

St. Stephen Lutheran Church and School

An Affiliate of the Church of the Lutheran Confession

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Pentecost 3

Today's Focus:

THE CHURCH REJOICES IN GOD'S LOVE

Pre-Service Prayer: Dear heavenly Father, we live in a world, which rejects Your truths and opposes Your will. As we worship this day, give us insight into Your truths and boldness to confess and to live in accordance with Your will. Forgive our sins, strengthen our faith, and lead us ever to confess our dear Lord Jesus Christ. In His name we pray. Amen.

OPENING HYMN 744 (WS) *How Great Thou Art*

THE ORDER OF DIVINE SERVICE - *Worship Supplement, Page 12*

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Genesis 3:9-15 (on back) *The Old Testament Lesson recounts the tragic aftermath of the Fall, but closes with the first Gospel promise. God's love is clearly revealed as even when He must discipline His creatures He gives them hope of a coming Savior.*

RESPONSIVE PSALM READING: 66:1-2, 5-9, 16,20

Leader: Make a joyful shout to God, all the earth!

Cong: Sing out the honor of His name; make His praise glorious.

P: Come and see the works of God;

C: He is awesome in His doing toward the sons of men.

P: He turned the sea into dry land;

C: They went through the river on foot.

P: He rules by His power forever; His eyes observe the nations;

C: Do not let the rebellious exalt themselves.

P: Oh, bless our God, you peoples!

C: And make the voice of His praise to be heard,

P: Who keeps our soul among the living,

C: And does not allow our feet to be moved.

P: Come and hear, all you who fear God,

C: And I will declare what He has done for my soul.

P: Blessed be God,

C: Who has not turned away my prayer, nor His mercy from me! AMEN.

Mark 3:20-35 (on back) *The Gospel lesson shows Jesus' enemies scorning Him, which results in a stern warning about sinning against the Holy Spirit. He closes with the assurance that those who bear Him in faith are His family.*

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 251 (first tune) (Red Hymnal)

We All Believe in One True God

SERMON NIV 2 Corinthians 4:13 It is written: "I believed; therefore I have spoken." With that same spirit of faith we also believe and therefore speak, 14 because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead will also raise us with Jesus and present us with you in his presence. 15 All this is for your benefit, so that the grace that is reaching more and



more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God. 16 Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. 17 For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. 18 So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

THEME: WE BELIEVE AND THEREFORE SPEAK!

1. **We believe** that reality is not limited to the things we can see, but includes a vast spiritual realm that we cannot see!
2. **We believe** that any affliction a believer experiences in this world is but temporary, and will be replaced ultimately by eternal glory!
3. **We believe** that even as God raised up His Son, Jesus, from the dead, so He will raise us up from the dead to rejoice together in His presence forevermore!

OFFERTORY - *Worship Supplement, Page 16*

HYMN 293 (Red Hymnal)

O Holy Spirit, Grant Us Grace

OFFERING OF THANKFUL HEARTS
GENERAL PRAYER - LORD'S PRAYER - BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN 52 (Red Hymnal)

Almighty Father, Bless the Word

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 in the hallway. If you have questions about our church and school please ask!

TODAY: Bible Class continues with our Comparative Religion study! Come and take notes!
PLEASE CHECK your church calendars for upcoming dates. There are extras in the entryway.