

Sunday, September 7th, 2025
Sermon Series: "I Believe." The Nicene Creed.
(Pentecost, 2025)
"God's Word."

I Believe...The Bible!

We Can Trust the Bible...

2 Peter 1.16 For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty.

Luke 24.19b-21 ... "Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people,"²⁰ and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him.²¹ But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened.

Mark 10.33-34 "See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death and deliver him over to the Gentiles.³⁴ And they will mock him and spit on him, and flog him and kill him. And after three days he will rise."

Psalms 22.16 For dogs encompass me; a company of evildoers encircles me; they have pierced my hands and feet...

Psalms 130.7 O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is plentiful redemption.

Luke 24.27, 32 ... And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself....³² They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?"

Psalms 119.105, 111-112 Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path...¹¹¹ Your testimonies are my heritage forever, for they are the joy of my heart.¹¹² I incline my heart to perform your statutes forever, to the end.

(Answers: Historically. Theologically. Personally).

What We (Red Hill Lutheran Church and School) Believe About the Bible

The canonical Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the inspired and inerrant Word of God. In the Bible, God addresses us through Law and Gospel, revealing judgment and mercy through word and deed, beginning with the Word in creation, continuing in the history of Israel, and centering in all its fullness in the person and work of Jesus Christ. The Bible is the authoritative source and norm of our proclamation, faith and life (*Sola Scriptura*). (*Psalms 119:105,160; Proverbs 30:5; Matthew 5:18; John 16:12-13; 2 Timothy 1:13; 2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20-21*).

The Lutheran Confessions

“We believe, teach, and confess that the only true rule and norm according to which all teachings, together with [all] teachers, should be evaluated and judged (2 Timothy 3:15-17) are the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures of the Old and New Testament alone...other writings by ancient or modern teachers—no matter whose name they bear—must not be regarded as equal to the Holy Scriptures. All of them are subject to the Scriptures (1 Corinthians 14:32) ...” (*Formula of Concord, Epitome Summary 1-2*)

Some Bible Study Resources:

Bible Translation (ESV, NASB, NLT, NIV, KJV)

logos.com (Advanced)

Bible Concordance

Bible Atlas

Bible Commentaries

“The Bible Project”.... <https://bibleproject.com/> (Web-based instructional videos, article, blogs)

A Bible Study Practice: A few questions to consider when reading/studying/mediating on a text:

- What is this text telling me about God, His character/identity; about me/my relationship with God/others? (Theologize before you moralize)
- Is there a sin to repent of and/or avoid?
- Is there a promise to trust?
- Is there a prayer to repeat?
- Is there a command to obey?
- Is there a condition to meet?
- Is there a verse to memorize?
- Is there an erroneous view exposed?
- Is there something else the Lord may be particularly saying to you?

As you study and/or meditate on Scripture, prayerfully consider the questions above, and how you might pursue greater faithfulness in your relationship with Jesus. Be specific about what you will do (or not do) and whom you will ask (in addition to the Lord) to help you.