

REFORMATION DAY

October 27 & 28, 2018 5:00 pm & 8:15 am



AS WE GATHER

While 2017 was the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, our celebrations continue into the 501st year since Martin Luther posted the Ninety-five Theses on the practice of indulgences. The Reformation is a celebration of freedom in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This can particularly be found in today's Epistle from Romans 3. In a marvelous, great exchange, Christ takes our unrighteousness and gives us His righteousness. Even though we all sin and fall short of the glory of God, we are justified by God's grace, as a gift. We celebrate God's love and activity on our behalf to save us.

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELLS - *We Prepare our hearts and minds for worship*



WELCOME

(Please Stand)

✠ PREPARATION ✠

PROCESSIONAL HYMN "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" *LSB 656*

**A mighty fortress is our God, A trusty shield and weapon;
He helps us free from ev'ry need. That hath us now o'ertaken.
The old evil foe Now means deadly woe; Deep guile and great might,
Are his dread arms in fight; On earth is not his equal.**

**With might of ours can naught be done, Soon were our loss effected;
But for us fights the valiant One, Whom God Himself elected.
Ask ye, Who is this? Jesus Christ it is, Of Sabaoth Lord,
And there's none other God; He holds the field forever.**

Though devils all the world should fill, All eager to devour us,
We tremble not, we fear no ill; They shall not overpow'r us.
This world's prince may still Scowl fierce as He will,
He can harm us none. He's judged; the deed is done; One little word can fell
him.

The Word they still shall let remain Nor any thanks have for it;
He's by our side upon the plain With His good gifts and Spirit.
And take they our life, Goods, fame, child, and wife, Though these all be gone,
Our vict'ry has been won; The Kingdom ours remaineth.

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Based on Psalm 46:1, 8-11*

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

Pastor: Come, behold the works of the Lord.
People: He makes wars cease to the end of the earth.

Pastor: He will be exalted among the nations.
People: He will be exalted in the earth.

Pastor: The Lord of hosts is with us;
People: the God of Jacob is our fortress.



CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

(If you would like private confession and absolution, please call the office at (314) 832-5600 to make an appointment with Pastor Clark)

Pastor: God indeed is our refuge and strength, our help and our fortress. Yet we often choose to flee from the refuge of the Lord. We abandon the strength and safety of God, trusting in our own strength and power. The apostle Paul writes that all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. And Jesus says that everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin. As we enter

the house of the Lord and call upon Him for His good and gracious gifts, let us consider our enslavement to sin and our continued shortcomings as God's people.

Silence for reflection

Pastor: Heavenly Father,

People: we have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have sinned as individuals and as a community. We have ignored neighbors in need. We have caused divisions among Your people. We have sought refuge in the things of this world and not in You. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us back to You, our refuge and strength.

Pastor: While we have indeed all fallen short of the glory of God, we are all also justified by God's grace as a gift. Though we have been slaves to sin, God has set us free in the death and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ. As a called and ordained servant of the risen Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☐ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen. The Son has set us free, and we are free indeed. Amen.

[OR]

Seminary Student: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. *John 1:12, Philippians 1:6*

People: Amen.

✠ WORD ✠

HYMN OF PRAISE "This Is The Feast"

LSB 155

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, Whose blood set us free to be people of God. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, And honor, blessing, and glory are His. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, And join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing, honor, glory, and might Be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people.

People: **Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and deliver us in times of temptation, defend us against all enemies, and grant to Your Church Your saving peace;**

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

(Please Be Seated)



FIRST READING *Revelation 14:6–7*

(“Fear God and give Him glory.”)

⁶Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people. ⁷And he said with a loud voice, “Fear God and give him glory, because the

hour of his judgment has come, and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water.”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM *Psalm 46 (spoken responsively by whole verse)*

Pulpit Side: ***God is our refuge and strength,
an ever-present help in times of trouble.***

Lecturn Side: *Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,
though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,*

Pulpit Side: ***though its waters roar and foam
though the mountains tremble at its swelling***

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

Pulpit Side: ***God is in the midst of her, she shall not be moved;
God will help her when morning dawns.***

Lecturn Side: *The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;
He utters his voice, the earth melts.*

Pulpit Side: ***The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.***

Lecturn Side: *Come, behold the works of the Lord,
how he has brought desolations on the earth.*

Pulpit Side: ***He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the chariots
with fire.***

Lecturn Side: *Be still, and know that I am God.
I will be exalted among the nation, I will be exalted in the earth!*

*Pulpit Side: The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.*

**All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit.**

**As it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be forever. Amen.**



EPISTLE *Romans 3:19–28*

(All have sinned; all are justified by His grace.)

¹⁹ Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰ For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin. ²¹ But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— ²² the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. ²⁶ It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. ²⁷ Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸ For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM “How Firm a Foundation”

Handbell Choir

(Please Stand)



HOLY GOSPEL *John 8:31–36* (Listen to Jesus and be set free.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

³¹ So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples,³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”³³ They answered him, “We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, ‘You will become free?’”³⁴ Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin.³⁵ The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever.³⁶ So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.



APOSTLES' CREED

LSB 207

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

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.

(Please Be Seated)



CHILDREN'S MESSAGE “Christ Is Our Cornerstone” *LSB 912, v. 1*

**Christ is our cornerstone, On Him alone we build;
With His true saints alone The courts of heav'n are filled.
On His great love Our hopes we place Of present grace And joys above**

HYMN OF THE DAY “Though All Our Life is Like a Scroll” Karsten/Blersch

**Though all our life is like a scroll Unrolled with blemished pages:
Though sin has shredded what was whole And death is now our wages;
Yet here we stand in confidence, With Jesus as our sole defense,
For He alone still saves us.**

**Though pompously we try to dress In costumes of our making;
Though fig leaves of self-righteousness Are futile and heart breaking;
Yet filthy rags Christ gladly wore So we would perish nevermore.
His grace alone still clothes us.**

**Though earth's deep waters foam and roar As surging waves are rolling;
Though all the nations rage with war While bells of doom are tolling;
Yet God gives peaceful fortitude, He nurtures us with Heaven's food.
True faith alone still anchors.**

**Though critics cut out Scripture's claims And treat them with derision;
Though they conduct their hostile aims With scalpels of suspicion:
Yet how the living two-edged sword Proclaims the dead and risen Lord!
God's Word alone still truthful.**

△ Now sing a high doxology To God who gives salvation.

Both here and in eternity Let this be our vocation.

To Father , Son, and Spirit raise A symphony of grateful praise,

For He alone is worthy.

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SERMON

(Please Stand)



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Lord, You are our refuge and strength. Defend Your Church from the attacks and accusations of the devil. Keep our eyes fixed on Jesus and His Word. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: keep us steadfast in Your Word.

Pastor: Lord, since the fall into sin, all creation groans for restoration. Earthquakes, hurricanes, fires, floods, and other disasters cause great fear. But You are the God of all creation. Calm our hearts and be in our midst when the earth gives way. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: keep us steadfast in Your Word.

Pastor: Lord, in this fallen world, nations rage and kingdoms totter. War, violence, and division plague the earth. But You are the Lord of hosts, and You are with us. Defend us from conflict and be our King of peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: keep us steadfast in Your Word.

Pastor: Lord, send healing to all who are sick, injured, and recovering, [*especially* . . .]. If it be Your will, restore their health with the overflowing abundance that comes only from Your hand. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: keep us steadfast in Your Word.

Pastor: Into Your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

People: Amen.

(Please Be Seated)



GATHERING OF OFFERINGS “Built on the Rock” *Ascension Choir*

(Please Stand)



✠ SACRAMENT ✠

We believe Holy Communion is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christian to eat and to drink. If you are a communicant member of a Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod congregation, please feel free to commune with us. If not, please speak with the pastor before receiving the Lord’s Supper.

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you. [*2 Timothy 4:22*]

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts. [*Colossians 3:1*]

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. [*Psalms 136*]

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whom God put forward as a propitiation by His blood, to be received by faith. This was to show His righteousness so that He might be just and the justifier of all who have faith in Jesus. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS *“Holy, Holy, Holy*

LSB 208

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav’n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24;
Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

LORD’S PRAYER (*Matthew 6:9–13*)

Pastor: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

**O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.**

**O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.**

(Please Be Seated)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS “As Stone on Living Stone” *Ascension Choir*

“By Grace I’m Saved”

LSB 566

By grace I’m saved, grace free and boundless; My soul, believe and doubt it not.

**Why stagger at this word of promise? Has Scripture ever falsehood taught?
No! The this word must true remain: By grace you too will life obtain.**

By grace! None dare lay claim to merit; Our works and conduct have no worth.

**God in His love sent our Redeemer, Christ Jesus, to this sinful earth;
His death did for our sins atone, And we are saved by grace alone.**

**By grace God’s Son, our only Savior, Came down to earth to bear our sin.
Was it because of your own merit That Jesus dies your soul to win?
No, it was grace, and grace alone, That brought Him from His heav’nly throne.**

**By grace! This ground of faith is certain; As long as God is true, it stands.
What saints have penned by inspiration, What in His Word our God commands,**

Our faith in what our God has done Depends on grace—grace through His Son.

**By grace to timid hearts that tremble, In tribulation’s furnace tried,
By grace, in spite of fear and trouble, The Father’s heart is open wide.
Where could I help and strength secure If grace were not my anchor sure?**

**By grace! On this I'll rest when dying; In Jesus' promise I rejoice;
For though I know my heart's condition, I also know my Savior's voice.
My heart is glad, all grief has flown Since I am saved by grace alone.**

“Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word”

LSB 655

**Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word; Curb those who by deceit or sword
Would wrest the kingdom from Your Son And bring to naught all He has
done.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, Your pow'r make known, For You are Lord of lords alone;
Defend Your holy Church that we May sing Your praise eternally.**

**O Comforter of priceless worth, Send peace and unity on earth;
Support us in our final strife And lead us out of death to life.**

(Please Stand)

NUNC DIMITTIS *(Song of Simeon)*

LSB 211, v. 1

**O Lord, now let Your servant Depart in heav'nly peace,
For I have seen the glory of Your redeeming grace:
A light to lead the Gentiles, Unto Your holy hill.
The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.**



BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

Numbers 6:24–26

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN “Thy Strong Word”

LSB 578

**Thy strong Word did cleave the darkness; At Thy speaking it was done.
For created light we thank Thee, While Thine ordered seasons run.
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!**

**Lo, on those who dwelt in darkness, Dark as night and deep as death,
Broke the light of Thy salvation, Breathed Thine own life-breathing breath.
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!**

**Thy strong Word bespeaks us righteous; Bright with Thine own holiness,
Glorious now, we press toward glory, And our lives our hopes confess.
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!**

**From the cross Thy wisdom shining Breaketh forth in conqu'ring might;
From the cross forever beameth All Thy bright redeeming light.
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!**

**Give us lips to sing Thy glory, Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,
Throats that shout the hope that fills us, Mouths to speak Thy holy name.
Alleluia, alleluia! May the light which Thou dost send
Fills our souls with alleluias, Alleluias without end!**

**God the Father, light-creator, To Thee laud and honor be.
To Thee, Light of Light begotten, Praise be sung eternally.
Holy Spirit, Light revealer; Glory, glory be to Thee.
Mortals, angels, now and ever Praise the holy Trinity!**

POSTLUDE

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