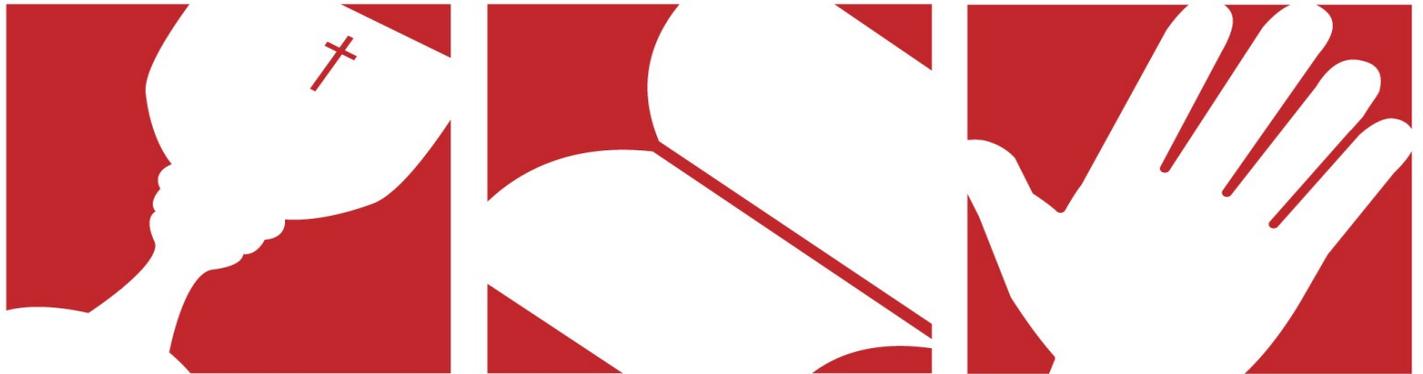


St. Stephanus Lutheran Church

Preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ for 130 Years

C • O • N • N • E • C • T • I • N • G



with Jesus Christ and Each Other

July 26, 2020

Seventh Sunday After Trinity

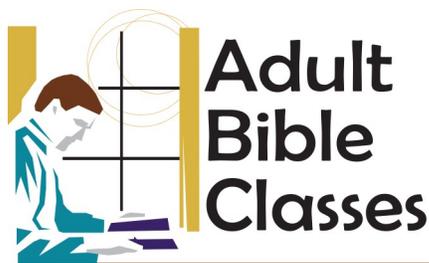
One cannot study church history without becoming aware of the continuous harassment and persecution suffered by the Christian Church from its inception to the present time. As Protestants we are especially mindful of one of the important climaxes in this struggle when Martin Luther nailed his ninety-five theses to the door of the Cathedral of Wittenberg. But prior to that date as well as since that time, it has been necessary for other committed men of God to defend the Church from those who would defile and destroy it with heretical doctrines and practices.

Such was the occasion for the writing of the hymn "The Church's One Foundation". It was written by a pastor of the Church of England, Samuel J. Stone, in 1866, during a period of turmoil within the Anglican Church. A theological dispute between two of the Anglican leaders had become a widespread controversy through the Church. Samuel Stone, being deeply stirred by this matter, wrote a collection of hymns, *Lyra Fidelium* ("Lyra of the Faithful"), containing twelve credal hymns based on the Apostle's Creed to combat the attacks which he felt would soon divide and destroy the church. This particular hymn was based on the third article of the creed "I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints..." It was Stone's conviction that the unity of the Church must rest solely with a recognition of the Lordship of Christ as its head.

The hymn soon became popular throughout Great Britain and was translated into a number of different languages. The tune was composed by Samuel S. Wesley, grandson of Charles Wesley and one of the leading church musicians of the day. The tune, "Aurelia" is taken from the word "Aureus", the Latin word for "golden" as it was originally composed for the hymn text "Jerusalem the Golden". This hymn will be sung in our service today, a chorale on the tune will serve as the prelude, and a festival setting as the postlude, and another setting can be seen here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bRTgFkL8nrQ>

~The Organ Bench~

Although we won't have weekly services at church for the foreseeable future, there will still be a stream of regular Sunday worship available on Sunday morning! Please visit our website www.saintstephanus.org for more details. Here is a direct link to the "Sermons & Worship" links: <http://www.saintstephanus.org/sermons-2020>



Pastor Thompson has **Bible Study on Sunday morning** at 11am. A link to Bible Study can be found on the website at www.saintstephanus.org/adult , along with worship services and other information. We are using Zoom, which is easy to use. You don't need to be able to speak or have video, you can just come listen in. Let us Shelter in the Word together in this time.

Live from Hong Kong with the Rich & Miriam Carter

Plan to join the video conference on **Thursday, July 30th, at 7:30 P.M.** to hear Rich and Miriam Carter talk about their work in Hong Kong. As part of our new faith sharing series, they will also speak on where they see God at work around them and how they see God is at work within them. Details with the link to the video conference will be posted at a later date. Contact sheilaschlechte@yahoo.com with any questions or to let her know you want the link sent directly to you.

