REFORMATION SUNDAY

INTRODUCTION

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.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

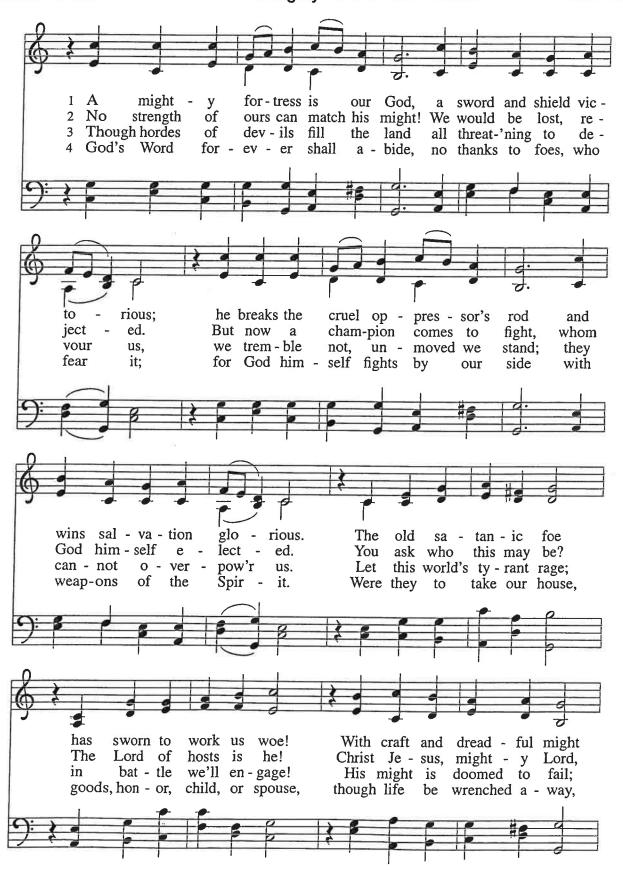
- P We remember our baptism, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit
- C Amen.
- P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
 But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence is kept for reflection.

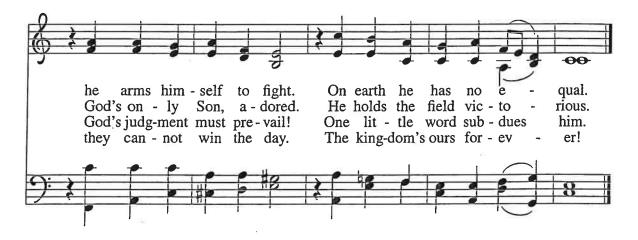
- P Most merciful God,
- We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

 Amen.
- P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, 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.



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Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship Music: Martin Luther, 1483–1546 Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress

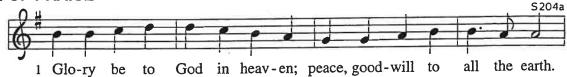
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* GREETING

- P Christ has called us to this place, gathered one and all by his Holy Spirit
- C We are followers of Christ who seek to hear the Word, live the Word, and share the Word.
- P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C And also with you.

* HYMN OF PRAISE



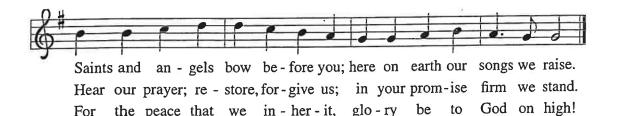
- Chairman and Lord of love
- 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for ev er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho-ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth: Son of God and gra-cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove; Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise. on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand. Je-sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa-ther's splen-dor bright.



* SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you

C And also with you

* PRAYER OF THE DAY

P 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.

C Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC 5:30 Chancel Choir 8:30 11:00 Praise Choir

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the LORD means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the LORD will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.

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.

PSALM: Psalm 46

The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold. (Ps. 46:7)

¹God is our refuge and strength,

a very present help in trouble.

²Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,

and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;

³though its waters rage and foam,

and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

⁴There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,

the holy habitation of the Most High.

⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;

God shall help it at the break of day.

⁶The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;

God speaks, and the earth melts away.

⁷The LORD of hosts is with us;

the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

⁸Come now, regard the works of the LORD,

what desolations God has brought upon the earth;

⁹behold 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.

¹⁰"Be still, then, and know that I am God;

I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth."

¹¹The LORD of hosts is with us;

the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

SECOND READING: Romans 3:19-28

Paul's words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ's death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

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.

* GOSPEL VERSE



- P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 8th chapter.
- C Speak, Lord, your servants are listening!

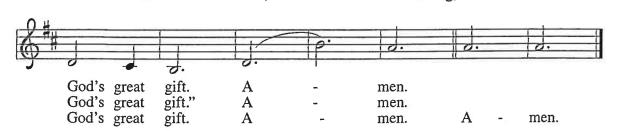
* GOSPEL: John 8:31-36

Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

- ³¹Jesus 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."
- P The Gospel of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God!

SERMON Pr. Sharon





Text: Kari Tikka, b. 1946; tr. Michael Harper Music: Kari Tikka

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* THE APOSTLES' CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. 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

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS (8:30)



* THE OFFERTORY "Give Thanks" thanks to the Ho-ly One, Give thanks with a grate-ful heart, give give thanks be-cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son. give thanks to the Ho - ly One, Give thanks with a grate-ful heart, give thanks Christ, be - cause he's giv - en his Son. Je - sus strong," And now let the weak say, "I let the poor say, "I am rich," be - cause of what the Lord has done for us. And strong," let the poor say, "I am now let the weak say, "I am Last time

Text: Henry Smith Music: GIVE THANKS, Henry Smith

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be-cause of what the Lord has done for

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us.

Give thanks!

* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P Challenged by God's Word in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and the whole creation.

A brief silence.

- P God of grace,
- C hear our prayer.
- P Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in the saving grace you freely give, both now and forever.
- C 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;
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

* BLESSING

Pastor and Congregation

As you go on your way may Christ go with you, May he go before you to show you the way; May he go behind you to encourage you, Beside you to befriend you, Above you to watch over, Within you to give you peace. In the name of the Father, Son and Spirit.



1740-1817, sts. 1-2, abdfrey Thring, 1823-1903, st. 3, alt. nt.

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* DISMISSAL

- P Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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Please welcome our New Members:

Jace Cochran & Jessalyn Brockman Reid and Rory

Brian & Brandy Danker Christensen Sophia, Scarlett, Presley and Carter

Jordan & Chelsey Hirt Leightynn

Barby James

David & Rev. Celeste Waymire