

Reformation Sunday
October 29, 2023

Faith Lutheran Church

512-863-7332

Georgetown, TX 78628

flcms.org

(The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod)

WELCOME

TEMPLE TALK: Medical Volunteers—John Ploetz

INVOCATION:

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP: *Psalm 46*

Pastor: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

People: Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,

Pastor: though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

People: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

Pastor: God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns.

People: The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts.

Pastor: The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

People: Come, behold the works of the Lord, how he has brought desolations on the earth.

Pastor: He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the chariots with fire.

People: “Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!”

Pastor: The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

OPENING HYMN "A Mighty Fortress is Our God" (LSB, #656)

A mighty fortress is our God,
A trusty shield and weapon;
He helps us free from ev'ry need
That hath us now o'ertaken.

The old evil foe
Now means deadly woe;
Deep guile and great might
Are his dread arms in fight;
On earth is not his equal.

With might of ours can naught be done,
Soon were our loss effected;
But for us fights the valiant One,
Whom God Himself elected.

Ask ye, Who is this?
Jesus Christ it is,
Of Sabaoth Lord,
And there's none other God;
He holds the field forever.

Though devils all the world should fill,
All eager to devour us,
We tremble not, we fear no ill;
They shall not overpow'r us.
This world's prince may still
Scowl fierce as he will,
He can harm us none.
He's judged; the deed is done;
One little word can fell him.

The Word they still shall let remain
Nor any thanks have for it;
He's by our side upon the plain
With His good gifts and Spirit.
And take they our life,
Goods, fame, child, and wife,
Though these all be gone,
Our vict'ry has been won;
The Kingdom ours remaineth.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION:

Pastor: Beloved, our help is in the name of the Lord,

People: who made heaven and earth.

Pastor: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

People: But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

Pastor: Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

People: Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray.

People: Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people. Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and deliver us in times of temptation, defend us against all enemies, and grant to Your Church Your saving peace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CHORAL ANTHEM: You Are My Refuge

THE FIRST READING: *Revelation 14:6–7*

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. And 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.”

Lector: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE 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 stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom 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. It 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.

Then 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. For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

Lector: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Lector: Please rise, as you are able.

Lector: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 8th chapter:

People: Glory to You, O Lord!

GOSPEL READING: *John 8:31-36*

So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” They answered him, “We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, ‘You will become free’?”

Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.”

Lector: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ!

Lector: We confess together our Christian faith, using the Nicene Creed.

CONFESSION OF FAITH: The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried.

And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen!

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

HYMN: “By Grace I’m Saved” (LSB, # 566)

By grace I’m saved, grace free and boundless;
My soul, believe and doubt it not.
Why stagger at this word of promise?
Has Scripture ever falsehood taught?
No! Then this word must true remain:
By grace you too will life obtain.

By grace! None dare lay claim to merit;
Our works and conduct have no worth.
God in His love sent our Redeemer,
Christ Jesus, to this sinful earth;
His death did for our sins atone,
And we are saved by grace alone.

By grace God’s Son, our only Savior,
Came down to earth to bear our sin.
Was it because of your own merit
That Jesus died your soul to win?
No, it was grace, and grace alone,
That brought Him from His heav’nly throne.

By grace! This ground of faith is certain;
As long as God is true, it stands.
What saints have penned by inspiration,
What in His Word our God commands,
Our faith in what our God has done
Depends on grace—grace through His Son.

By grace to timid hearts that tremble,
In tribulation’s furnace tried,
By grace, in spite of fear and trouble,
The Father’s heart is open wide.
Where could I help and strength secure
If grace were not my anchor sure?

By grace! On this I’ll rest when dying;
In Jesus’ promise I rejoice;
For though I know my heart’s condition,
I also know my Savior’s voice.

My heart is glad, all grief has flown
Since I am saved by grace alone.

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SERMON: “Reformation Realities” (*Romans 6:23*)

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD’S PRAYER:

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.

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS



C 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!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION:

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night in which He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it, and gave it to His 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 covenant in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sin. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PAX DOMINI ~ *The Peace of the Lord*

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI



C 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.

DISTRIBUTION

The Lord's Supper will be distributed at the altar rail. Please follow the ushers' directions.

DISTRIBUTION SONG: "Behold the Lamb"

See Him there, the great I Am,
 A crown of thorns upon His head.
 The Father's heart displayed for us.
 O God, we thank You for the cross.

Lifted up on Calv'ry's hill,
 We cursed Your name and even still
 You bore our shame and paid the cost.
 O God, we thank You for the cross.

Behold the Lamb, the story of redemption
 Written on His hands.

Jesus, You will reign forevermore!
 The victory is Yours!
 We sing Your praise,
 Endless hallelujahs to Your holy name.
 Jesus, You will reign forevermore!
 The victory is Yours!

Offer up this sacrifice.
 For ev'ry sin our Savior died.
 The Lord of Life can't be contained.
 Our God has risen from the grave.

Behold the Lamb, the story of redemption
Written on His hands.
Jesus, You will reign forevermore!
The victory is Yours!
We sing Your praise,
Endless hallelujahs to Your holy name.
Jesus, You will reign forevermore!
The victory is Yours!

When the age of death is done,
We'll see Your face bright as the sun.
We'll bow before the King of kings.
O God forever we will sing.
O God forever we will sing

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DISTRIBUTION SONG: “Whom Shall I Fear”

You hear me when I call,
You are my morning song.
Though darkness fills the night
It cannot hide the light.
Whom shall I fear?

You crush the enemy
Underneath my feet.
You are my sword and shield,
Though troubles linger still.
Whom shall I fear?

I know Who goes before me,
I know Who stands behind.
The God of angel armies is always by my side.
The One who reigns forever,
He is a friend of mine.
The God of angel armies is always by my side.

My strength is in Your name,
For You alone can save.
You will deliver me,
Yours is the victory.
Whom shall I fear? Whom shall I fear?

I know Who goes before me,
I know Who stands behind.
The God of angel armies is always by my side.
The One who reigns forever,
He is a friend of mine.
The God of angel armies is always by my side.

And nothing formed against me shall stand,
You hold the whole world in Your hands.
I'm holding on to Your promises,
You are faithful, You are faithful.

And nothing formed against me shall stand,
You hold the whole world in Your hands.
I'm holding on to Your promises,
You are faithful, You are faithful.

I know Who goes before me,
I know Who stands behind.
The God of angel armies is always by my side.
The One who reigns forever,
He is a friend of mine.
The God of angel armies is always by my side.

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DISTRIBUTION HYMN: “Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Thy Word” (LSB, #655)

Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word;
Curb those who by deceit or sword
Would wrest the kingdom from Your Son
And bring to naught all He has done.

Lord Jesus Christ, Your pow'r make known,
For You are Lord of lords alone;
Defend Your holy Church that we
May sing Your praise eternally.

O Comforter of priceless worth,
Send peace and unity on earth;
Support us in our final strife
And lead us out of death to life.

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DISTRIBUTION HYMN: "O Lord, We Praise Thee" (LSB, #617)

O Lord, we praise Thee, bless Thee, and adore Thee,
In thanksgiving bow before Thee.

Thou with Thy body and Thy blood didst nourish
Our weak souls that they may flourish:

O Lord, have mercy!

May Thy body, Lord, born of Mary,
That our sins and sorrows did carry,
And Thy blood for us plead

In all trial, fear, and need:

O Lord, have mercy!

Thy holy body into death was given,
Life to win for us in heaven.

No greater love than this to Thee could bind us;

May this feast thereof remind us!

O Lord, have mercy!

Lord, Thy kindness did so constrain Thee
That Thy blood should bless and sustain me.

All our debt Thou hast paid;

Peace with God once more is made:

O Lord, have mercy!

May God bestow on us His grace and favor

That we follow Christ our Savior

And live together here in love and union

Nor despise this blest Communion!

O Lord, have mercy!

Let not Thy good Spirit forsake us;

Grant that heav'nly-minded He make us;
Give Thy Church, Lord, to see
Days of peace and unity:
O Lord, have mercy!

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COMMON DISMISSAL:

Pastor: Now may this true body and blood our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in faith unto life everlasting.

People: Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Pastor: Let us pray.

People: O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

BENEDICTION: *(Numbers 6:24-26)*

Pastor: 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 give you peace.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: "The Church's One Foundation" (Lutheran Service Book, #644)

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.

Elect from ev'ry nation,
Yet one o'er all the earth;
Her charter of salvation:
One Lord, one faith, one birth.
One holy name she blesses,
Partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses
With ev'ry grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder
The 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.

Yet she on earth has union
With God, the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion
With those whose rest is won.
O blessèd heav'nly chorus!
Lord, save us by Your grace
That we, like saints before us,
May see You face to face.

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DISMISSAL:

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Go in peace and serve the Lord!

In Christian Service:

All disciples of the Lord Jesus

with

Liturgist: Rev. Dr. Jim Marriott

Proclaimer: Rev. Walt Pohland

Musicians: Adam Perez, Amanda Theilen, and Austin Angerman

Organist: Adam Perez

8:15 Lay Reader: Mike Best

11:00 Lay Reader: Larry Tippens

Children's Message: DCE Jonathan Loesch