



WELCOME! to St. Paul Lutheran Church

*In the Name of the Triune God, Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit...
There is hope and joy to be found
in the midst of God's gathered people!*

SUNDAY, JULY 2ND
4TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

GATHERING SONG: #802 **"Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus"**
HYMN OF THE DAY: #717 **"Let Justice Flow Like Streams"**
COMMUNION: #496 **"One Bread, One Body"**
SENDING SONG: #538 **"The Lord Now Sends Us Forth"**

FIRST READING PHILIPPIANS 2:1-11

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

"WORD OF GOD, WORD OF LIFE" ALL: Thanks be to God!

PSALM 96:1-7 (THE MSG) (READ RESPONSIVELY)

SING GOD A BRAND-NEW SONG! EARTH AND EVERYONE IN IT, SING!

Sing to God—worship God!

SHOUT THE NEWS OF HIS VICTORY FROM SEA TO SEA,

**Take the news of his glory to the lost,
news of his wonders to one and all!**

FOR GOD IS GREAT, AND WORTH A THOUSAND HALLELUJAHS.

**His terrible beauty makes the gods look cheap;
pagan gods are mere tatters and rags.**

GOD MADE THE HEAVENS—ROYAL SPLendor RADIATES FROM HIM,

a powerful beauty sets him apart.

BRAVO, GOD, BRAVO! EVERYONE JOIN IN THE GREAT SHOUT: ENCORE!

In awe before the beauty, in awe before the might.

SECOND READING: ACTS 7:51-8:4

(Stephen continued...) 'You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you are forever opposing the Holy Spirit, just as your ancestors used to do. Which of the prophets did your ancestors not persecute? They killed those who foretold the coming of the Righteous One, and now you have become his betrayers and murderers. You are the ones that received the law as ordained by angels, and yet you have not kept it.' When they heard these things, they became enraged and ground their teeth at Stephen. But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 'Look,' he said, 'I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!' But they covered their ears, and

STEPHEN with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them.' When he had said this, he died. And Saul approved of their killing him. That day a severe persecution began against the church in Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout the countryside of Judea and Samaria. Devout men buried Stephen and made loud lamentation over him. But Saul was ravaging the church by entering house after house; dragging off both men and women, he committed them to prison. Now those who were scattered went from place to place, proclaiming the word.

"WORD OF GOD, WORD OF LIFE" ALL: Thanks be to God!!



SUMMER SERMON SERIES: Adventures through Acts

This summer in worship we are going to take a closer look at the Acts of the Apostles - the stories that take place after the Ascension of Jesus and the foundations of the early Christian movement (first known as 'The Way'). Read ahead! You'll find Acts right after the Gospel of John and before Paul's letter to the Romans in the New Testament.

- (7/2) Martyrdom for Dummies [Philippians 2:5-11; Acts 7:51-8:3]
- (7/9) Miracles or Magic? [2 Thessalonians 2:16-35; Acts 8:4-25]
- (7/16) Whatcha reading? [Romans 5:6-11; Acts 8:26-40]
- (7/23) Just Call Paul [2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Acts 9:1-9]
- (7/30) New Dreams & New Connections [Titus 3:3-8; Acts 10:9-16, 34-36]
- (8/6) The 1st Synod Assembly [Galatians 3:23-29; Acts 15:1-11]
- (8/13) Revealing the Unknown [1 Timothy 1:12-17; Acts 17:16-34]
- (8/20) Paul's Mission Map [1 Corinthians 1:1-9; Acts 18:1-20]
- (8/27) Sharing Good Goodbyes [Philemon 3-7; Acts 20:28-38]