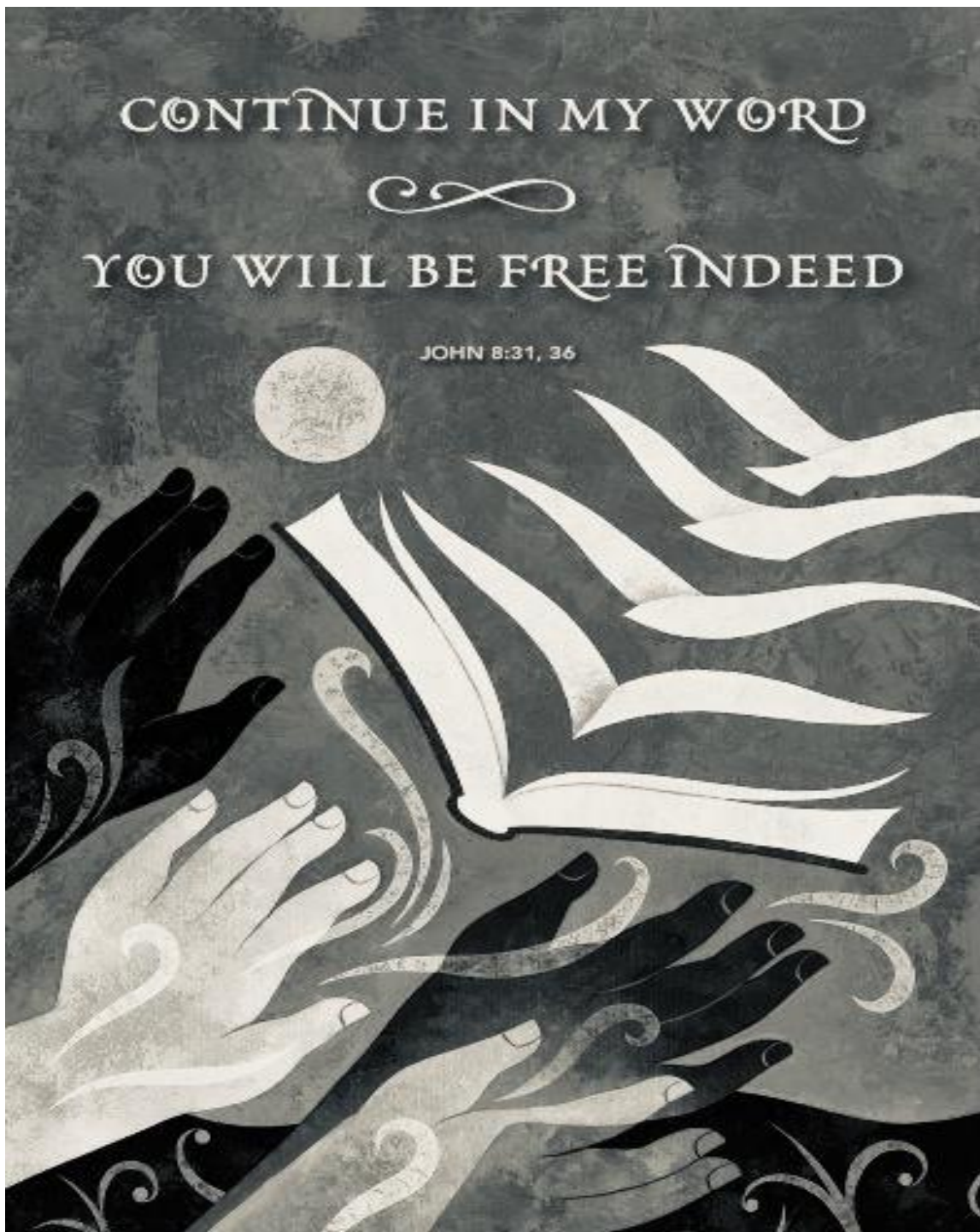


REFORMATION DAY

October 31st, 2021



CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

140 Russell Avenue
St. Catharines, Ontario L2R 1W1
Church: 905-685-8294 Fax 905-685-7661

Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday—9 a.m. – 12 noon
Bulletin Announcements: Please send to secretary@christlutheransc.ca.
Deadline for submission is Thursday at 9 a.m.

Pastor: Pastor Todd Hoefts (289-362-0113) pastortoddhoefts@gmail.com
Parish Assistant: Louise Gondosch (905-329-8579) parish.assistant@christlutheransc.ca
Business Manager: Karen McCumber business.manager@christlutheransc.ca
Secretary: Pat Kimpel secretary@christlutheransc.ca
Facebook: Lisa Gall www.facebook.com/ChristLutheranChurchSC
Bulletin by email: Judy Mason chairman.outreach@christlutheransc.ca

Prayer: O Lord God, who in a time of reviving in Thy church didst graciously kindle again the light of Thy saving Word, and let the light of the knowledge of Thy dear Son, Jesus Christ shine in our hearts; grant that we may always follow this blessed light and also adorn the pure teaching of Thy Word with holiness of life and conversation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with the You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Organist: Susanne Anderson
Readers: 9 a.m. - Dan Figueroa 11 a.m. – Paul Wachs

Children’s Message: Heart, Soul, Mind, Strength---<https://youtu.be/su0SJR0j-z4>
How are we like a pumpkin? --- <https://youtu.be/80ymdUYrWKM>

DAILY SCRIPTURE MEDITATIONS:

Monday: Matt. 7: 1-5 Wed.: Matt. 6: 9-15 Friday: 1 Cor. 5: 9-13
Tuesday: Luke 17: 1-4 Thurs: 1 John 3: 18-22 Saturday: 11 Pet. 3: 13-18

WORSHIP NOTE:

In compliance with Ontario Provincial Step 3, we can now offer in-person worship with allowances for social distancing.

- A recording of Sunday’s service will be uploaded to YouTube – “Gathering the Scattered” at: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3a4p6prdJGEyP5S-q-cNSq>.
- A PDF version of the order of service for each Sunday will also be posted on our church website: christlutheransc.ca.
- Archived videos of Sunday’s service will be uploaded to christlutheransc.ca – “Worship” page.

Any questions or concerns, please check out our church website (<http://christlutheransc.ca/>), contact Judy Slingerland (chairman.worship@christlutheransc.ca) or Pastor Todd (pastortoddhoefts@gmail.com). or phone the church office. May the peace of the risen Lord be with you all.

EDUCATION HOUR: Sundays 10:10 AM — 10:45 AM

- **Adult Bible Study** will be held weekly in the basement [SOUL area]
- **Sunday School** – Will be held on the 1st and 2nd Sundays of the month in basement classrooms
- **Youth Catechism** – Will be held on the 3rd & 4th Sundays of the month in the sanctuary pews

On the Sundays Pastor Todd teaches youth catechism, Louise will lead the adult classes (3rd & 4th Sunday). All other adult classes Pastor Todd will teach. 1st Adult study will be the book of JAMES.



TIME CHANGE: Please remember to turn your clocks back one hour next Sunday, November 7th.

2021 Annual General Meeting of The Lutheran Laymen's League of Canada: Saturday November 6, 2:00 pm. Register by contacting LLL: 1-800-555-6236 or via email at info@lll.ca.

JELLO-ON-A-STICK IS BACK: All youth & Confirmands (& friends) are invited to this 1-day retreat hosted by Trinity Lutheran Church in Fisherville, on Saturday, November 20, from 10 am to 3 pm. Cost is \$10 for those registered by November 11 and \$12 for registrations received after that date. Lunch will be provided. Contact Louise to register & secure a spot in the van. We will leave from the church at 8:30 am.

Women's Bible Study: Advent is more than just a quiet manger scene decorating our living rooms. It's the good news of God entering into our darkness. Together we will take a deeper look at Jesus as "Emmanuel", our "Wonderful Counselor", the "Everlasting Father" and the great "I Am". The arrival of Jesus changes everything. Join us starting **Friday, November 12th at 7:00 p.m.** in person at the church. If you would prefer to join us online through Zoom, please let Louise know (905-329-8579) and the link will be sent to you.

LWML-C/Mary Martha: We are so excited to invite you to join us at our LWML-C/Mary Martha meetings which will be held **in person!** *We will be still wearing masks and social distancing at our meetings. (You are welcome to bring your own beverage.)*

Nov. 16 7 p.m. Pack socks for Warm Feet for the Street.

Dec. 14 5:30 p.m. Advent Tea

ALSO: Our ladies will be gratefully collecting items for "**Warm Feet for The Streets**" again this year. We will assemble them at our November 16th meeting. *(see flyer list in bulletin)*. It is such a necessary ministry for the homeless who are living on the "streets". More details in the bulletin next week.

LUTHERAN CHURCH - CANADA NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING:

Lutheran Young people from across Canada will be gathering together this **July 15-19, 2022 in Winnipeg, Manitoba.** The theme for the gathering is "**IN NOT OF**" from Philippians 3:20 "But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Saviour, The Lord Jesus Christ." Information packages are available from Louise. Save the date, check out the website at <http://www.lccnyg.ca>, start following the Facebook and Instagram pages and check out this fun announcement from Pastor Glenn Worcester <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=68gXVYofMYY> .

BAZAAR SILENT AUCTION: As part of the Bazaar Judy Mason will be doing a Silent Auction. If people want to donate **NEW** items (*please no used items or clothes*). Best are wine, gift cards, new items. Please call Judy in the next 2 weeks. It will be on Facebook. Details to follow!

SOAP BRINGS HOPE! Judy Mason is collecting **NEW** bath towels, body soap (*not bar soap as the law says single use only*), laundry soap (Tide Pods/Gain Flings preferred as it is easier but they are grateful for any type). Call me if you want to donate 905-641-7546 or bring to church in the next week.

Last Sunday Attendance: Oct. 24th, 2021 Attn: 9 a.m. -49; 11 a.m.— 41; Total: 90

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Weekly Need</u>	<u>Last Sunday</u>	<u>Year To Date</u>	<u>+ or - (-)</u>
Current:	271,175.00	5,214.90	4,275.00	157,998.06	(66,242.81)
LCC Missions	20,000.00	384.62	548.00	14,138.00	(2,400.46)
Property Improvement:			72.00	4,682.00	

FLOWERS have been placed on the altar this morning to the Glory of God by Andy & Bette Vasko and family in loving memory of Elmer Vasko.

A MEMORIAL DONATION has been given to Haiti Lutheran Mission Society in memory of Erna McBride by Twila Gall.

SAMARITANS PURSE SHOEBOXES are now available in the narthex. Please return the filled shoebox by Sunday, November 14th.

SUPPORTING YOUR CHURCH DURING THE PANDEMIC: It's important for members to keep in mind that expenses for payroll, utilities, maintenance, etc. continue to accumulate even when you are not comfortable attending service.

1. THROUGH EFT DONATIONS: Lutheran Church - Canada, East District Corporation continues to facilitate this service for us. To assist you in continuing your financial support to your church, we encourage you to fill out the form that is available for printing at: http://christlutheransc.ca/?page_id=96 and then mail the form along with a voided cheque to: Lutheran Church - Canada, East District Corporation,

275 Lawrence Ave., Kitchener, ON N2M 1Y3, Attn: Darryl Holland

2. BY MAIL: cheques can still be mailed to:

Christ Lutheran Church, 140 Russell Ave. St. Catharines, ON L2R 1W1

or dropped in the Church mailbox at the East entrance.

3. ONLINE VIA LUTHERAN CHURCH-CANADA: Lutheran Church-Canada has opened a web portal that allows parishioners to donate directly to their home church:

<https://lutheranchurch-canada.tng-secure.com/?pageId=donation-edit&categoryId=10972>

select "St. Catharines-Christ Lutheran-30950" from the drop down menu, enter the amount of your donations and LCC will transfer your donation to Christ. Donation is via VISA or Mastercard. Tax receipts will be issued by LCC (not Christ). This opportunity will be in effect until the COVID-19 emergency is over.

‘WARM FEET FOR THE STREETS’ KITS

For “Out of the Cold”

LWML-C/Mary Martha Project

We would appreciate your help by contributing any of the following:

- LARGE socks
- Warm gloves (adult size)
- Scarves
- Toothpaste & Toothbrushes
- Lip Balm
- Hand & Body Lotion
- Deodorant
- Shampoo (travel size)
- Kleenex (little pkgs.)
- Band-aids
- Combs (pocket size)
- Small Soaps
- Portals of Prayer (*or similar, from any month or year*)
- Underwear (new)

Place in the box in the Narthex from now until November 14th.

We will make up the Kits at our November 16th meeting.

Remember that everything needs to be small enough to fit into the socks!!!

If you would like to help, but prefer for us to do the shopping, a donation of money would be terrific too. Thank you for your participation and donations. Contact: Wendy Hyatt



CHRISTMAS URN WORKSHOP

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2021

At "The Watering Can" in Vineland

Doors Open AT 6 p.m.

Workshop Starts Promptly at 6:30 p.m.

TRADITIONAL URN = \$75

proceeds to our Syrian Refugee family

Deadline for sign up and payment is Sunday, November 7th

If interested please notify Wendy Shook —905-380-6544

++MASKS MUST BE WORN DURING THE WORKSHOP++

Participants can bring in their own drinks but no drinks or food is to be shared



NEW FOR THE BAZAAR THIS YEAR:

We still are not holding an "in person" Bazaar this year, but *will do it as we did last year* with a couple new additions. As well as offering you the ability to order Baking or Deli items of your choice on an individual order form, (which will be in the bulletin SOON), we are also adding 2 other features as well.

1. **CRAFTS:** On the last 2 Sundays of November – **Nov.21 & Nov. 28**, we will have a "**CRAFT TABLE WALK THROUGH**" downstairs after each Service. So, in between the 2 Services, and also after the 11 a.m. Service, you may proceed downstairs, via the aisle on the left (Lecturn side), down the back stairs and into the kitchen end of the basement. Crafts that have been donated for this portion of our Bazaar, will be on display for purchase. Following protocol and social distancing, they will be arranged on tables such that you can walk through from the one side to the other, exiting at the opposite side and up the stairs to the parking lot. (Bible class for those 2 Sundays will switch to the carpeted Sunday School end of the basement since the children don't meet on those Sundays)
2. **SILENT AUCTION** will be held online this year. A Facebook page is being created by Judy Mason, which will be an open public group and pictures and descriptions of the items up for bid will be posted there. You can go to the site, make bids, and keep returning to the site as often as you like to see how the auction is going and 'up' your bids. The Auction will run for a few weeks in November. Judy will provide exact dates and the name of the page to go to, as soon as it is ready and up and running so stay tuned for more information! Winner's names will be posted on the site after the closing, along with a date for pick up at the church door.



MONEY RECEIVED FROM THE SALE OF CRAFTS, DELI AND BAKING WILL BE DIVIDED AMONG THE COMPLETE LIST OF THE USUAL MISSIONS WE HAVE DONATED TO EACH YEAR, (CLWR, LBT, Haiti, Nicaragua, Medical Missions, Seminary, SOUL and the Refugee Fund) WHEREAS MONEY EARNED THROUGH THE SILENT AUCTION WILL GO SPECIFICALLY TO THE HAITI FEEDING PROGRAMME AND 'OUT OF THE COLD' HERE IN ST. CATHARINES

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR 2021 *** MARY MARTHA/LWMLC ***

Again this year, we offer you the opportunity to place your orders for BAKING & DELI ITEMS, using the form with this notice. Drop them in the basket on the table in the Narthex. They will be collected each Sunday **OR** you may send an order to carolepink121@gmail.com
Be sure to include your email and/or phone # so we can contact you about your order if need be, and to give you the purchase total and pick up date.

Pick up dates are tentatively: Saturday, Nov. 28 and December 4.

payment is by cash in the exact amount owed, or cheque. Contact Carole if you have any questions.

AS ALWAYS, MONIES EARNED GO TO SUPPORT MISSIONS:

- HAITI Feeding Programme,
- NICARAGUA,
- CLWR,
- LBT,
- SEMINARY,
- MEDICAL MISSIONS,
- SOUL
- REFUGEE FUND

******MONETARY DONATIONS also gratefully accepted******

(Donation envelopes can be found in the Narthex, next to the order forms)

1. Place a donation into the same basket that collects the order forms.
2. A cheque made out to Mary Martha Society can be put into the Offering plate
3. Cash or cheque may be given directly to our Treasurer, Ivy Parkhouse.

***PLEASE NOTE:** All Deli and Baking items come from an uninspected source.
They are made by our own ladies with love and care
Please include any necessary details of your preferences like:

- regular 8" or 9" pie or individual 5" size
- ½ doz. or full doz.
- Raisins or nuts or plain

BAKING:

- LOAVES: \$6.00-7.50 - depending on kind and whether plain or with nuts or raisins
(banana, zucchini, pumpkin, lemon, cranberry, date n' nut)
- HALF LOAVES: \$3.50 -4.00
- PIES: 9" - \$9.00 or 10.00 depending on kind
8" - \$8.00 or 9.00
5" \$3.50 (any kind of fruit or combination, or raisin, mincemeat, lemon)
- TARTS: 6 for \$5.00 -6.00 - depending on what kind you would like & size
- COOKIES: 6 for \$3.00-3.50
1 dozen for \$6.00-7.00 depending on variety
- SHORTBREAD: Priced as above, choice of -
 - rolled shaped shortbread
 - drop shortbread
 - plain or with cherries or nuts
- DATE SQUARES: 6 large for \$5.00
- ANY OTHER KINDS OF SQUARES: 6 for \$3.50-5.00 (depending on kind)
- CHRISTMAS CAKE: \$20/loaf or \$10/half loaf
we also have 5 light fruit cakes and 8 dark fruit cakes that are 2 lbs.
- TURKEY or BEEF PIES: individual serving size \$5.00
- PIEROGIES: 1 dozen for \$5.00
(choice of cheddar cheese & potato; cottage cheese & potato, or sauerkraut)
- CABBAGE ROLLS: \$3.00-\$3.50 each (depending on size)
tray of 4 - \$14.00 (very large - limited amounts)

DELI:

MOST OF OUR CANNING AND PRESERVING HAS ALREADY BEEN DONE SO HERE IS A LIST OF THOSE SPECIFIC ITEMS THAT WE HAVE TO OFFER (on a first to order basis until they run out):

- 4 jars Peach jam 250 ml -\$4.00
- 4 jars Peach jam 4 oz. -\$3.00
- 5 jars Crabapple jelly 250 ml \$3.50
- 9 jars Salsa - 250 ml \$4.00
- 48 jars Grape jam 250 ml -\$4.00
- 12 jars Cran pepper jelly 250 ml - \$5.00
- 12 jars Habanero Gold hot pepper jelly 250 ml -\$5.00
- 5 jars Lady Rose Relish 250 ml \$4.00
- 5 jars Chili Sauce (not hot) 250 ml wide mouth jars -\$4.00
- 5 jars Beet Pickles pint 500 ml - \$4.00
- 24 jars Peppy Salsa (500 ml) -\$7.
- 2 jars Jalapeno Jelly (250 ml) \$6.
- 4 jars Jalapeno Jelly (125 ml) -\$3.
- 4 jars Jalapeno Pepper Jam (260 ml) -\$5.
- 3 jars Jalapeno Pepper Jam (125 ml) - \$2.50
- 10 jars Apricot Jam (250 ml) -\$4.10 jars Blackberry/Apple jam (250 ml) -\$4.

MARTIN LUTHER'S CATECHISM SERVICE

Adapted from the Six Chief parts of the Catechism

REFORMATION DAY

October 31, 2021+ 9 AM Contemporary service

FIRST SONG:

"Thy Word Is A Lamp"

[Amy Grant]

**Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path.**

**Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path.**

**When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way,
still you're there right beside me,
and nothing will I fear as long as you are near.
Please be near me to the end.**

**Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path.**

**Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path.**

**I will not forget your love for me, and yet
my heart forever is wand'ring.
Jesus, be my guide and hold me to your side,
and I'll love you to the end.**

**Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path.**

**Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path.**

INVOCATION & BAPTISMAL REMEMBRANCE

In the name of the Father, and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved,

but whoever does not believe will be condemned.

Baptism is not just plain water,

**but it is the water included in God's command and combined with God's
word.**

CONFESSING WITH THE COMMANDMENTS

The Ten Commandments reveal to us the severity of our sin, for they call us to love God with our whole being and love our neighbours as ourselves.

You shall have no other gods.

**We confess that we put other things above our fear, love, and trust in
God.**

You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.

**We confess that we do not call upon His name in every trouble, nor do we always pray,
praise, and give thanks to God for all that we have.**

Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.

We confess that we do not always hold it sacred and gladly hear and keep God's Word.

Honour your father and your mother.

We confess that we do not always honour them, serve and obey them, love and cherish them, nor others in authority over us.

You shall not commit adultery.

We confess that we are not pure in all we say and do, and we do not always love and honour our spouses nor avoid desires of the flesh.

You shall not steal.

We confess that we do not always help our neighbours to improve and protect their possessions and income. We also have not shared our possessions and income with all those in need.

You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

We confess that we do not always defend our neighbours, or speak well of them, or explain everything in the kindest way.

You shall not covet.

We confess that we do not always help our neighbours keep their property and family relationships.

For all of our thoughts, words and actions, sinful things known and unknown to us, whereby we have brought offence to You, O Father, and to one another, we are truly sorry and seek mercy, forgiveness and newness of life. Amen.

As our God promises grace and every blessing to all who keep His Word and holy commands, we should also love and trust in Him. He is merciful and strengthens faith. So in the place of Jesus Christ and by His holy command, I as His called servant, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

GLORY TO GOD:

"All Glory Be To God

(LSB Tune # 947)www.hymnary.org

S 159



All Glo -- ry be to God a -- lone, for -- ev -- er more the



high -- est One! Who did our sin -- ful race be-friend, and



grace and peace to us ex -- tend! A - mong us may His



Gra -- cious will all hearts with deep thanks -giv-ing fill, we →



praise and bless You, Fath--er!

**Lord God, our King on Heav'n's high throne,
O Lord, the sole-begotten One
Dear Jesus Christ, the Father's Son, true God from all eternity,
O Lamb of God, to You we flee, You take the whole world's sins away,
Have mer-cy on us Je-sus!**

Text & Music: Martin Luther, trans. G.Pollack, 1890-1950, public domain

GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY:

The Lord be with you: **And also with you.**

Almighty God, Gracious Lord, we thank You that Your Holy Spirit renews Your Church in every age. Pour out Your Spirit on Your faithful people. Keep them firm in Your Word, protect and comfort them in time of trial, defend them against all enemies of Your saving Gospel, and bless the Church with Your saving peace. We ask this through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Saviour and Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS

The Old Testament: *Jeremiah 31: 31-34*

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It 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. But 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. No 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.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

CHOIR ANTHEM – *"Lord, Keep Us Steadfast"*

Oh, that my ways may be steadfast in keeping Your statutes!
Then I shall not be put to shame (then I shall not be put to shame)
Then I shall not be put to shame (then I shall not be put to shame)
Lord, keep us steadfast (O Lord,) Lord, keep us steadfast (O Lord)
Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word.
Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word.

1. 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.

And Jesus said, and Jesus said, "If you abide in My Word, you are truly my disciples, you are truly my disciple."

Lord, keep us steadfast (O Lord,) Lord, keep us steadfast (O Lord)
Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word.
Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word.

2. 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.

There is one body, there is one Spirit, there is one hope for which we live,
One Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all,
one God and Father of us all.

Lord, keep us steadfast (O Lord,) Lord, keep us steadfast (O Lord)
Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word.
Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word.

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

Lord, keep us steadfast (O Lord,) Lord, keep us steadfast (O Lord)

Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word.

Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word.

"Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word" John A. Behnke copyright 2017 Concordia Publishing House, cph.org
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The Epistle: *Romans 3: 19-29*

[St. Paul writes:] Now 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. For 'no human being will be justified in his sight' by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin. But now, irrespective of law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom 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; it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus. Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law. This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Holy Gospel: *St. John 8:31-36*

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

Glory to You, O Lord.

Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, 'If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.' They 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"?' Jesus answered them, 'Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there for ever. So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed. This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ!

GOSPEL SONG:

"In Christ Alone"

1. In Christ a-lone my hope is found, He is my
light, my strength, my song. This Corner-stone, this solid
Ground - Firm through the fiercest drought and
Storm. What heights of love, what depths of peace, When fears are
stilled, when strivings cease; My Comforter, my All in
All here in the love of Christ -- I stand. →

2. In Christ alone, who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless babe.
This gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones He came to save.
'Til on that cross as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid -- here in the death of Christ I live.
3. There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain.
Then bursting forth in glorious Day, up from the grave He rose again.
And as He stands in victory, sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine - bought with the precious blood of Christ.
4. No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the pow'r of Christ in me.
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man, can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home - here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand!

Words & Music by Keith Getty & Stuart Townsend © 2002 Kingsway Music

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CCLI # 3350395

MESSAGE

SUNG CREED:

"I Believe"

<https://digitalsongsandhymns.com/songs/i-believe-i-do-believe->

I believe, I do believe, truly I believe it,
Truly I believe it, truly I believe it.
I believe, I do believe, truly I believe it,
Truly I believe it, truly I believe it.

I believe in God the Almighty Lord Creator,
Mighty Lord Creator, Mighty Lord Creator.
I believe in God the Almighty Lord Creator,
Mighty Lord Creator, Mighty Lord Creator.

**I believe in Jesus the Saviour of the people,
Savior of the people, Saviour of the people.
I believe in Jesus the Saviour of the people,
Saviour of the people, Saviour of the people.**

**And I do believe in the Power of the Spirit,
Power of the Spirit, Power of the Spirit.
And I do believe in the Power of the Spirit,
Power of the Spirit, power of the spirit.**

John Ylvisaker © 1989 c/o Fern M. Kruger, P.O. Box 321, Waverly, Iowa 50677, 319-352-4396

PRAYERS DRAWN FROM THE CATECHISM

O Lord, our God, You teach us to have no other gods in the place of You. May we respect, love and trust in You above anything or anyone else. As we keep Your holy day, help us never neglect Your Word or its proclamation or Your Sacraments of grace. Let us ever regard the church and her gifts as beneficial for ourselves and for our neighbours. As this is most certainly true—

listen to our prayers, O God.

Your Son, Jesus Christ, is our Lord and Redeemer. At great cost He saved us all not with gold or silver but with His most precious Blood and innocent death on the cross. Thanks be to You that through Christ we are Your own, living under You and in Your Kingdom. May we serve You in here in time and forever in eternity where Your rule is supreme. As this is most certainly true—

listen to our prayers, O God.

Your Holy Spirit enables us to believe in Jesus Christ, which we could not do on our own. We are grateful that You have called us by the Gospel through the Church. Bless our parish, our sister churches, our district and Synod and all Christians who gather around Your Word and Holy Meal. Preserve the church from succumbing to worldly interests. Help us all witness the faith You have sewn in our hearts. Give us wise vision for the future as we depart forgiven and set free. As this is most certainly true—

listen to our prayers, O God.

You give daily bread to all people of the earth. For this we give our thanks. May we enjoy food and clothing, home and property, work and income, family life, orderly community, good government, favourable seasonal weather, health, strength, a good name with true friends and neighbours. As this is most certainly true—

listen to our prayers, O God.

We are humbly grateful for all the benefits You bless us with in our Baptisms. May we daily be drowned in the watery remembrance that all sins, devilish traps and threats of hell are gone and we rise up in our Baptism forgiven and set free.

As this is most certainly true—

listen to our prayers, O God.

Help us be rightly prepared for all that we face in this life. Be with those who face illness or pain, anxiety or medical intervention, especially we remember before You..... Inspire our compassion towards them and all who suffer. May Your Sacrament of Holy Communion comfort them and us as simple eating and drinking brings the Body and Blood of Christ to our lips and hearts. As this is most certainly true—

listen to our prayers, O God.

O God, thank You for grace, love and mercy which helps us gladly do as You teach and trust in You always; through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

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. 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

LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER

I thank You, Heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger. And I pray that You would keep me this day, also, from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe have no power over me. Amen.

GREETING & BLESSING

Let us praise the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father and the Communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you + all. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN:

"A Mighty Fortress"

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, A
2 No strength of ours can match His might. We

sword and shield vic - to - rious; He breaks the cruel op -
would be lost, re - ject - ed. But now a cham - pion

pres - sor's rod And wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The
comes to fight, Whom God Him - self e - lect - ed. You

old sa - tan - ic foe Has sworn to work us
ask who this may be? The Lord of hosts is

woe. With craft and dread - ful might He arms him - self to
He, Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord, God's on - ly Son, a -

fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978

Tune: Ein feste Burg (isorhythmic), Martin Luther, 1483-1546.

MARTIN LUTHER'S CATECHISM SERVICE

Adapted from the Six Chief parts of the Catechism

REFORMATION DAY

October 31, 2021+ 11 AM Traditional service

FIRST SONG:

"O Jesus Christ, O Lord" [H. von Laufenburg 1453 public domain]

**O, Jesus Christ our Lord most dear
for you were once our Saviour here,
come give to us true faith, we pray,
with grace and blessing day by day.**

**As in Your heav'nly kingdom, Lord,
all things revere Your sacred word,
and with Your mighty favour give,
to shield and sooth both morn and eve.**

**God's watch, let angels round us keep
where'er we be, awake, asleep;
Your holy cross we proudly bear,
that we, Your crown, with saints may wear.**

Tune: VON HIMMEL HOCH

INVOCATION & BAPTISMAL REMEMBRANCE

In the name of the Father, and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved,

but whoever does not believe will be condemned.

Baptism is not just plain water,

but it is the water included in God's command and combined with God's word.

CONFESSING WITH THE COMMANDMENTS:

The Ten Commandments reveal to us the severity of our sin, for they call us to love God with our whole being and love our neighbours as ourselves.

You shall have no other gods.

We confess that we put other things above our fear, love, and trust in God.

You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.

We confess that we do not call upon His name in every trouble, nor do we always pray, praise, and give thanks to God for all that we have.

Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.

We confess that we do not always hold it sacred and gladly hear and keep God's Word.

Honour your father and your mother.

We confess that we do not always honour them, serve and obey them, love and cherish them, nor others in authority over us.

You shall not commit adultery.

We confess that we are not pure in all we say and do, and we do not always love and honour our spouses nor avoid desires of the flesh.

You shall not steal.

We confess that we do not always help our neighbours to improve and protect their possessions and income. We also have not shared our possessions and income with all those in need.

You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

We confess that we do not always defend our neighbours, or speak well of them, or explain everything in the kindest way.

You shall not covet.

We confess that we do not always help our neighbours keep their property and family relationships.

For all of our thoughts, words and actions, sinful things known and unknown to us, whereby we have brought offence to You, O Father, and to one another, we are truly sorry and seek mercy, forgiveness and newness of life. Amen.

As our God promises grace and every blessing to all who keep His Word and holy commands, we should also love and trust in Him. He is merciful and strengthens faith. So in the place of Jesus Christ and by His holy command, I as His called servant, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

GLORY TO GOD

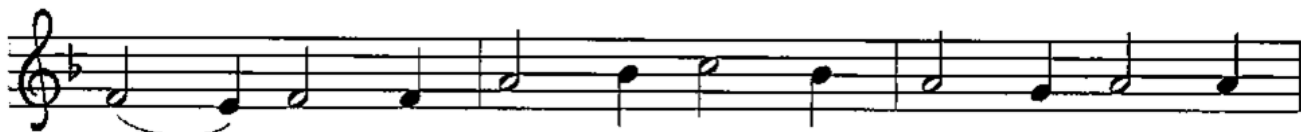
"All Glory Be To God

(LSB Tune # 947) www.hymnary.org

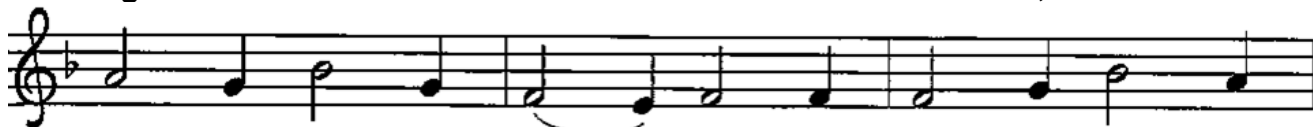
S 159



All Glo -- ry be to God a -- lone, for -- ev -- er more the



high -- est One! Who did our sin -- ful race be-friend, and



grace and peace to us ex -- tend! A - mong us may His



Gra -- cious will all hearts with deep thanks -giv-ing fill, we →



praise and bless You, Fath--er!

Lord God, our King on Heav'n's high throne,

O Lord, the sole-begotten One

Dear Jesus Christ, the Father's Son, true God from all eternity,

O Lamb of God, to You we flee, You take the whole world's sins away,

Have mercy on us Je-sus!

Text & Music: Martin Luther, trans. G.Pollack, 1890-1950, public domain

GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY:

The Lord be with you: **And also with you.**

Almighty God, Gracious Lord, we thank You that Your Holy Spirit renews Your Church in every age. Pour out Your Spirit on Your faithful people. Keep them firm in Your Word, protect and comfort them in time of trial, defend them against all enemies of Your saving Gospel, and bless the Church with Your saving peace. We ask this through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Saviour and Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS

The Old Testament: *Jeremiah 31: 31-34*

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It 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. But 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. No 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.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

CHOIR ANTHEM – “*Lord, Keep Us Steadfast*”

Oh, that my ways may be steadfast in keeping Your statutes!
Then I shall not be put to shame (then I shall not be put to shame)
Then I shall not be put to shame (then I shall not be put to shame)
Lord, keep us steadfast (O Lord,) Lord, keep us steadfast (O Lord)
Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word.
Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word.

1. 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.

And Jesus said, and Jesus said, “If you abide in My Word, you are truly my disciples, you are truly my disciple.”

Lord, keep us steadfast (O Lord,) Lord, keep us steadfast (O Lord)
Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word.
Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word.

2. 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.

There is one body, there is one Spirit, there is one hope for which we live,
One Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all,
one God and Father of us all.

Lord, keep us steadfast (O Lord,) Lord, keep us steadfast (O Lord)
Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word.
Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word.

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

Lord, keep us steadfast (O Lord,) Lord, keep us steadfast (O Lord)
Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word.
Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word.

“Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word” John A. Behnke
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The Epistle: *Romans 3: 19-29*

[St. Paul writes:] Now 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. For 'no human being will be justified in his sight' by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin. But now, irrespective of law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom 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; it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus. Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law. This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL VERSE:

"In Christ Alone"

1. In Christ a - lone my hope is found, He is my
light, my strength, my song. This Corner - stone, this sol-id
Ground - Firm through the fierc- est drought and
Storm. What heights of love, what depths of peace, When fears are
stilled, when striv-ings cease; My Com-fort-er, my All in
All here in the love of Christ -- I stand.

The Holy Gospel: *St. John 8:31-36*

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

Glory to You, O Lord.

Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, 'If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.' They 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"?' Jesus answered them, 'Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there for ever. So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed. This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ!

HYMN OF THE DAY:

"Lord, Help Us Ever"

<https://hymnary.org/hymn/LSB2006/page/859>

1 Lord, help us ev - er to re - tain The Cat - e -
 2 Help us Your ho - ly Law to learn, To mourn our
 3 Hear us, dear Fa - ther, when we pray, For need - ed
 4 Lord, when we fall or go a - stray, Ab - solve and



chism's — doc - trine plain As Lu - ther taught the
 sin and from it turn In faith to You and
 help from day to day That as Your chil - dren
 lift us up, we pray; And through the Sac - ra -



Word of truth In sim - ple style to ten - der youth.
 to Your Son And Ho - ly Spir - it, Three in One.
 we may live, Whom You bap - tized and so re - ceived.
 ment in - crease Our faith till we de - part in peace.

Text: Ludwig Helmbold, 1532–98; tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.
 Tune: *As hymnodus sacer*, Leipzig, 1625; setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941

HERR JESU CHRIST, MEINS
 L M

Text and music: Public domain

Ps. 119:9–12; Ex. 20:1–17; Deut. 6:4–9

MESSAGE

SUNG CREED:

"We All Believe"

www.hymnary.org/LW

1 We all be - lieve in one true God, Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost,
 2 We all be - lieve in Je - sus Christ, Son of God and Mar - y's son,
 3 We all con - fess the Ho - ly Ghost, Who from both in truth pro - ceeds,



Ev - er - pre - sent help in need, Praised by all the heav'n - ly host;
 Who de - scend - ed from his throne And for us sal - va - tion won;
 Who sus - tains and com - forts us In all tri - als, fears, and needs.



All he made his love en - folds, All cre - a - tion he up - holds.
 By whose cross and death are we Res - cued from all mis - er - y.
 Blest and ho - ly Trin - i - ty, Praise for - ev - er yours shall be.

Text: Tobias Clausnitzer, 1619–84; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829–78, alt.
 Tune: *Kirchengesangbuch*, Darmstadt, 1699

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PRAYERS DRAWN FROM THE CATECHISM

O Lord, our God, You teach us to have no other gods in the place of You. May we respect, love and trust in You above anything or anyone else. As we keep Your holy day, help us never neglect Your Word or its proclamation or Your Sacraments of grace. Let us ever regard the church and her gifts as beneficial for ourselves and for our neighbours. As this is most certainly true—

listen to our prayers, O God.

Your Son, Jesus Christ, is our Lord and Redeemer. At great cost He saved us all not with gold or silver but with His most precious Blood and innocent death on the cross. Thanks be to You that through Christ we are Your own, living under You and in Your Kingdom. May we serve You in here in time and forever in eternity where Your rule is supreme. As this is most certainly true—

listen to our prayers, O God.

Your Holy Spirit enables us to believe in Jesus Christ, which we could not do on our own. We are grateful that You have called us by the Gospel through the Church. Bless our parish, our sister churches, our district and Synod and all Christians who gather around Your Word and Holy Meal. Preserve the church from succumbing to worldly interests. Help us all witness the faith You have sewn in our hearts. Give us wise vision for the future as we depart forgiven and set free. As this is most certainly true—

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O God, thank You for grace, love and mercy which helps us gladly do as You teach and trust in You always; through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

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. 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

LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER:

I thank You, Heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger. And I pray that You would keep me this day, also, from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe have no power over me. Amen.

GREETING & BLESSING:

Let us praise the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father and the Communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you + all.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN:

"A Mighty Fortress"



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, A
2 No strength of ours can match His might. We



sword and shield vic - to - rious; He breaks the cruel op -
would be lost, re - ject - ed. But now a cham - pion



pres - sor's rod And wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The
comes to fight, Whom God Him - self e - lect - ed. You



old sa - tan - ic foe Has sworn to work us
ask who this may be? The Lord of hosts is



woe. With craft and dread - ful might He arms him - self to
He, Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord, God's on - ly Son, a -



fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978

Tune: Ein feste Burg (isorhythmic), Martin Luther, 1483-1546.

REV. TODD HOFFS
Reformation Sunday
St John 8:31-36
“Re-FORMING, not Retreating”
October 31, 2021

October 31st. Halloween on our cultural calendar.

Reformation Sunday on our church calendar.

The day German priest and teacher Martin Luther chose to begin what he thought was a dialog of change within the church he loved. His questions and concerns had rippling effects Which changed communities, governments, creating countless different groups of churches into the world.

This caused much upheaval and danger in Martin’s life. Even beyond his own imagination.

Luther was forced to stand before religious leaders and defend his understanding of faith, that people are loved by God not by what they do but for their trust in Jesus Christ. This is when Martin Luther famously said -- “Here I stand, God help me, I can no on other. Amen.”

Luther was immovable in his trust in the saving Gospel of Christ. 1521. 500 years ago.

Things were never the same again. You see in Luther’s day, religious leaders sat at the top of a well-arranged and well protected hierarchy of church, empire, and household.

It was *illegal* not to be a Christian. The Bible could not be available in the common people language.

Worship services in ancient church latin language. This generated lots of fear and anxiety toward God. If Luther could see what shape the church is in now, 500 years later, I wonder what he’d say?

How does his strong belief and message from the Middle Ages translate into 2021?

Are his words or purpose even relevant? The concern for Re-forming has given way to re-treating.

Soldiers in battle retreat when they lose their position and fall back to regroup -- to either save themselves or counterattack. The appeal to hide away, protect your beliefs, keep them very close to yourself, has infiltrated the public faith of so many across our lands. Retreating affects church leadership, clergy and laity. Hiding away runs contrary to Jesus’ own teaching, that we never hide our faith but set it up high for all to see. Today, church attendance across all denominations

is at a low not seen in hundreds of years. We can only blame the COVID pandemic so far.

The fear-based retreating from the world and culture has hurt. Deeply. Revealing a lack of faith and trust. While we are not to mimic our culture we are called to engage it And let our light shine forth.

So much has changed in the last 50 years we almost don’t know where to start. I do know for sure,

we can’t return to Luther’s era, nor to any era. In the midst of this struggle is a realization that we can’t do any of this alone. We need each other. We need other people out there. We need Christ.

We need His Word, His gathering together -- We need to take Christ Who dwells in here Into every corner of our lives. And while we may not see a wide sweeping Reformation like Luther ignited,

We have seen And will see Little reformations, Daily reformations, As we have our own sins die each day And we have our new selves forgiven and set free. And through us, the church will be centred on

the Gospel of Christ to change all things. What Jesus says is true. Just one sin, makes you a slave to sin. And after just one sin, we cannot fix ourselves. Unless, of course, Jesus reforms us. Well and good. When Jesus says that as His disciples, we will know the truth And that truth sets us free, In Him, we are free indeed. It means we’re not there yet. It means we cannot get there on our own. It means that we need help. Help not just from someone who is bigger and faster and stronger than we, but help from Someone who is perfectly right and holy.

Simply put, Jesus is saying that you and I still need a Savior. This is good for us to hear.

We can’t go it alone, with only our own strength. Be honest. If you or I could fix it, we would’ve already done it. All the broken pieces, all the sins that travelled along with you here this morning,

the stuff right now that you’re trying to cover up or forget, all the things you fear, the things that keep you up at night – if you could fix it, you would have fixed it by now. But you can’t.

So here’s the good news: Jesus already knows what you struggle with, and He’s already fixed it –

In His life, laid down, on the cross, for you, for the whole world. And that’s why you’re all here.

In here Jesus fixes you again and again and again.

His baptism, His Body, His Blood, His forgiveness. His reformation every day in your life. That is the Gospel at work saving, making all things new again. The good news, and that good news alone, is the catalyst behind any true reforming work in the church. Only the Gospel will reform because only the Gospel is LIFE. And that LIFE is Jesus.

Not Jesus *and* any need for control,
not Jesus *and* any temptation for retreating
not Jesus *and* stories of denial which longs for something more...Christ alone and the Gospel alone. The life of God in Christ seeping into every pore of the church and enlivening all it touches. The life of God in Christ breathing vitality into the church's worship once more; This life of God in Christ, this Gospel, will be the only reason any of us are reformed. Because the church is united with Jesus in his death that we might share in his life. And, sharing in his life, become once more a bright and beaming light in this world instead of one more flickering bulb in a sad, retreating, hidden group. May the saving Gospel of Christ be the life blood in our veins, the breath of our lungs, the light of our eyes, the totality of our being. Loving neighbor as self isn't just nice words, but about the heart and soul of who we are, our Spirit driven will and purpose. Sympathetic glances and warm thoughts won't cut it. We can talk to people, Engage their thoughts, Awaken their hearts to the Gospel which is for them That God is on their side, too.

Help them see retreating isn't the answer, Hiding out away from God or His people Won't bring the reform they and us all need. Daily. Luther knew that well. He often wondered if he was enough, if he really could be loved, if he could mobilize this new Christ-centred church?
In that, nothing has changed.

Our demanding lives wonder the same thing --
"Am I enough?" It can keep us enslaved. Force us to retreat.
But Christ has freed us.
His Gospel addresses our deepest yearning.
"Yes, you are enough. You are loved. You are forgiven."
With undying love and unconditional commitment God comes to you –
right where you are –
and says that you are whole, enough, transformed, loved.
That is Gospel.
That is Christ.
That is reformation.
That is enough.
Amen.

