

Faith Lutheran Church

Faithfully Growing, Welcoming, and Caring through Christ

Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

Reformation Sunday

October 29, 2017



PRELUDE VIDEO
***“Be Still and Know”* by Amy Grant**

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,
who forgives all our sin, whose mercy
endures forever.

C: **Amen.**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

(A brief silence.) Gracious God,

C: **Have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent.**

**In your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown, things we have
done and things we have failed to do.
Turn us again to you, and uphold us by
your Spirit, so that we may live and
serve you in newness of life through
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

OPENING HYMN *“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”*

**A mighty fortress is our God,
a sword and shield victorious;
he breaks the cruel oppressor's rod
and wins salvation glorious.**

**The old satanic foe
has sworn to work us woe!
With craft and dreadful might
he arms himself to fight.
On earth he has no equal.**

**No strength of ours can match his might!
We would be lost, rejected.
But now a champion comes to fight,
whom God himself elected.
You ask who this may be?
The Lord of hosts is he!
Christ Jesus, mighty Lord,
God's only Son, adored.
He holds the field victorious.**

**Though hordes of devils fill the land
all threat'ning to devour us,
we tremble not, unmoved we stand;
they cannot overpow'r us.
Let this world's tyrant rage;
in battle we'll engage!
His might is doomed to fail;
God's judgment must prevail!
One little word subdues him.**

**God's Word forever shall abide,
no thanks to foes, who fear it;
for God himself fights by our side
with weapons of the Spirit.**

**Were they to take our house,
goods, honor, child, or spouse,
through life be wrenched away,
they cannot win the day.**

The kingdom's ours forever!

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

C: Amen.

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

P: On this day we celebrate the heart of our faith: the gospel of Christ - the good news - that makes us free! We pray that the Holy Spirit would continue to unite the church today in its proclamation and witness to the world. In the waters of baptism we are made one body; we pray for the day that all Christians will also be one at the Lord's table.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. *(A brief silence.)*

C: **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.



**CHILDREN'S
CHURCH**

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34

A reading from Jeremiah, the 31st chapter.

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.

R: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

A Responsive Reading from Psalm 46

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

C: **Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**

R: though its waters rage and foam, and
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

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

R: God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken; God shall help it at the break of day.

C: **The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth melts away.**

R: The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

C: Come now, regard the works of the LORD, what desolations God has brought upon the earth;

R: behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world; who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

C: “Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”

R: The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

C: Amen.

SECOND READING: Romans 3:19-28

A reading from Romans, the 3rd chapter.

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, apart from 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.

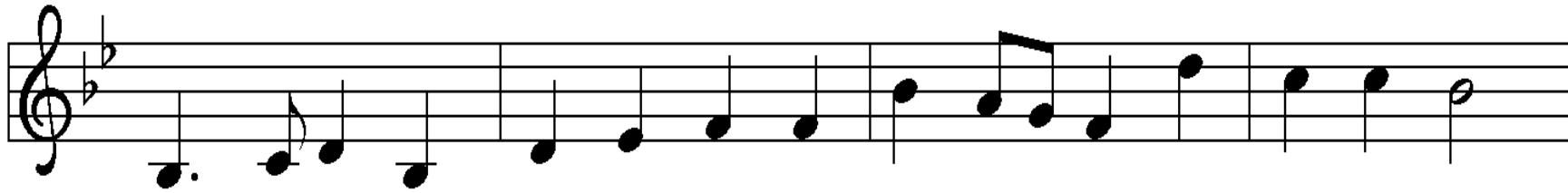
He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus. Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? 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.

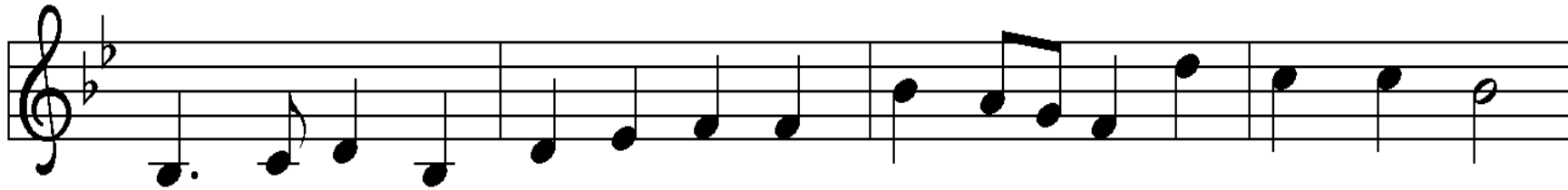
R: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL: John 8:31-36

P: The holy gospel according to John, the 8th chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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 forever. So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

“Reformation: Past, Present and Future”

HYMN OF THE DAY

“The Church of Christ, in Every Age”

**The church of Christ, in ev'ry age
beset by change, but Spirit-led,
must claim and test its heritage
and keep on rising from the dead.**

**Across the world, across the street,
the victims of injustice cry
for shelter and for bread to eat,
and never live before they die.**

**Then let the servant church arise,
a caring church that longs to be
a partner in Christ's sacrifice,
and clothed in Christ's humanity.**

**For he alone, whose blood was shed,
can cure the fever in our blood,
and teach us how to share our bread
and feed the starving multitude.**

**We have no mission but to serve
in full obedience to our Lord;
to care for all, without reserve,
and spread his liberating word.**

2014 Confirmation Creed

We believe in God the Father, who is the Creator of heaven and earth. God loved his creation and said it was good. God has given us life and things to support our life, like plants and animals. God is still creating through people, every time there is new life and more technology. God provides for us by giving us all that we need for daily life.

We believe in Jesus Christ, who is the Savior of the world. He healed many people because he cared about them. He taught many stories and parables to his followers to increase their faith. He died on the cross to save us from our sins. He rose from the dead, and after he rose he commanded us to make new disciples all over the world. Because he loves us, he offers all who believe eternal life. He promises to be with us till the end of the age.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, who is the giver of our faith. He gives us spiritual gifts like love, joy, and kindness. He forgives our sins and helps us to live holy lives. The Holy Spirit calls people to become part of the Christian Church, and helps the church to grow around the world. He calls us to serve others in the world, and helps us live in peace with our neighbor.

This is most certainly true. AMEN!

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Open to the gifts of the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation. *(A brief silence.)* We pray for the unity of your church. Free us to be Christ's one body, graciously receiving his life and boldly offering it to a world in need.

Lord, in your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

P: We pray for the renewal of creation: for a shared, plentiful harvest, for lands unable to bear fruit, for what is neglected or destroyed by our hand, and for the earth's advocates.
Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We pray for all nations of the world:
for leaders of villages, cities, states, and
nations, for lawmakers and judges,
for teachers and students, and for all who
work for peace. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We pray for those who seek refuge and strength: refugees, the imprisoned, and those bound by addictions or burdened by guilt. We pray for the ill or injured (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

P: We pray for continual reformation in this and every assembly. In new beginnings, impart wisdom. In established traditions, inspire creativity. In all ministries, revive our hope in the one who makes all things new. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We give thanks for your saints. United with them in the covenant of baptism, increase our faith in your promised life for all.

Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting the power of Christ and the gifts of the Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

~ VIDEO DURING THE OFFERING ~

“A Mighty Fortress is Our God”

by Promise Keepers

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

*We give thee but thine own,
whatever the gifts may be,
All that we have is thine alone,
a trust, oh Lord, from thee.*

*May we thy bounties thus,
as stewards true receive,
And gladly as though blessed us,
to thee our first fruits give.*

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray. Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being.

For your Word of life, O God,

C: we give you thanks and praise.

DIALOGUE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks and praise to the
Lord our God.

C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

~ WORDS OF INSTITUTION ~

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; 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.

~ COMMUNION ~

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Jesus Christ, host of this meal, you have given us not only this bread and cup, but your very self, that we may feast on your great love. Filled again by these signs of your grace, may we hunger for your reign of justice, may we thirst for your way of peace, for you are Lord forevermore.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN *“The Church's One Foundation”*

**The church's one foundation
is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
she is his new creation
by water and the word.
From heav'n he came and sought her
to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her,
and for her life he died.**

**Elect from ev'ry nation,
yet one o'er all the earth,
her charter of salvation
one Lord, one faith, one birth:
one holy name she blesses,
partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses,
with ev'ry grace endued.**

**Though with a scornful wonder
this world sees her oppressed,
by schisms rent asunder,
by heresies distressed,
yet saints their watch are keeping;
their cry goes up: "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping
shall be the morn of song.**

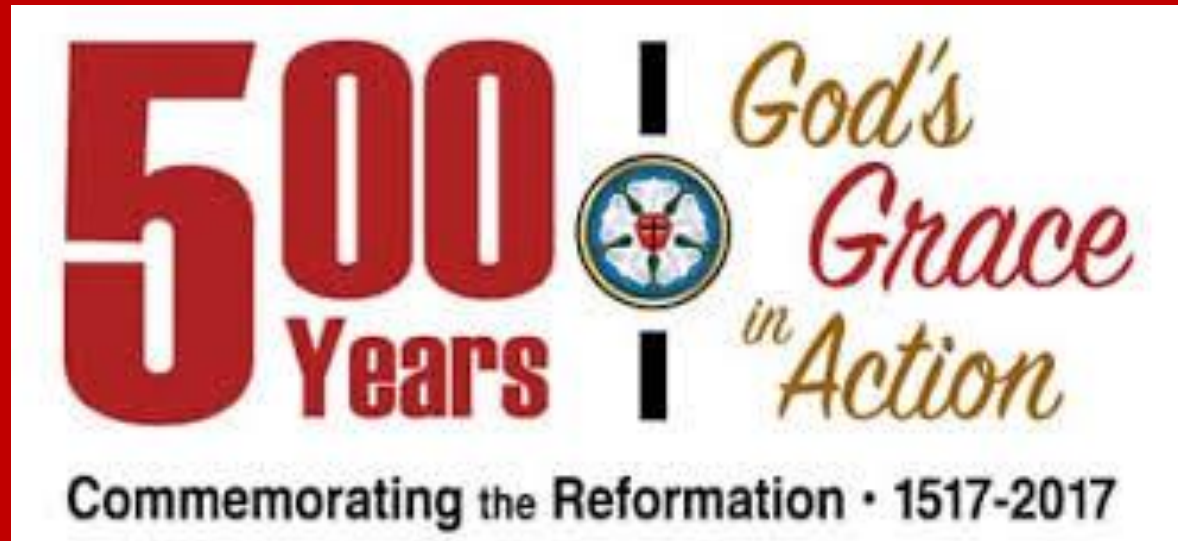
**Through toil and tribulation
and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation
of peace forevermore;
till with the vision glorious
her longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious
shall be the church at rest.**

**Yet she on earth has union
with God, the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion
with those whose rest is won.
Oh, blessed heav'nly chorus!
Lord, save us by your grace,
that we, like saints before us,
may see you face to face.**

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Remember the poor.

C: **Thanks be to God.**



**Please join us in the Fellowship Room for coffee
and a special Reformation Anniversary Cake ~
Everyone is welcome!**































