GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH 29 October 2023, 10:15 am

AS WE GATHER

Reformation Day is sometimes treated as merely a nod to history for those who claim Luther's legacy. But the great Reformation is not about recalling a hero. It is about reclaiming the Gospel in our own time. The once and eternal call is to "fear God and give Him glory" (Revelation 14:7). This fear is nothing less than faith, although it is more. It is respect for the Law that condemns our sin and trust in the Gospel that forgives us. It is reverence before the God who could have settled for being just but instead chose to be merciful. With joy, we claim the heritage and enjoin the responsibility of keeping this faith pure, vigorously proclaiming this faith both within and outside the company of the faithful.

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC and CANDLE LIGHTING

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

OPENING SONGS Ancient of Days

Gary Sadler, Jamie Harvill

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Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)

Chris Tomlin

Written by Stan Roto Walker (Traditional), David Pritchard-Blunt, Chris Tomlin, Louie Giglio.
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INVOCATION

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

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE DAY

OPENING SENTENCES and PRAYER

Jesus said, "If you abide in My word, you are truly My disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." We pray. . .

O God, our refuge and strength, always present in trouble, silence our fears when Your good creation seems out of control and evil appears to run rampant. Like the dawning of a new day, dispel the darkness of our hearts and renew confident faith in Your constant presence and gracious protection; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

READINGS FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

Please refer to the back of your service folder or to the screens overhead.

FIRST READING

Revelation 14:6-7

"The Message of the Angel"

David Wilson

RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 34:1-2, 11, 22; antiphon Psalm 119:46

I will speak of Your testimonies before kings, O Lord, and shall not be put to shame.

I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad.

Come, O children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

The Lord redeems the life of His servants; none of those who take refuge in Him will be condemned.

I will speak of Your testimonies before kings, O Lord, and shall not be put to shame.

EPISTLE READING

Romans 3:19-28 "The Righteousness of God Through Faith" Steve Yearout

Please stand.

GOSPEL READING John 8:31-36

"The Truth Will Set You Free"

Pastor Marty

WHAT WE BELIEVE

Our faith is in God the Father, the almighty Creator of all that exists. "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Therefore, we will not fear though the earth gives way."

I believe in God, the Father almighty, who has made me and all creatures. He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them. He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil.

Our faith is in God the Son, whose sacrifice on the cross opens to us eternal life in God's eternal presence.

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

God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;"

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death. He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity.

Our faith is in God the Holy Spirit, whose gift of faith gives us eternal peace with God.

"He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;

He breaks the bow and shatters the spear;

He burns the chariots with fire."

I believe in the Holy Spirit, who, in the holy Christian Church—the communion of saints—daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers. And that, on the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Jane Goss

(Kindergarten – 6th grade students are excused to attend Children's Church in the ANNEX)

SONG OF THE DAY

Freely, Freely

Carol Owens

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MESSAGE

"Justified By Grace As a Gift" Romans 3:24 Pastor Marty Tyler

Sermon Notes

Focus Scripture

The Law (Shows Our Sin)

The Gospel (Shows Our Salvation)

Main Point:

What Does This Mean for Me?

Application:

How does what I learned help me share God's Good News?

THANKFUL GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Thank you for your faithful prayers and financial support of Grace Ministries.

Our ability to continue to serve you, the Church, and our community is greatly dependent upon the willingness of God's people to give of their time, talents and treasures. Please remember to support the LORD's Church by regularly sending in your tithes and offerings; by mail, online at www.GraceLutheranCC.com/Giving, or download the *GivePlus* Mobile App. As the Apostle Paul writes, "Each one must give as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7). If you brought your tithe or offering with you today, you may place them in the box marked "I Bring An Offering To The Lord" sitting on the table next to the usher's station at the entrance to the sanctuary.

Please stand.

OFFERTORY SONG Spirit Song

John Wimber

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PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

1 Timothy 2:1-4

Following the prayers, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you" (Matthew 5:22–24; Ephesians 4:1–3), then return to their places and remain standing.

REPENTANCE and RENEWAL

In our lives, we struggle to follow Jesus' example of love, steadfastness, God is our refuge and strength;

therefore we will not fear.

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

and are justified by His grace as a gift.

If you abide in My word, you are truly My disciples,

and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.

With humble hearts, let us approach our Father's throne of grace.

Silence to reflect on our sin and our need for the Savior.

Beloved in the Lord, our gracious God invites us to confess our sins and to receive His gracious forgiveness. With true repentance, we come before Him, confident that He will hear us in the name of and for the sake of Jesus Christ.

Gracious Father, because our entire lives are to be ones of repentance, we bow before You and confess our sins. We have turned away from the truth of Your Word, choosing to go our own

way. By what we have thought, by what we have done, and by what we have failed to do, we have broken Your commands and are deserving of Your wrath and punishment. By the mercy of Christ, Your Son, set us free from our captivity. Enable us by Your Holy Spirit to live under You in Your kingdom and to serve You in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness. Amen.

Just as Christ is risen from the dead, He lives and reigns to all eternity! It is most certainly true that He died and rose again for you to make you right with God, to adopt you as children of the heavenly Father, and to set you free from sin and death. As a called and ordained servant of the Word, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the 🕂 Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Holy Communion is a confession of the faith whereby we profess at this altar that our Lord Jesus Christ gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Therefore, any who are not yet instructed, or who are in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, are respectfully asked to refrain from partaking in the meal and instead may come to the altar and receive a blessing, or remain in your pew during distribution, and afterwards speak with the pastor.

OPENING RESPONSES

The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

And also with you.

Colossians 3:1

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

Psalm 136

It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

It is truly good, right, and proper . . . evermore praising Your holy name and saying:

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sa -bā - oth adored; Heav'n and earth with full acclaim
Shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest,
Sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes
In the name of the Lord!

Sabaoth (SAH-bay-oath) is Hebrew for "heavenly hosts." Hosanna is a Hebrew word of praise meaning "save us now."

THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

THE PEACE

Please be seated.

My Confessional Prayer

I REJOICE in Jesus as my personal Lord and Savior.

I REPENT of all my sins in thought, word, and deed.

I RECEIVE Christ's real body and blood, as well as the bread and wine in this Sacrament.

I RELY on our Savior's promise of forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation given to me through this Holy Supper.

I REAFFIRM my oneness with fellow communicants in accepting all of Christ's teaching.

I RESOLVE to live a sanctified life by the power of the Holy Spirit.

DISTRIBUTION SONGS

A Place at Your Altar

Gerrit Gustafson and Gary Sandler

Based on Psalm 84:1-3. @1993 Integrity's Hosanna! Music; Used by permission; CCLI 120161

Here I Am, Lord (based on Genesis 46:2; Isaiah 6:8)

David L. Schutte

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Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me

LSB 722

Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000335

Please stand.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Please be seated.

DISCIPLESHIP CHALLENGE

Abbie Crist

- Read and meditate on Romans Chapters 3-5
- Service Opportunities:

Harvest Festival (see Jane Goss)

Thanksgiving food baskets (see René Hutzell) or

Volunteer to help with the community Thanksgiving Day dinner.

CLOSING PRAYER

Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your 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, through the abiding Word of Your Son,

set us free from our sin that we may know 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.

BLESSING TO DEPART

The blessing of God almighty—the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit—be with you now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

SENDING SONG

Lord, I Lift Your Name On High

Rick Founds

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Food Pantry

LET'S HELP FEED THE FAMILIES WHO NEED IT THE MOST

NEEDS:

- Canned beans, cereal, bread, spaghetti sauce, etc.
- · Cash donations so we can buy in bulk & meet needs
- Volunteers to shop, fill bags, distribute, etc.

VERY LOW SUPPLIES

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