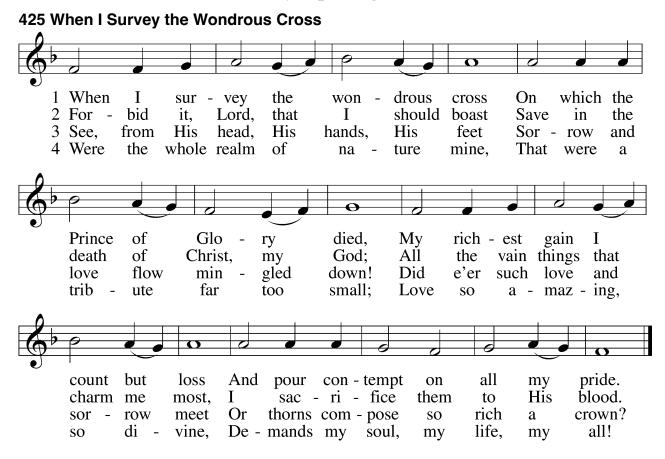
Bible Study Opening – March 2025



The Apostle's Creed – The Third Article: Sanctification

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

What does this mean? I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers. On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.

Memory Verse – 1 Corinthians 12:3 – "Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking in the Spirit of God ever says "Jesus is accursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except in the Holy Spirit." (English Standard Version)

Prayer (adapted from Luther's Small Catechism, 2017, p.204, regarding the 3rd Article of the Creed) Holy Spirit, I/we give You thanks that You have called me/us to saving faith in my/our Lord Jesus Christ through His Gospel, for without You I/we could never come to Him. By Your words, which are spirit and life, keep me/us united with my/our Savior in true faith, always enlightening me/us with Your gifts, and sanctifying me/us in body and soul to live for Christ alone; through my/our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Father, forever one God. Amen.