



October 27, 2024

Mission Festival & Reformation Sunday

Rev. Ken Bersche

Maggie Kent, Secretary

## Prelude

## Invocation

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,

**From everlasting to everlasting! Amen and Amen!**

*Psalm 41:13*

Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of Your name; deliver us, and atone for our sins, for Your name's sake!

**We Your people, the sheep of Your pasture, will give thanks to You forever; from generation to generation we will recount Your praise.**

*Psalm 79:9*

Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved, but abides forever.

**As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the Lord surrounds His people, from this time forth and forevermore.**

*Psalm 125:1–2*

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

*Matthew 28:19b*

**Amen.**

## Processional Hymn *Please Stand*

“A Mighty Fortress”

- ♪ 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 overpower 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,  
Though life be wrenched away, They cannot win the day. The Kingdom's ours forever!

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## Confession and Absolution

Out of the depths I cry to You, O Lord!

**O Lord, hear my voice! Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy!**

If You, O Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?

**But with You there is forgiveness, that You may be feared.**

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in His word I hope;

**My soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning.**

O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with Him is plentiful redemption.

**And He will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.**

*Psalm 130*

Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

**Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life.**

**Amen.**

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## **Prayer**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful 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; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **Hymn of Praise** *Please Be Seated*

“Thy Strong Word” (vv. 1,5,6)

♪ 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!

♪ 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

Fill our songs 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!

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 578-Text: Martin H. Franxmann 1907-76; Tune: Thomas J. Williams 1869-1944; Setting: Richard W. Hillert b.1923; ©1969 Concordia Publishing House; Used by permission; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.*

## **First Reading**

Revelation 14:6–7

<sup>6</sup>Then 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. <sup>7</sup>And 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.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## The Epistle

Romans 3:19–28

<sup>19</sup>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. <sup>20</sup>For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

<sup>21</sup>But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— <sup>22</sup>the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: <sup>23</sup>for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup>and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup>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. <sup>26</sup>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.

<sup>27</sup>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. <sup>28</sup>For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gradual Hymn

“God Loved the World”

- ♪ God loved the world so that He gave His only Son the lost to save,  
That all who would in Him believe Should everlasting life receive.
- ♪ Christ Jesus is the ground of faith, Who was made flesh and suffered death;  
All then who trust in Him alone Are built on this chief cornerstone.
- ♪ God would not have the sinner die; His Son with saving grace is nigh;  
His Spirit in the Word declares How we in Christ are heaven's heirs.
- ♪ Be of good cheer, for God's own Son Forgives all sins which you have done;  
And, justified by Jesus' blood, Your Baptism grants the highest good.
- ♪ If you are sick, if death is near, This truth your troubled heart can cheer:  
Christ Jesus saves your soul from death; That is the firmest ground of faith.

*Please Stand*

- ♪ Glory to God the Father, Son, And Holy Spirit, Three in One!  
To You, O blessed Trinity, Be praise now and eternally!

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 571-Text: Heiliges Lippen und Hertzens-Opffer, Stettin c. 1778; tr. August Crull 1845-1923  
Tune: George J. Elvey 1816-93: Setting: The Lutheran Hymnal 1941; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.

## Holy Gospel

John 8:31–36

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

**Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>31</sup>So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, <sup>32</sup>and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” <sup>33</sup>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’?”

<sup>34</sup>Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin. <sup>35</sup>The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. <sup>36</sup>So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to You, O Christ.**

## **Apostles’ Creed**

### **Children’s Message** *Please Be Seated*

#### **The Hymn**

“My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

♪ My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine.

Now hear me while I pray; Take all my guilt away;

O let me from this day Be wholly Thine!

♪ May Thy rich grace impart Strength to my fainting heart; My zeal inspire!

As Thou hast died for me, Oh, may my love to Thee

Pure, warm, and changeless be, A living fire!

♪ While life’s dark maze I tread And griefs around me spread, Be Thou my guide;

Bid darkness turn to day, Wipe sorrow’s tears away,

Nor let me ever stray From Thee aside.

♪ When ends life’s transient dream, When death’s cold, sullen stream Shall o’er me roll,

Blest Savior, then, in love, Fear and distrust remove;

O bear me safe above, A ransomed soul!

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 702 - Text: Ray Palmer 1808-87  
Tune: Lowell Mason 1792-1872; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.

#### **Proclamation of the Word**

“REFORM”

Romans 3:19–28

#### **Offering and Musical Offering**

##### **Prayer of the Church** *Please Stand*

Friends in Christ, I urge you all to lift up your hearts to God and pray with me as Christ our Lord has taught us and freely promised to hear us.

God, our Father in heaven, look with mercy on us, Your needy children on earth, and grant us grace that Your holy name be hallowed by us and all the world through the pure and true teaching of Your Word and the fervent love shown forth in our lives. Graciously turn from us all false doctrine and evil living whereby Your precious name is blasphemed and profaned. Lord, in Your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

May Your kingdom come to us and expand. Bring all transgressors and those who are blinded and bound in the devil’s kingdom to know Jesus Christ, Your Son, by faith that the number of Christians may be increased. Lord, in Your mercy,

### **Hear our prayer.**

Strengthen us by Your Spirit according to Your will, both in life and in death, in the midst of both good and evil things, that our own wills may be crucified daily and sacrificed to Your good and gracious will.

#### *Special Intercessions*

Into Your merciful hands we commend all who are in need, praying for them at all times: Thy will be done. Lord, in Your mercy,

### **Hear our prayer.**

Grant us our daily bread, preserve us from greed and selfish cares, and help us trust in You to provide for all our needs. Lord, in Your mercy,

### **Hear our prayer.**

Forgive us our sins as we also forgive those who sin against us so that our hearts may be at peace and may rejoice in a good conscience before You, and that no sin may ever frighten or alarm us. Lord, in Your mercy,

### **Hear our prayer.**

Lead us not into temptation, O Lord, but help us by Your Spirit to subdue our flesh, to turn from the world and its ways, and to overcome the devil with all his wiles. Lord, in Your mercy,

### **Hear our prayer.**

And lastly, O heavenly Father, deliver us from all evil of both body and soul, now and forever. Lord, in Your mercy,

### **Hear our prayer.**

We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **Lord's Prayer**

### **Benediction**

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

*2 Corinthians 13:14*

**Amen.**

### **Recessional Hymn** *Please Be Seated*

“Lord, Keep Us Steadfast”

- ♪ 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.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 655-Text: Martin Luther 1483-1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth 1827-78;  
Tune: Geistliche Lieder auff's new gebessert, Wittenberg 1543; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.

## **Postlude**