

SPIRIT OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

October 30 & 31, 2021

Reformation Sunday

Ministers: Every Member of Spirit of Grace

Pastor Scott Hackler – Pastor Gary Benson

OUR VISION

“To help our congregation and community know Christ and grow in faith, so we can run the race of life with grace, hope, peace, and joy.”

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP: “A Mighty Fortress” Fred Bornhoeft

INVOCATION

P: We worship in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit!

C: Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Let us confess our sins to God, who welcomes us with an open heart.

C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE: “This Is the Day”

This is the day, this is the day / that the Lord has made, that the Lord has made; / we will rejoice, we will rejoice / and be glad in it, and be glad in it. / This is the day that the Lord has made; / we will rejoice and be glad in it. / This is the day, this the day that the Lord has made.

Text: Psalm 118:24. Public Domain.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your

saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

SPECIAL MUSIC: “My Faith Has Found a Resting Place” Fred Bornhoeft

THE PSALM: Psalm 46

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea; though its waters rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble with its tumult. 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 the city; it shall not be shaken; God shall help it at the break of day. The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake; God speaks, and the earth melts away. The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold. Come now, regard the works of the Lord, what desolations God has brought upon the earth; behold 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. “Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.” The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

P: Word of God, Word of life.

C: Thanks be to God!

THE READING: Romans 3:19-28

Now 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. For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin. But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom 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; it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus. Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

P: Word of God, Word of life.

C: Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (Sing)

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? / You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

THE GOSPEL: John 8:31-36

Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” They 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?’” Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord,

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY: "The Church's One Foundation"

The church's one foundation / is Jesus Christ, her Lord; / she is his new creation / by water and the word. / From heav'n he came and sought her / to be his holy bride; / with his own blood he bought her, / and for her life he died.

Though with a scornful wonder / this world sees her oppressed, / by schisms . . . rent asunder, / by heresies distressed, / yet saints their watch are keeping; / their cry goes up: "How long?" / And soon the night of weeping / shall be the morn of song.

Through toil and tribulation / and tumult of her war, / she waits the consummation / of peace forevermore; / till with the vision glorious / her longing eyes are blest, / and the great church victorious / shall be the church at rest.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900. Public Domain.

APOSTLES' CREED

C: 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 into hell. 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (*Response: Your mercy is great.*)

OFFERING PRAYER

P: God of abundance, you cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain from the heavens.

C: Accept the gifts you have first given us. Unite them with the offering of our lives to nourish the world you love so dearly. Amen.

THE LORD'S SUPPER: WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Holy, almighty and merciful God. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying; Take and eat: this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C: God of new life, pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless our feast and grace our table with your presence. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us 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.

DISTRIBUTION

BLESSING AND PRAYER

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

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.

BENEDICTION

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.

SENDING HYMN: "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

Love divine, all loves excelling, / Joy of heav'n, to earth come down! / Fix in us thy humble dwelling, / all thy faithful mercies crown. / Jesus, thou art all compassion, / pure, unbounded love thou art; / visit us with thy salvation, / enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit / into ev'ry troubled breast; / let us all in thee inherit; / let us find thy promised rest. / Take away the love of sinning; / Alpha and Omega be; / end of faith, as its beginning, / set our hearts at liberty.

Finish then thy new creation, / pure and spotless let us be; / let us see thy great salvation / perfectly restored in thee! / Changed from glory into glory, / till in heav'n we take our place, / till we cast our crowns before thee, / lost in wonder, love, and praise!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788. Public Domain.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Scripture Reader: Lowell "Buzz" Schmidtke

Hymn Vocalists: Tom Chambers, Cathy Pierce, Terry Pierce, Candace Renwall

Audio & Lighting: Jim Miller

Producer & Editor: Jerry Huston

*****Announcements & Upcoming Events*****

WELCOME SESSIONS are an opportunity for new and long-time visitors to learn why our church exists and how you can be more connected and committed to our ministry. You will meet other prospective members, learn about our mission and vision, and our various ministries. Our next Welcome Session is **Monday, November 8th, at 10:00 am**. So that we may have sufficient materials, please call the church office (623-977-6000, ext. 100) to register. Hope to see you there!

SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS – The holidays are fast approaching and for those who have lost a loved one it can be a difficult time. Join us on Wednesday, November 10th, from 10am to 12pm to learn how to:

*Deal with emotions *What to do with traditions *Helpful hints for surviving social events *How to find hope for the future

This program is from GriefShare and will include a video and discussion. Refreshments will be served. All are welcome. Invite your family and neighbors. Registration is requested. Call the church office (602-977-6000) or Deborah Frusciano (602-909-8369) for further details.

HARVEST HOMECOMING DINNER & MUSIC – This is the LAST WEEKEND to purchase tickets for the Harvest Homecoming Dinner on November 14th at 5 pm. The sit-down Thanksgiving dinner will be followed with entertainment by “Mirror Image” who will play a variety of music for your enjoyment. Tickets are \$20 per person. A FREE WILL OFFERING will be taken to contribute to the FOOD BANK in appreciation for their entertainment.

FA-LA-LA and DECK THE HALL – tickets go on sale next weekend before and after services. The event is Friday, December 3rd, from 3pm to 6:30pm. Tickets are \$5 each. We will go caroling to facilities and homebound members. If you do not wish to go caroling, you may stay at the church to decorate the Fellowship Hall and the narthex for Advent and Christmas and make Chrismon ornaments for the sanctuary tree. This event will close by gathering together at the end for a supper of mild chili or chicken rice soup. We ask that everyone bring an ornament or two to decorate the Fellowship Hall tree.

*Everyone is welcome to participate in all Spirit of Grace events and ministries:
you do not need to be a registered member.*