

St. Stephen Lutheran Church and School

An Affiliate of the Church of the Lutheran Confession

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May 10, 2009

Cantate

Today's Focus:

CHRIST'S TRIUMPH GIVES US JOY AND HOPE

OPENING HYMN 757 (Worship Supplement)

Christ Triumphant, Ever Reigning

THE ORDER OF DIVINE SERVICE – *Tan Worship Supplement, Page 12*

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Acts 8:26-40 (on back) *Two important truths: the eunuch by searching Scripture is shown Christ; and Philip whose willing service to the Savior results in his being instrumental in the salvation of the man.*

RESPONSIVE READING

The Psalm teaches all mankind has abundant reason in praising God. The confident mood of this Psalm is especially clear when one remembers that it is the closing portion of the Messianic Psalm representing the Messiah's sufferings.

L: From you comes the theme of my praise in the great assembly;

C: Before those who fear you will I fulfill my vows.

L: The poor will eat and be satisfied;

C: They who seek the LORD will praise him-- may your hearts live forever!

L: All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations will bow down before him,

C: For dominion belongs to the LORD and he rules over the nations.

L: All the rich of the earth will feast and worship;

C: All who go down to the dust will kneel before him-- those who cannot keep themselves alive.

L: Posterity will serve him;

C: Future generations will be told about the Lord.

L: They will proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn—

C: For he has done it. Amen.

1 John 3:18-24 (on back) *Jesus promises us His assurance that He will personally comfort His faithful servants.*

CONFESSION OF FAITH - Worship Supplement, Page 15 – *Apostles' Creed*

The Apostles' Creed was written as a brief summary of the Christian faith as believed and taught by the Apostles.

HYMN 758 (Worship Supplement)

Christ is Made the Sure Foundation



SERMON – NIV John 15:1 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. 2 He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. 3 You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. 4 Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. 7 If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. 8 This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.



THEME - REMEMBER GOD'S PURPOSE OF PRUNING

1. IT SHOWS HIS ACTIVITY THROUGH HIS WORD.
2. IT IS TO BRING FORTH FRUIT!

HYMN 206 v.1, 8-10 (Red Hymnal)

Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense

OFFERING OF THANKFUL HEARTS TO THE LORD – Sing 400 v. 1, 6 (Red Hymnal)

*Take my life and let it be; Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days; Let them flow in ceaseless praise.
Take my love, my Lord, I pour; At Thy feet its treasure-store;
Take myself, and I will be; Ever, only, all, for Thee.*

**SPECIAL PRAYERS - GENERAL PRAYER - LORD'S PRAYER
BENEDICTION**

CLOSING HYMN 49 v. 1, 3, 4 (Red Hymnal)

Almighty God, Thy Word is Cast

NEWS and NOTES

Welcome visitors! We are very happy that you are here with us today and invite you to come again! Please sign our guest book. If you have questions about our church and school please ask!

-TODAY: Bible Class continues in our Comparative Religions study of Judaism./Missions meeting following.

-THIS WEEK: TUESDAY May 12th - Bible class at 10am continuing the study of the prophet Zephaniah.

WEDNESDAY May 13th – 6:30pm Board of Education

-CALL NEWS: The Rev. Rick Grams, Red Wing MN, has retired from the public ministry for reasons of health. We are encouraged to remember him and his family in our prayers. Redeemer Lutheran, Bowdle and Zion Lutheran, Ipswich SD, have called the Rev. Mark Gullerud, Eau Claire WI.

