring us safely into that land and give it to us. It is a rich land flowing with milk and honey. Do not rebel against the LORD, and don't be afraid of the people of the land. They are only helpless prey to us! They have no protection, but the LORD is with us! Don't be afraid of them!" **(Numbers 14:6–9, NLT).**

III. THREE QUESTIONS:

1. What Am I Looking For?

do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus
(Philippians 4:6–7, ESV).

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things **(Philippians 4:8, NIV).**

- *Is this thought true?*
- *Is this thought noble?*
- *Is this thought right?*
- *Is this thought pure?*
- *Is this thought lovely?*
- *Is this thought admirable?*
- *Is this thought excellent?*
- *Is this thought praiseworthy?*

2. Who Do I Listen To?

"one year for each of the forty days you explored the land"
(Numbers 14:34, NIV).

3. What Will I Dwell On?

CONCLUSION:

Prayer Seminar

With Rev. Chris Paavola

Have you ever struggled to pray consistently?
Or to pray bigger prayers?
Or to... simply pray?

Join Pastor Chris Paavola on Saturday, October 17th from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm for a Reformation of Prayer!

During this workshop, you'll not only consider the power and importance of prayer, but you'll also learn innovative techniques to help you make a priority of prayer. It's a powerful day for you and your church!

Chris Paavola is the Senior Pastor at St. Mark Lutheran Church in Battle Creek, Michigan and the creator of Pray for Your Church, a ministry dedicated to helping people grow in prayer.

Scan the QR code to watch a video from Pastor Paavola and to RSVP!

Saturday, October 17
9:00 am to 12:00 pm | Fellowship Hall
Scan the QR code to RSVP for lunch.

Thank You! Pastor Arthur

October is pastor appreciation month!

Let Pastor Arthur know how much you appreciate him by sending him an email, having a conversation with him, or writing a thank you note.

Matthew 5:4

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

We will be honoring All Saints Day in worship, Sunday November 1.

In that service, we would like to spend a moment honoring those who have gone to be with Jesus during this past year *(November 2025 to November 2026)*.

Do you have a family member or a friend that you would like us to remember that day?

Please email us the names of those who have fallen asleep in Jesus, and the date of their death, and we would love to honor them in worship on November 1.

Please submit names by Wednesday, October 28

Contact us at hephathachurch@hephatha.net or at 714-637-0887

Retirement or Repositioning

with Pastor Jim Elmore

November 8 | 11:30 am | Fellowship Hall

Join us for a meaningful Sunday with Pastor Jim Elmore, who will preach at both services and lead a conversation about retirement, better understood as repositioning for God's ongoing purpose in your life.
This is a day of wisdom, encouragement, and renewed vision.

Scan the QR code to let us know you are coming to lunch!

SAVE THE DATE!

ST. PAUL'S BOUTIQUE

1250 E. HEIM AVE.
ORANGE, CA 92865

HANDMADE GOODS
ARTS & CRAFTS
LIVE MUSIC
FOOD
RAFFLES

9 AM TO 3 PM
NOVEMBER 7
2026

High School Winter Blast 2027

Big Bear Lake Christian Conference Center

January 8-10, 2027

Cost: ~$ 200 (Includes Meals, Lodging, Merch, Transportation)
Main Theme: "Called to Be" - Romans 1:6
Purpose: Building community with other churches at a weekend of fun up in the mountains, spending time in God's Word, and building friendships.

TO SIGN UP CONTACT BONNIE HICKS
REGISTER AND PAY BY DECEMBER 6, 2026
SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Support Hephatha's Middle School DC Trip with a Tax Deductible donation!

On Thursday, October 15th, Hephatha's middle school will have its first ever **Serve-A-Thon** to raise money for their **2027 Washington DC Trip**. ***A $1,000 Bonus Pool*** has been created to support their efforts! We would love to increase that Bonus Pool even higher!

Each student will attempt 10 volleyball serves. Those students who can successfully serve 6 attempts in-bounds will split 2/3 of this Bonus Pool! The other 1/3 of the Bonus Pool will be split evenly between all students who participate in the event but do not achieve 6 out of 10 serves in-bounds. This makes everyone a winner!

If you would like to increase the Bonus Pool amount and make a tax-deductible donation to support our middle school students, please do so by October 14th in the school office.
Thank you for your prayerful consideration!

HEPHATHA
LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

TRADITIONAL SERVICE

8:30 am

In the Sanctuary

CONTEMPORARY SERVICE

10:15 am

In the Sanctuary and Livestreamed
Sunday School in the Fellowship Hall

The Lord's Supper is offered on the 2nd and 4th Sundays at 8:30 am and the 1st and 3rd Sundays at 10:15 am.

CONTACT US

HEPHATHA LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Phone

714-637-0887

Website

hephatha.net

Email

hephathachurch@hephatha.net

Office Hours

M—F: 8:30 am—4:30 pm

GIVING

(2026/2027) Yearly Budget: $660,000 | Monthly Average: $ 55,000

Date	Received
9/20	$4,973
9/27	$5,504
10/4	$7,519

	Budget	Actual	Over/(under)
September	$50,770	$42,592	($8,178)
YTD	$165,000	$171,358	$6,358
Online Giving for September			$15,120

Endowment Fund as of October 1, 2026	$137,138

Interested in electronic giving? Contact Donna Letz at 714-637-0887 ext. 158 or dletz@hephatha.net.

PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION

All prayer requests are listed for a maximum of six weeks and then removed. Should you wish to continue praying for this request, simply send us an updated Prayer Request. To place someone on the Prayer Chain, please contact the church office at 714-637-0887 or hephathachurch@hephatha.net

THANKSGIVING AND PRAISE:

- **Johnny and Hailey** (Young family; congratulations on their recent wedding on October 2).
- **Bill Bell** (prayers of thanks for successful heart procedure; continued prayers for a speedy recovery).
- **Conner Worley** (giving thanks for getting a job in architecture).
- **Jerry Algeo** (praise for being declared cancer free; prayers for continued good health and healing).

THOSE WHO ARE ILL, RECOVERING, GRIEVING, OR IN NEED:

- **Dixie Aschbrenner** (back home from the hospital; prayers for continued healing and recovery).
- **Grace Ann** (Jason Hufnagel's cousin; prayers for strength and healing after surgery related to cancer).
- **Cheree Scott** (prayers for healing after falling down the stairs and breaking her hand).
- **Ryker Morales** (Worley's nephew; prayers for strength and healing after having an emergency appendectomy).
- **Karin DeVore** (prayers for healing from laryngitis, acute bronchitis, and chronic cough).
- **Family of Jim Frize** (friends of the Schleigers; prayers for the family as they mourn the loss of Jim who passed away after a courageous battle with cancer).
- **Willodean and Jerry Burger** (Vince Woodall's parents; prayers for healing for Willodean and strength for Jerry as he battles cancer).
- **Jodi Downey** (friend of Kip Hyams; prayers for strength and peace for the family as Jodi battles the final stages of brain cancer).

For the full list of the prayers of the congregation please visit our website or scan the QR code.

THOSE WHO ARE SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES:

Garrett Kovacs (Kovacs's nephew); **Zackary Bergiadis; Noah McClary; Zachary Shorts** (Vicki and Peter Shorts's son); **Nate Hartman; Brandon Walker; JT Gaumer** (Jan Delaney's grandson); **Ryan Armstrong; Steven and Kyle Drake** (Lindsay Drake's cousins).

THOSE SERVING TODAY:

ELDERS	JR Long and Brennan Haines.
USHERS	Bruce Radloff and Carla Hufnagel.
MUSIC	Zack Edenhofer, Pete Shorts, John Sarraffe, Dave Comer, and Thomas Siets.
TECH	Kip Hyams, Jerry Zhang, Ethan Jauregui, Wyatt Greenwell, and Nicholas Shorts.

GOD BLESS

HAVE A GREAT WEEK

Thank you for joining us

SCAN THE QR CODE OR USE THE "WELCOME" CARD IN THE PEWS TO LET US KNOW YOU WERE HERE.