

BENEDICTION

John 8:31–32, 36; Numbers 6:24–26



ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
Wheatfield, New York

Reformation Sunday
October 31, 2021

- P** Jesus said, “If you abide in My word,
- C** **you are truly My disciples,**
- P** and you will know the truth,
- C** **and the truth will set you free.**
- P** So if the Son sets you free,
- C** **you will be free indeed.”**

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and $\cdot\ddagger\cdot$ give you peace.
- C** **Amen.**

HYMN: “STAND UP, STAND UP FOR JESUS”

LSB 660

1 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus, Ye sol - diers of the cross.
 2 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus; The trum - pet call o - bey;
 3 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus; Stand in His strength a - lone.
 4 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus; The strife will not be long;

Lift high His roy - al ban - ner; It must not suf - fer loss.
 Stand forth in might - y con - flict In this His glo - rious day.
 The arm of flesh will fail you, Ye dare not trust your own.
 This day the din of bat - tle, The next the vic - tor's song.

From vic - t'ry un - to vic - t'ry His ar - my He shall lead
 Let all His faith - ful serve Him A - gainst un - num - bered foes;
 Put on the Gos - pel ar - mor; Each piece put on with prayer.
 The sol - diers, o - ver - com - ing, Their crown of life shall see

Till ev - 'ry foe is van - quished, And Christ is Lord in - deed.
 Let cour - age rise with dan - ger And strength to strength op - pose.
 Where du - ty calls or dan - ger, Be nev - er want - ing there.
 And with the King of Glo - ry Shall reign e - ter - nal - ly.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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OAR: One and All Rejoice hymnal
LSB: Lutheran Service Book hymnal

AS WE GATHER

Jesus calls us to abide in His Word. To abide means to dwell or be at home. Are you at home in Jesus' Word? Is it the place where you long to be? Jesus' Word is the only place in all the world where we can find the absolute guarantee of sins forgiven, hope restored, and new life granted as children of God the Father. Today, Jesus mercifully calls us to come to Him, confess our sins, and be filled with His pardon and peace. He will renew us by His Word, strengthen us at His Table, and send us forth with His blessing to proclaim to all creation: “So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed” (John 8:36).

INVOCATION

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

- P** In the name of the Father and of the $\cdot\ddagger\cdot$ Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C** **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES

John 8:31–32

- P** Jesus said, “If you abide in My word,
- C** **you are truly My disciples,**
- P** and you will know the truth,
- C** **and the truth will set you free.”**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

John 8:36

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

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

- P** Together, we pray:
- C** **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.**
- P** 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 $\cdot\ddagger\cdot$ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**
- P** “So if the Son sets you free,
- C** **you will be free indeed!”**

HYMN: “LORD, KEEP US STEADFAST IN YOUR WORD”

LSB 655

1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in Your Word; Curb those who
 2 Lord Je - sus Christ, Your pow'r make known, For You are
 3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, Send peace and

by de - ceit or sword Would wrest the king - dom from Your
 Lord of lords a - lone; De - fend Your ho - ly Church that
 u - ni - ty on earth; Sup - port us in our fi - nal

Son And bring to naught all He has done.
 we May sing Your praise e - ter - nal - ly.
 strife And lead us out of death to life.

Interlude between stanzas 2 and 3

Text and tune: Public domain

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Almighty and gracious Lord, to know You is to know true freedom from sin and to live in the transforming power of Your Holy Spirit. Grant that we, who hold fast to the Word of Your Son, may never return to our captivity but walk daily in the new life we have received; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT

Psalm 46

¹God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
²Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,
though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,
³though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble at its swelling.
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 her; she shall not be moved;
God will help her when morning dawns.
⁶The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;
he utters his voice, the earth melts.
⁷The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.
⁸Come, behold the works of the LORD,
how he has brought desolations on the earth.
⁹He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
he breaks the bow and shatters the spear;
he burns the chariots with fire.
¹⁰“Be still, 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 fortress.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

NEW TESTAMENT

Romans 3:19–28

¹⁹Now 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. ²⁰For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.
²¹But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: ²³for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom 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. ²⁶It 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.
²⁷Then 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. ²⁸For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

DISTRIBUTION

LSB 555

HYMN: “SALVATION UNTO US HAS COME”

1 Sal - va - tion un - to us has come By God’s free grace and
6 Since Christ has full a - tone-ment made And brought to us sal-
7 Let me not doubt, but tru - ly see Your Word can - not be
8 The Law re - veals the guilt of sin And makes us con-science-
fa - vor; Good works can - not a - vert our doom, They
va - tion, Each Chris - tian there - fore may be glad And
bro - ken; Your call rings out, “Come un - to Me!” No
strick - en; But then the Gos - pel en - ters in The
help and save us nev - er. Faith looks to Je - sus
build on this foun - da - tion. Your grace a - lone, dear
false - hood have You spo - ken. Bap - tized in - to Your
sin - ful soul to quick - en. Come to the cross, trust
Christ a - lone, Who did death for all the
Lord, I plead, Your death is now my
pre - cious name, My faith can - not be
Christ, and live; The Law no peace can
world a - tone; He is our one Re - deem - er.
life in - deed, For You have paid my ran - som.
put to shame, And I shall nev - er per - ish.
ev - er give, No com - fort and no bless - ing.

**9 Faith clings to Jesus’ cross alone
And rests in Him unceasing;
And by its fruits true faith is known,
With love and hope increasing.
For faith alone can justify;
Works serve our neighbor and supply
The proof that faith is living.**

**10 All blessing, honor, thanks, and praise
To Father, Son, and Spirit,
The God who saved us by His grace;
All glory to His merit.
O triune God in heav’n above,
You have revealed Your saving love;
Your blessèd name we hallow.**

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POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this saving gift of Your Son’s body and blood. Knowing the freedom of sins forgiven, send us out from this place as we walk by faith alone and share Your Word with the world Christ died to save; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY - SANCTUS

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9 LSB 208

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
 Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
 Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;
 Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

- P** Taught by our LORD and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:
- C** **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.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; *this is My ✠ body*, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; *this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood*, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."
- P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- C** **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

PEACE OF THE LORD - PAX DOMINI

John 20:19

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

LAMB OF GOD - AGNUS DEI

John 1:29 LSB 210

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 You take the sin of the world a - way;
 You take the sin of the world a - way;
 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
 And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 8:31-36

³¹So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." ³³They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?" ³⁴Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. ³⁶So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."

- P** This is the Gospel of our Lord.
- C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

RENEWAL OF CONFIRMATION VOWS

- P** Jesus said, "Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven." Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord:

CONFESSION OF FAITH

- P** Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?
- C** **Yes, I do.**
- P** Do you renounce the devil, all his works and all his ways?
- C** **Yes, I renounce them.**
- P** Do you believe in God, the Father?
- C** **Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**
- P** Do you believe in Jesus Christ?
- C** **Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**
- P** Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?
- C** **Yes, I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**
- P** Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?
- C** **I do believe.**
- P** Do you confess the teachings of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, as you have learned them from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true to God's Word?
- C** **I do confess.**
- P** Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?
- C** **I will, by the grace of God.**
- P** Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?
- C** **I will, by the grace of God.**

BLESSING

- P** In Holy Baptism, God the Father has made us members of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and heirs of all the treasures of heaven in the one holy Christian and apostolic Church. Today we have publicly confessed with our own voice that Jesus Christ is our Lord and Savior. As brothers and sisters in Christ, we recommit ourselves to supporting each other in our journey of faith and work together to further God's kingdom of grace to the world.
- C** **In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

HYMN: "A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD"

LSB 656

1 A might - y for - tress is our God,
 2 With might of ours can naught be done,
 3 Though dev - ils all the world should fill,
 4 The Word they still shall let re - main

A trust - y shield and weap - on;
 Soon were our loss ef - fect - ed;
 All ea - ger to de - vour us,
 Nor an - y thanks have for it;

He helps us free from ev - 'ry need
 But for us fights the val - iant One,
 We trem - ble not, we fear no ill;
 He's by our side up - on the plain

That hath us now o'er - tak - en.
 Whom God Him - self e - lect - ed.
 They shall not o - ver - pow'r us.
 With His good gifts and Spir - it.

The old e - vil foe Now means
 Ask ye, Who is this? Je - sus
 This world's prince may still Scowl fierce
 And take they our life, Goods, fame,

dead - ly woe; Deep guile and great might
 Christ it is, Of Sab - a - oth Lord,
 as he will, He can harm us none.
 child, and wife, Though these all be gone,

Are his dread arms in fight; On earth
 And there's none oth - er God; He holds
 He's judged; the deed is done; One lit -
 Our vic - t'ry has been won; The King -

is not his e - qual.
 the field for - ev - er.
 tle word can fell him.
 dom ours re - main - eth.

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TEACHING FROM GOD'S WORD

Message Notes

Main Points:

One thing NEW I learned:

What can I apply to my life?

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

OFFERING



THE LORD'S SUPPER

TO OUR VISITORS: The **Lord's Supper** is celebrated at St. John in the confession that not only bread and wine, but Jesus Christ's very body and blood are given to us to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of our sins and to strengthen our faith in Him and our union (*communion*) with one another. Our Lord invites to His table all those who believe His words, repent of all sin, and set aside all refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes. *If this is your first time at St John or have not been instructed about the Lord's Supper, we ask that you speak to the Pastor before participating in the Lord's Supper.*

PREPARATION FOR THE LORD'S SUPPER

- 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 to the Lord our God.
- C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**
- P** Glorious Father in heaven, we, Your children, who are filled with Your Spirit and guided by Your Word of truth, lift Your name on high and sing Your praises this day. You have redeemed us from hell, death, and the devil through the sacrifice of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. As Your forgiven children, we come to Your throne of grace to receive the gift You provide for us, the true body and blood of our Savior. Nurture our faith in Christ as we stand united as one holy people, lifting our voice and singing: