

# The Feast of St. Stephen, Martyr

## DIVINE SERVICE 3, PAGE 184

*(Upon entering the nave, silence should be observed to allow all the opportunity to prayerfully prepare for the presence of the Lord and the reception of His gifts)*

**The Confession and Absolution** (pp. 184-185)

**The Introit** *Ps. 31:1, 3, 5; antiphon: Rev. 7:14b*

These are they which came out of great tribulation,  
and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of  
the Lamb.

**In thee, O LORD, do I put my trust; let me never be ashamed;  
deliver me in thy righteousness.**

For thou art my rock and my fortress;  
therefore for thy name's sake you lead me, and guide me.

**Into thine hand I commit my spirit;  
thou hast redeemed me, O LORD God of truth.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Ghost;**

**as it was in the beginning, is now,  
and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

These are they which came out of great tribulation,  
and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of  
the Lamb.

**The Kyrie - Gloria in Excelsis** (pp. 185-189)

**The Salutation and Collect of the Day** (p. 189)

Heavenly Father, in the midst of our sufferings for the sake of Christ  
grant us grace to follow the example of the first martyr, Blesséd St.  
Stephen, that we also may look to the One who suffered and was cruci-  
fied on our behalf and pray for those who do us wrong; through Jesus  
Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the  
Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

**The Old Testament Reading** *2 Chronicles 24:17-22*

**The Gradual** *Ps. 34:9, 19, alt.*

O fear the LORD, ye his saints,  
for there is no want to them that fear him.

**Many are the afflictions of the righteous,  
but the LORD delivereth him out of them all.**

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**The Second Reading**

*Acts 6:8—7:2a, 51-60*

**The Triple Alleluia and Verse**

*Psalm 116:15*

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**  
**Precious in the sight of the LORD**  
**is the death of his saints.**  
**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**The Holy Gospel**

*Matthew 23:34-39*

**The Apostles' Creed** (p. 192)

**The Hymn of the Day:** 661 “The Son of God Goes Forth to War”

**The Homily**

**The Offertory** (pp. 192-193)

*Offerings are not gathered during Service today. While Pastor Messer prepares the Table for the Holy Supper, you may spend time prayerfully preparing to receive the Blessed Sacrament (you may wish to read through Luther's “Christian Questions . . .” on pp. 329-330). If you wish to leave an offering, you may do so by placing it in the plate by the door as you depart after Service.*

**The Prayer of the Church**

**☞** Lord, in Thy mercy,  
**☞** hear our prayer.

**The Preface - Benediction** (pp. 194-202)

*(Communicants are to be in full confessional fellowship with the LCMS)*

*Soli Deo Gloria!*

***Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church***

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