

+ The Holy Communion +

Reformation Sunday

October 25, 2020



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Mission Statement
Deepen relationships with our neighbors
so we can grow in Christ together.

+ The Holy Communion +

Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

The Color for Reformation is red for the blood of Christ shed for all people, renewing and restoring our relationship to God the Father, and for the blood of the people who died defending the gospel against the powers of Rome.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit gathers us in unity on the first day of the week, the day of Christ's resurrection.

Welcome

Prelude "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word" (LBW 230)

Confession and Forgiveness

Please stand as you are able – All make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us all and all of creation.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Silence is kept for reflection.

Faithful God, have mercy on us. We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways. We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves. We place our own needs before those of our neighbors. We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves. Make us humble, cast away our transgressions, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

God hears the cries of all who call out in need, and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own. Hear the truth that God proclaims: Your sins are forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ. Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness to do God's work in the world. **Amen.**

You may be seated.

GATHERING Hymn "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" LBW #229 vs 1 & 2

The musical score consists of four staves of music in common time, treble clef, and G major. The lyrics are integrated with the music, appearing below the notes. The first two staves are for voices 1 and 2, while the last two staves provide harmonic support. The lyrics are as follows:

1 A mighty fortress for - tress is our God, A sword and shield vic -
2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -

to - rious; He breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod And
ject ed. But now a cham-pion comes to fight, Whom

wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
God him - self e - lect ed. You ask who this may be?

Has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,

He arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.

© Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. hymnal version, 1978
Tune: Martin Luther, 1483-1546

Please stand.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Let us pray. (*Silence is kept for reflection.*)

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and

comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

You may be seated.

Word

First Reading, a reading from Jeremiah 31:31-34

³¹The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 46 (read responsively)

God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;

though its waters roar and foam,

though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.

God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;
God will help it when the morning dawns.

The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter;
he utters his voice, the earth melts.
The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.
Come, behold the works of the Lord;
see what desolations he has brought on the earth.
He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear;
he burns the shields with fire.
'Be still, and know that I am God!
I am exalted among the nations,
I am exalted in the earth.'
The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Second Reading, a reading from **Romans 3:19-28**

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For "no human being will be justified in his sight" by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin. ²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus. ²⁷Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Speak O Lord, your servant is listening.
You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel John 8:31-36

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 8th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord!

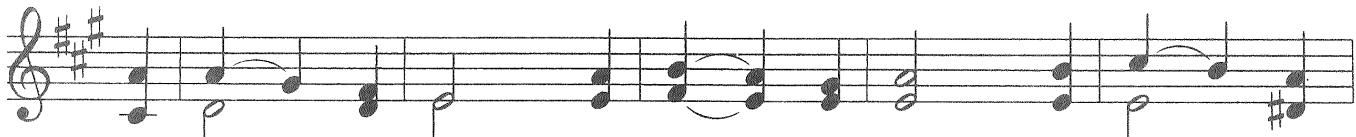
³¹Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” ³³They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free’?” ³⁴Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ!

You may be seated

Sermon

Hymn of the Day “*The Church of Christ, in Every Age*” LBW #433 vs. 1 & 3



1 The Church of Christ, in ev - 'ry age Be - set by
3 Then let the ser - vant Church a - rise, A car - ing

change, but Spir - it - led, Must claim and test its
 Church that longs to be A part - ner in Christ's
 her - i - tage And keep on ris - ing from the dead.
 sac - ri - fice, And clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.

© Text: F. Pratt Green, b. 1903
 Tune: William Knapp, 1698-1768

Please Stand.

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.
**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
 and born of the virgin Mary.**
**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried.**
He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again.
**He ascended into heaven,
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

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

Prayers of Intercession

Prayers reflect the wideness of God's mercy for the whole world.

With confidence in God's grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

Renew and inspire the church in the freedom of the gospel, O God. Where the church is in error, reform it. Where the church speaks your truth, strengthen it. Where the church is divided, unify it. Ignite in us the working of the Holy Spirit. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

As the earth changes, as mountains shake the waters roar, may we care for this planet as a holy habitation for all living things. Sustain all peoples and lands recovering from natural disasters of any kind (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Guide areas of the world divided or traumatized by conflict, especially in our own land. Free all from slavery and human trafficking, and protect all in harm's way. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Release those living in bondage to debts, chronic pain, or addiction. Grant healing touch to those who are ill; especially those we name before you, either silently or aloud. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In this family of faith we give thanks for courageous voices that have remained firm in their commitment to the one who frees us from sin and death. Centered in your grace, unify us in the hope of the gospel. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Even in death, you free us and give us a place in your house. We give thanks for our ancestors who have shown us truth and freedom, especially Martin Luther and those who work for the renewal of the church. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Listen as we call on you, O God, and enfold in your loving arms all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Peace

Come to me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

Blessing

Mothering God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life. **Amen**

You may be seated.

Sending Hymn “*The Church’s One Foundation*” LBW #369 vs 1 & 4

1 The Church’s . . one foun - da - tion Is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion And tu - mult of her war,

She is his new cre - a - tion By wa - ter and the Word.
She waits the con - sum - ma - tion Of peace for - ev - er - more;

From heav’n he came and sought her To be his ho - ly bride;
Till with the vi - sion glo - rious Her long - ing eyes are blest,

With his own blood he bought her, And for her life he died.
And the great Church vic - to - rious Shall be the Church at rest.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900

Tune: Samuel S. Wesley, 1810-1876

Please stand.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

We exalt you, Lord God, for the holy extravagance of your salvation. You wrote your law not only onto stone tablets but into the very life of your holy people. Through Moses you summoned your people to love you with all their heart, all their soul, and all their might. When your Son, walking in the way of the law and the prophets, came to live among us, loving you with all his heart and soul and mind and strength, he showed us how to love our neighbors as ourselves. When his neighbors did not love him, and raised him up in shame on the cross, you raised him in the glory of the resurrection. You, O Lord our God, are holy, and you are one. And so we remember and celebrate your covenant with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven as we join the unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might:

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Abiding God, you are our dwelling place in every generation. You sent your spirit of wisdom; through the hands of Moses you continue the story of your mighty works.

You sent Jesus, our savior and the pioneer of our hope. As we remember our Lord's saving mercies, send down your Holy Spirit to continue in and through us your story of salvation, and sanctify this bread and cup to be for us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ; who, at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the

bread, and gave it to them saying, “Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.” After supper he took the cup. Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

Great is the mystery of faith.

Christ has died, Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Embracing God, you invite us to love you by loving our neighbors. Open wide every heart to the way of your commandments. Make your church a living body of your law, written into one shared life. Fill your children with the zeal of the prophets. Show your people how to love their neighbors not only in word but in action. Pour your transforming Spirit upon any whose most difficult struggle is learning to love themselves. Reveal yourself in the face of friend and stranger, until that day when your world shall see you face to face; when, by the fullness of your grace, we come to share in your lasting glory, ever-loving God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
 hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
 on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
 and forgive us our trespasses,
 as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
 forever and ever. Amen**

The minister addresses the assembly

Come to the banquet table,
where Christ gives himself as food and drink.

You may be seated.

Communion

Our Lord's body and blood are truly present in the bread and wine to forgive and strengthen us. We practice open communion: all Baptized Christians are welcome to commune with us. Gluten free wafers are available. Please indicate to the pastor during distribution if you would rather have gluten free wafers. In preparation for receiving the Sacrament, a simple prayer such as this or another appropriate prayer may be said “May the Body of Christ bring me everlasting life.”

Communion Hymn (1) “*Built on a Rock*” by Anthony Giamanco
(2) “*Go Ye Into All the World*” by John Turner

The Body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**

The Blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

Please stand.

Post Communion Blessing

The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

Prayer

Let us pray. (*silence for reflection and meditation*)

We give you thanks, gracious God, that you have once again fed us with food beyond compare, the body and blood of Christ. Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven, into your beloved vineyard to wipe away the tears of all who hunger and thirst, guided by the example of the same Jesus Christ and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Go in peace. Remember the poor. **Thanks be to God.**