



Reformation Sunday 11 AM

ELW Holy Communion

*Prior to Worship, please text Prayers "Text in Church" # 314.329.0487  
& Pastor will lift them in Prayers of the People*

**GATHERING** The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

**WELCOME**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (ELW p. 94)**

*The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,  
who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Faithful God,

**have mercy on us. We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.**

**We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways.**

**We pass judgement on one another before examining ourselves.**

**We place our own needs before those of our neighbors.**

**We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves. Make us humble, cast away our brokenness,  
and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God hears the cries of all who call out in need, and through his death and resurrection,  
Christ has made us his own. Hear the truth God proclaims:

Your sins are forgiven in the name of + Jesus Christ.

Led by the Holy Spirit, let us now live in freedom and newness to do God's work in the world. **Amen.**

**GATHERING SONG** *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

Verse 1 **A mighty fortress is our God  
A bulwark never failing  
Our helper He amid the flood  
Of mortal ills prevailing  
For still our ancient foe  
Doth seek to work us woe  
His craft and power are great  
And armed with cruel hate  
On earth is not his equal**

Verse 2 **Did we in our own strength confide  
Our striving would be losing  
Were not the right man on our side  
The man of God's own choosing  
Dost ask who that may be  
Christ Jesus it is He  
Lord Sabbath His name  
From age to age the same  
And He must win the battle**

Verse 3 **And though this world  
With devils filled  
Should threaten to undo us  
We will not fear  
For God hath willed  
His truth to triumph through us  
The prince of darkness grim  
We tremble not for him  
His rage we can endure  
For lo his doom is sure  
One little word shall fell him**

#### **GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

#### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. *A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

Almighty God, ...

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. **Amen.**

Chorus **A mighty fortress  
A mighty fortress is our God  
A mighty fortress  
A mighty fortress is our God**

Verse 4 **That word above all earthly pow'rs  
No thanks to them abideth  
The Spirit and the gifts are ours  
Through Him who with us sideth  
Let goods and kindred go  
This mortal life also  
The body they may kill  
God's truth abideth still  
His kingdom is forever**

CCLI Song # 2184098

**WORD    God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song**

**FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34** - Read by Worship Asst.

*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.*

<sup>31</sup>The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>32</sup>It 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. <sup>33</sup>But 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. <sup>34</sup>No 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. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 46** (Read responsively by Worship Asst. and **All, who reads the bold**)

<sup>1</sup>God is our refuge and strength,  
a very present help in trouble.

<sup>2</sup>**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,  
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**

<sup>3</sup>though its waters rage and foam,  
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

<sup>4</sup>**There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

<sup>5</sup>God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;  
God shall help it at the break of day.

<sup>6</sup>**The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;  
God speaks, and the earth melts away.**

<sup>7</sup>The LORD of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

<sup>8</sup>**Come now, regard the works of the LORD,  
what desolations God has brought upon the earth;**

<sup>9</sup>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.

<sup>10</sup>**“Be still, then, and know that I am God;  
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”**

<sup>11</sup>The LORD of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

**SECOND READING: Romans 3:19-28** Read by Worship Asst.

*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.*

<sup>19</sup>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. <sup>20</sup>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.

<sup>21</sup>But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, <sup>22</sup>the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, <sup>23</sup>since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; <sup>24</sup>they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup>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; <sup>26</sup>it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

<sup>27</sup>Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. <sup>28</sup>For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law. Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL: John 8:31-36** Read by Pastor

The holy gospel according to John. **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.*

<sup>31</sup>Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; <sup>32</sup>and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” <sup>33</sup>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’?”

<sup>34</sup>Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. <sup>35</sup>The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. <sup>36</sup>So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON** Adaptation: Re-Forming

**CREED (ELW p. 206)** *The Nicene Creed*

**We believe in one God,**

**the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,**

**the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation**

**he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,\*  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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\*Or, "who proceeds from the Father." The phrase "and the Son" is a later addition to the creed.

#### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** - Lead by Worship Asst.

With confidence in God's grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

#### *A brief silence.*

Renew and inspire the church in the freedom of the gospel, O God. Where the church is in error, reform it. Where the church speaks your truth, strengthen it. Where the church is divided, unify it. Ignite in us the working of the Holy Spirit. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

As the earth changes, as mountains shake and the waters roar, may we care for this planet as a holy habitation for all living things. Sustain all peoples and lands recovering from natural disasters of any kind (*especially*).

Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Guide areas of the world divided or traumatized by conflict, especially in our own land. Free all from slavery and human trafficking, and protect all in harm's way. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Release those living in bondage to debts, chronic pain, or addiction. Grant healing touch to those who are ill (*especially* Release those living in bondage to debts, chronic pain, or addiction. Grant healing touch to those who are ill

**Please hold the following individuals in your prayers this week: read only names**

**Kelly**, as she recovers from successful cataract surgery

**Jackie**, diagnosed with leukemia (sister of John Caligiuri)

**Norma**, healing from a broken ankle (cousin of Becky Benson)

**Mike**, Donna Jackson's brother-in-law, whose soybean field caught on fire and claimed his combine. Kind neighbors harvested the crop and Mike is recovering from smoke inhalation.

**Jeremy**, who suffered brain injury after traumatic accident

**David**, Tim Tyahla's brother

**Joanne Way**, hospital test

**Sandy Frueh**, after a trip to ER for high blood pressure

**The Rechek Family**, in Covid-19 Quarantine,

**JEAN FORSON**, COVID-19 asymptomatic but moved to floor with other patients **& Jean's concerned Family**

**Izetta and family** as they contemplate a move AND Pansana and her family

**The McCracken family** as they grieve the loss of their pet birds, Oscar and Snowflake

Marilyn, Merry and her brother JR, Keith, Luanne, Myron and Patsy, Adam, Betty, Leah, Wayne and Cathy, Marcy, Dennis, Brenda, Nancy, Jim, Rose, Sandy, Bob Stone, Joanne, and Tara

***we give God thanks and praise for:***

**Jack Hamill's** ongoing recovery and return to worship with us!

**Those who helped yesterday at the DAY of SERVICE!**

Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

In this family of faith we give thanks for courageous voices that have remained firm in their commitment to the one who frees us from sin and death. Centered in your grace, unify us in the hope of the gospel. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

*Here the Pastor will share intercessions may be offered from emails & Texts-in-Church.*

*Pastor:* Even in death, you free us and give us a place in your house. We give thanks for our ancestors who have shown us truth and freedom, especially Martin Luther and those who work for the renewal of the church. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Listen as we call on you, O God, and enfold in your loving arms all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**PEACE**

*The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.*

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace*

**KIDS' MESSAGE – THE WHYS OF BEING GOOD DISCIPLES AS GOOD STEWARDS...(VIDEO PRESENTATION)**

BY MARCUS BENSON, SOCIAL MEDIA COORDINATOR & COMMUNITY OUTREACH COORDINATOR OF HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

**MEAL God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ**

**OFFERING** *Please continue to offer to Holy Cross what you desire to give to God through*

*1) Your established e-giving pledge through Vanco OR*

2) through a new mobile App called GIVEPLUS+ is available from your mobile store online

3) send your check directly to Holy Cross at 13014 Olive Blvd. in Creve Coeur, MO 63141

4) Go to our Website and hit "DONATE NOW" <http://www.holycrosselca.com/site/cs/links.asp>

*The presiding minister instructs those communing at home to gather their bread / cracker / wine/ grape juice elements to hold up during the Words of Institution.*

## OFFERING SONG *The Stand*

Verse 1 **You stood before creation  
Eternity in Your hand  
You spoke the earth into motion  
My soul now to stand**

Verse 2 **You stood before my failure  
And carried the cross for my shame  
My sin weighed upon Your shoulders  
My soul now to stand**

## OFFERING PRAYER (ELW p. 206)

*After the table is set, the assisting minister leads.*

Let us pray.

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Pre-Chorus **So what can I say  
And what can I do  
But offer this heart O God  
Completely to You**

Verse 3 **So I'll walk upon salvation  
Your Spirit alive in me  
My life to declare Your promise  
My soul now to stand**

Chorus **So I'll stand  
With arms high and heart abandoned  
In awe of the One who gave it all  
I'll stand  
My soul Lord to You surrendered  
All I am is Yours**

CCLI Song # 4705248

## GREAT THANKSGIVING PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ;  
who on this day overcame death and the grave,  
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE (ELW p. 207)

*This prayer is based on the readings appointed for Reformation Day: Jeremiah 31:31-34; Romans 3:19-28; and John 8:31-36. Passages in italics are especially appropriate for giving thanks at the Reformation.*

O God before time, O God at the end,  
we delight in the splendor of your universe.  
Daily we laud your continuing creation, and we give thanks  
*for all the homelands of your Reformation people.*

We glorify you, now and forever.

**We glorify you, now and forever.**

O God of the covenant, O God of the church,  
we hear you speaking to centuries of your people.  
We come as your children to this table,  
and we give thanks for your presence  
*among Lutheran congregations around the world.*

We praise you, now and forever.

**We praise you, now and forever.**

You gave us Mary and Magdalene, Peter and Paul,  
*Luther and Melancthon, Henry Muhlenberg, and Elizabeth Fedde.. Reformers...*  
We bless you, now and forever.

**We bless you, now and forever.**

You came as Jesus, our wisdom, our guide,  
*embodying forgiveness, granting us grace, setting us free,*  
dying for sin, and alive for the life of the world.  
We worship you, now and forever.

**We worship you, now and forever.**

**[Home Communion / Fellowship Cups – HOLD UP YOUR ELEMENTS...]**

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.

Remembering his death, we cry out Amen. **Amen.**  
Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen. **Amen.**  
Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen. **Amen.**  
Come, Holy Spirit, and make here the body of Christ.  
Breathe onto this food, that it bring us your life.

***Empower your Reformation people throughout the world  
to preach and teach, baptize and feed,  
pray and sing, comfort and heal.***

By your Spirit,  
preserve what is faithful; reform what we treasure; create in us what is vital and new.  
We honor you, now and forever.

**We honor you, now and forever.**

O God before time, O God at the end,  
Father, Son, and Spirit, we laud you,

***Covenant Lord, our Redeemer, the Strength of truth.***

Glory and praise, blessing and worship,  
honor and power and might be to you, our God,  
forever and ever. **Amen.**

#### **LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

#### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION (ELW p. 208)**

*The presiding minister may address the assembly in these or similar words.*

Taste and see that the Lord is good. *The bread may be broken for Home communion.*

#### **COMMUNION (ELW p. 208)** *When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say*

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*and each person may respond* Amen. *The ministers commune after others commune.*

**+ - Blessing of those who are not receiving Communion today,  
yet are part of the COMMUNITY of the Body of CHRIST!**

#### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (ELW p. 208)** *The assisting minister leads.*

Let us pray.

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

**SENDING** God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

**ANNOUNCEMENTS - LOOK FOR YOUR STEWARDSHIP INFO THIS WEEK TO MAKE YOUR PLEDGE!**

**-SEND IN YOUR NAMES for Beloved who have Died or Baptisms since last year's ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY**

## **BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **Amen.**

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the good news. Tend God's Creation and All Created! **Thanks be to God!**

## **SENDING SONG *This is Amazing Grace***

Verse 1 **Who breaks the power of sin and darkness  
Whose love is mighty and so much stronger  
The King of Glory the King above all kings**

Verse 2 **Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder  
And leaves us breathless in awe and wonder  
The King of Glory the King above all kings**

Chorus **(Yeah) (Oh) This is amazing grace  
This is unfailing love  
That You would take my place  
That You would bear my cross  
You laid down Your life  
That I would be set free  
Oh Jesus I sing for all that You've done for me**

Verse 3 **Who brings our chaos back into order  
Who makes the orphan a son and daughter  
The King of Glory the King of Glory**

Verse 4 **Who rules the nations with truth and justice  
Shines like the sun in all of its brilliance  
The King of Glory the King above all kings**

Bridge **Worthy is the Lamb who was slain  
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave  
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain  
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave  
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain  
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave  
Worthy worthy worthy**

CCLI Song # 6333821

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**Worship Assistant - Mary Bailey**

**AV/Camera Volunteers Marcus Benson, Donovan Lucas, Patrick Goertzen, Philip Paul, & Dave Ristau**

**Flowers given for Justin Sims Birthday by Christine & Jerry Doud**

