



Reformation Sunday
October 31, 2021

Sunday, October 31, 2021
Reformation Day

Prelude

“Down By the Riverside” arr. by Bradley Sowash
“He Keeps Me Singing” arr. by Bill Payne and Ed Hogan

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.

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
whose teaching is life,
whose presence is sure,
and whose love is endless.

C: Amen.

Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

.....Silence is kept for reflection.....

P: God our comforter:

C: like lost sheep, we have gone astray.

We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity.

We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression.

We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed.

Free us from our sin, gracious God.

Listen when we call out to you for help.

Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves.

Amen.

P: All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

By the gift of grace in ✠ Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous.

Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.

C: Amen.

Hymn ELW# 504 Vs 1, 2, and 4

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat -'ning to de -
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who

to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
 ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
 your us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
 fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with

wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
 God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
 weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,

has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
 in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
 goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,

he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
 they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
 Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther

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Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray

All: Gracious Father, we pray for your holy catholic church. Fill it with all truth and peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in anything it is amiss, reform it; where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in need, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Readings

Assisting Minister

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 46 (spoken responsively)

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.

²**Therefore 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.

⁴**There 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.

⁶**The 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.

⁸**Come 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.

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.

AM: Word of God, word of life

C: Thanks be to God.

Anthem

“Goin’ Home”

arr. by CK Linderkamp

Gospel Acclamation

Gospel: John 8:31-36

P: The holy gospel according to Mark

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

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: **Praise to you, O Christ.** *(please be seated)*

Sermon

"Reformed and always [in need of] Reforming"

Pastor Mitch

Hymn of the Day *(please stand)* ELW #598 vs. 1,2,3

For by Grace You Have Been Saved



1 For by grace you have been saved and e - ven faith is not your
 2 "So my grace is all - suf - fi - cient for each child who is my
 3 So this weak - ness with con - tent - ment I'll ac - cept now in my -



own, it's the gift of God for you and not the works that you have
 own, for my strength is now made per - fect for each child who is my
 self, all my hard - ships, pains, and griefs that still lie deep with - in my -



done. Don't let an - y - bod - y boast, for this is
 own. When you're weak, then you are strong, for this is
 self. When I'm weak, then I am strong, for this is



God's great gift. A - men.
 God's great gift." A - men.
 God's great gift. A - men. A - men.

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

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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. (*Please be seated*)

Prayers of Intercession

Assisting Minister

AM: Hear us O God,

C: **your mercy is great.**

Offering

Offering Music “Day By Day” arr. by Mark Hayes and Tracy Icenogle

Offering Prayer

P: God of abundance,
you cause streams to break forth in the desert
and manna to rain from the heavens.
Accept the gifts you have first given us.
Unite them with the offering of our lives
to nourish the world you love so dearly;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

Holy Communion

Words of Institution

P: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

C: **Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again.**

Lord’s Prayer

**All: 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**

Distribution

Prayer after Communion

P: Lord of life,
in the gift of your body and blood
you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation.
Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy,
bearing witness to the abundance of your love
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn (*please stand*) ELW# 652 vs. 1,2,5

Built on a Rock



1 Built on a rock the church shall stand, e - ven when stee - ples are
2 Sure - ly, in tem - ples made with hands God the Most High is not
3 Christ builds a house of liv - ing stones; we are his own hab - i -
4 Yet in this house, an earth - ly frame, Je - sus the chil - dren is
5 Through all the pass - ing years, O Lord, grant that, when church bells are



fall - ing; crum - bled have spires in ev - 'ry land, bells still are
dwell - ing— high in the heav'ns his tem - ple stands, all earth - ly
ta - tion; he fills our hearts, his hum - ble thrones, grant - ing us
bless - ing; hith - er we come to praise his name, faith in our
ring - ing, man - y may come to hear your Word, who here this



chim - ing and call - ing— call - ing the young and old to rest, call - ing the
tem - ples ex - cel - ling. Yet God who dwells in heav'n a - bove deigns to a -
life and sal - va - tion. Where two or three will seek his face, he in their
Sav - ior con - fess - ing. Je - sus to us his Spir - it sent, mak - ing with
prom - ise is bring - ing: "I know my own, my own know me; you, not the



souls of those dis - tressed, long - ing for life ev - er - last - ing.
bide with us in love, mak - ing our bod - ies his tem - ple.
midst will show his grace, bless - ings up - on them be - stow - ing.
us his cov - e - nant, grant - ing his chil - dren the king - dom.
world, my face shall see; my peace I leave with you. A - men."

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Carl Doving, 1867–1937, adapt.
Music: KIRKEN DEN ER ET GAMMEL HUS, Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–1887
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P: People of God,
you are Christ's body,
bringing new life to a suffering world.
The holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
bless you now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

We invite the congregation to remain seated and enjoy the postlude.

Postlude "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God arr. by Brad Henderson

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Leading Worship Today

Pastor: Reverend Dr. Mitch Kinsinger

Assisting Ministers: Jon Helgason and Cheryl Hollman

The Agape Quintet -John Egnell-Trumpet and Flugelhorn, Ben Anderson-Percussion, Dave Miller-Keyboards, Steve Truran-Bass, Chuck Linderkamp-Reeds, Ukulele, Vocals

Video Producer: Silvester Vicic

Office Volunteer: Virginia Iverson

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Our service today will be live streamed if anyone would like to view on our new website or be connected to Facebook.

Upcoming Commemoration-Reformation Day

All Saints Day

Monday, November 1, 2021

The custom of commemorating all of the saints of the church on a single day goes back at least to the third century. All Saints Day celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who make up the body of Christ. On this day or the following Sunday, many congregations will remember the faithful who have died during the past year.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please pray this week for AHLC Members and friends: Mary Ann Wistrom, John Lind, Deb Perry, Jan Kowitz, Mary Kowitz, Joanne Policone, Gary Winter, Richard Johnson, Priscilla Reeve, Gloria Doyon, Jerry Ekblad, Margaret Cleary, Ron Hanson, Richard Edge, Betty Richter, Esther Hallgren, Velta Krauze, Shirley Johnson, Jackie Staples, Dean Anderson, Clair, and Dona Haberman.

Trusting the promise of resurrection through Jesus Christ, I wish to inform you that Maureen Hanson passed away September 19, 2021. May the Lord comfort her family and friends as they mourn her passing. Maureen's service was held Wednesday, October 27, 2021.

The Agape Quintet is honored to return to Arlington Hills for Reformation Sunday 2021! We are so glad to be making music together again and sharing it with the family of Arlington Hills. We wish you all blessings and peace and good health!

Pick up Choir –1st and 3rd Sundays. Everyone is invited to join the pick-up Choir. Practice will start promptly at 8:45 a.m. No Wednesday night practices or robes. Anthem will be sung during Offertory. Thank you for your participation.

Can You Help?

Alley Shoppe needs mittens or gloves for men, women, and kids of all ages. If you have any extras or if you see any at the grocery store, Target, Walmart or even Menards that you like, our families will like them too! If you knit or crochet, there is yarn available. Thank you in advance for your help.

Next Sunday, November 7, turn your clocks back one hour.

November Newsletters are available at the back table and on-line.

Holy Communion today will be served using individual cups that you can pick up at the entrance area to the sanctuary, where the bulletins were handed out. There are cups of wine or juice. We also have gluten free options in separate baskets if you desire. Please dispose of the plastic in the appropriate trash receptacles.

Arlington Hills Lutheran Church (AHLC) is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization whose mission is to spread of the Word of Jesus Christ through word and deed and to promote the improvement of body, mind and spirit on the East Side of St. Paul and the greater St. Paul and Minneapolis metropolitan area. All tithes, offerings, or donations of any kind are tax-deductible under section 170(c)(2) and other relevant laws. The church will make every reasonable effort to honor designated gifts. In the event that a program, project, or giving purpose is overfunded or has concluded or is a program, project, or giving purpose not currently active in the church, your gift will be applied where it is needed most.

We acknowledge that the land on which we reside, worship and gather was first the home of the Dakota and Ojibwe (Chippewa) people. Minnesota means "sky-tinted water" in the Dakota language. We honor the First Nation people who continue to live and work here as part of this community.