

## Didache Divine Service

### Session 11

6:30 p.m. Wednesday, January 25, 2023

### The Third Article

1. Invocation and Prayer
2. Hymn: LSB 768 "To God the Holy Spirit Let Us Pray"
3. **The Catechism: The Third Article and Its Explanation**

*What is the Third Article of the Creed?*

**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.

#### 4. Bible Reading:

**The Ministry of the Holy Spirit—John 15:26—16:15**

"But when the <sup>[c]</sup>Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me. <sup>27</sup> And you also will bear witness, because you have been with Me from the beginning.

These things I have spoken to you, that you should not be made to stumble. <sup>2</sup> They will put you out of the synagogues; yes, the time is coming that whoever kills you will think that he offers God service. <sup>3</sup> And these things they will do <sup>[a]</sup>to you because they have not known the Father nor Me. <sup>4</sup> But these things I have told you, that when <sup>[b]</sup>the time comes, you may remember that I told you of them.

"And these things I did not say to you at the beginning, because I was with you.

<sup>5</sup> “But now I go away to Him who sent Me, and none of you asks Me, ‘Where are You going?’ <sup>6</sup> But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. <sup>7</sup> Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. <sup>8</sup> And when He has come, He [the Holy Spirit] will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:

- ✓ <sup>9</sup> of sin, because they do not believe in Me;
- ✓ <sup>10</sup> of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more;
- ✓ <sup>11</sup> of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

<sup>12</sup> “I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear *them* now. <sup>13</sup> However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own *authority*, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. <sup>14</sup> He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you. <sup>15</sup> All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He <sup>[c]</sup> will take of Mine and declare *it* to you.

- The Holy Spirit proceeds from the Father and the Son to bear witness to Christ.
- Jesus’ “going to the Father” in His death upon the cross as the offering for sin and as our Priest, makes it possible for the Holy Spirit to come to us on the basis of Christ’s all-atoning sacrifice.
- Holy Spirit’s work is to “convict” the heart, through the testimony of God’s Word, to repentance and faith in Christ.
  - The Holy Spirit’s testimony exposes unbelief, convicting the heart to the truth of one’s sin and need for Christ. (repentance)
  - The Holy Spirit’s testimony proclaims the Gospel of Christ, convicting the heart that Christ is our righteousness, because He has gone to the cross for us.
  - The Holy Spirit’s testimony proclaims the judgment of God against Satan, convicting the heart that the ruler of this world has no power to condemn us.
- **The Holy Spirit’s work is to bring to us everything that Christ has done for us and for our salvation.**

5. Hymn: 573 “Lord, ’Tis Not That I Did Choose Thee”
6. Holy Communion Liturgy
7. Hymn to Depart: 884 “Lord, Support Us All Day Long”