**Christus Lutheran Church**

**Reformation Sunday**

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**“The two chief things are faith and love.**

**Faith receives the good; love gives the good.**

**Faith offers us God as our own;**

**love gives us to our neighbor as his own.”**

**Complete 8:00 & 10:30**

October 29, 2023

**PRELUDE** *Ericka Shelton*

*Stand*

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN:**

**A Mighty Fortress is Our God**

1 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.

2 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.

3 Though hordes of devils fill the land

 all threat’ning to devour us,

 We tremble not, unmoved we stand:

 They cannot overpow’r 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.

4 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!

**WELCOME**

**INVOCATION**

**P:** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen**

**CONFESSION**

**P:** Let us humbly kneel, and make confession to God, imploring His forgiveness through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Kneel as you are able, or be seated*

**P:** Heavenly Father;

**C: I confess that I have sinned against you in many ways; not only by outward transgressions, but by secret thoughts and desires. In the light of your holiness, I see the black stain of sin in my heart. Lord, I am sorry; and I beg you, of your great mercy, to forgive my sins for the sake of your beloved Son. Break my heart of stone, and give me a heart of flesh, filled with and led by your Holy Spirit. Amen**

**ABSOLUTION**

**P:** The Almighty and Eternal God, in His infinite mercy and for the sake of our Savior, Jesus Christ, forgives you all your sins, and grants you a new life in and with Christ.

**C: Amen! Thanks be to God!**

*Stand*

**PEACE**

**P:** “Since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.” *(Romans 5:1)*

May this peace be with you all.

**C: And with your spirit.**

*Feel free to move about and share this peace with one another*

**HYMN: God of Grace and God of Glory** *LBW #415,v.1-3*

1 God of grace and God of glory,

 on your people pour your pow’r;

 Crown your ancient Church’s story,

 bring its bud to glorious flow’r;

 Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,

 for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.

2 Lo! The hosts of evil round us

 scorn the Christ, assail his ways!

 From the fears that long have bound us

 free our hearts to faith and praise.

 Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,

 for the living of these days, for the living of these days.

3 Cure your children’s warring madness;

 Bend our pride to your control;

 Shame our wanton, selfish gladness,

 Rich in things and poor in soul.

 Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,

 lest we miss your kingdom’s goal;

 lest we miss your kingdom’s goal.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P:** Let us pray. God of might and mercy,

**C: By your divine Word, you have led us to the knowledge of your Son. Graciously continue to replenish our faith with your Word and Sacraments, so that we may ever walk in the light of your Truth, rejoicing with sure confidence in Christ our Savior, and be brought to everlasting salvation through Him, in whose holy name we pray. Amen**

*Be Seated*

**FIRST LESSON: Revelation 14:6-7**

**R:** The first lesson is from Revelation, the 14th chapter

 6 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. 7And 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.”

**R:** The Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God**

**PSALM 46** *Pastor-regular type* ***Congregation-bold type***

1 God 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.**

**SECOND LESSON: Romans 3:19-28**

**R:** The Second Lesson is from Romans, the 3rd chapter.

 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.

**R:** The Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God**

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

*Stand*

**GOSPEL LESSON: John 8:31-36**

**P:** The Holy Gospel, according to St. John,

the 8th chapter **C: Glory to you, O Lord**

 31So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed 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 practices 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:** The Gospel of our Lord

**C: Praise to you, O Christ**

*Be Seated*

**SERMON**

*Stand*

**HYMN: Built On a Rock** *LBW #365, v.1,3,5*

1 Built on a rock, the Church shall stand

 Even when steeples are falling.

 Crumbled have spires in ev’ry land,

 Bells still are chiming and calling –

 Calling the young and old to rest,

 Calling the souls of those distressed,

 Longing for life everlasting.

3 We are God’s house of living stones,

 Built for his own habitation;

 He fills our hearts, his humble thrones,

 Granting us life and salvation.

 Were two or three to seek his face,

 He in their midst would show his grace,

 Blessings upon them bestowing.

5 Through all the passing years, O Lord,

 Grant that, when church bells are ringing,

 Many may come to hear God’s Word

 Where he this promise is bringing:

 “I know my own, my own know me;

 You, not the world, my face shall see;

 My peace I leave with you. Amen.”

**APOSTLES’ CREED**

**P:** We confess the one, true faith, using the words of the Apostles’ Creed -

**C: 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 Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

*Be Seated*

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

**OFFERING**

*Stand*

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**P:** Let us pray. Almighty God,

**C: according to your Word, we return to you a**

**tenth of what you have entrusted to us. Use our**

**offerings for the benefit of your children, and to**

**the glory of your holy name; through Christ our**

**Lord. Amen**

**THE LORD’S SUPPER**

 *Stand*

 **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

 **LORD’S PRAYER**

 *Be Seated*

 **DISTRIBUTION**

 *Stand*

 **POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**BENEDICTION**

**P**: The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift

his countenance upon you and give you peace; in the

name of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen**

**HYMN: Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing** *LBW #363*

1 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.

 His cross stands empty to the sky.

 Let streets and homes with praises ring.

 In death his love shall never die.

2 Christ is alive! No longer bound

 to distant years in Palestine.

 He comes to claim the here and now,

 And conquer ev’ry place and time.

3 Not throned afar, remotely high,

 untouched, unmoved by human pains,

 but daily in the mist of life,

 our Savior with the Father reigns.

4 In ev’ry insult, rift and war,

 where color, scorn, or wealth divide,

 He suffers still, yet loves the more,

 And lives, though ever crucified.

5 Christ is alive! Ascended Lord –

 He rules the world his Father made,

 Till, in the end, his love adored

 Shall be to all on earth displayed.

**DISMISSAL**

**P:** We go in peace, to fear God, love God, and trust God.

**C: He is to be feared and loved,**

 **and He can be trusted. Amen**

**POSTLUDE** *Ericka Shelton*

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**HOLY COMMUNION**

All the baptized who believe in the true presence of Christ

in these elements, the bread and wine,

and who know their need of forgiveness,

are welcome to receive the Lord’s Supper.

**(1 Cor. 11:23-25; Matt.26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19, 20)**

*Both wine (red) and grape juice (white) are available.*

*Gluten-free wafers are available – please ask your server for the gluten free* *wafer if you so choose.*

*Children who have not received instruction, and those who do not believe in the true presence of Christ in the Supper, may come forward with arms crossed over their hearts to receive a blessing.*

*Our mission is to invite people of all nations*

*into fellowship with Jesus Christ,*

*and to make them His disciples*

*through preaching and teaching Christ crucified, risen*

*and coming again as the only hope of eternal salvation.*

 ***Christus Lutheran Church***

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Pastors: Brian Crocker & Shelly Klemp

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