

Reformation Sunday

"The Grace of Giving" - Fall Stewardship Series, Week 4

October 29, 2023 – 10:30 a.m. Lutheran Service Book, Divine Service, Setting Four

Prayer before worship:

Lord God, your hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature. Make us always thankful for your loving providence; and grant that we, remembering the account that we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of your good gifts. Bless now this time of worship; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pre-Service Music

"Our Father, Who from Heaven Above" (J. Wayne Kerr)

Ringing of the Bells

Welcome

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- **G** Amen.
- P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- **©** who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 124:8

- P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
- **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.** Psalm 130:3-4

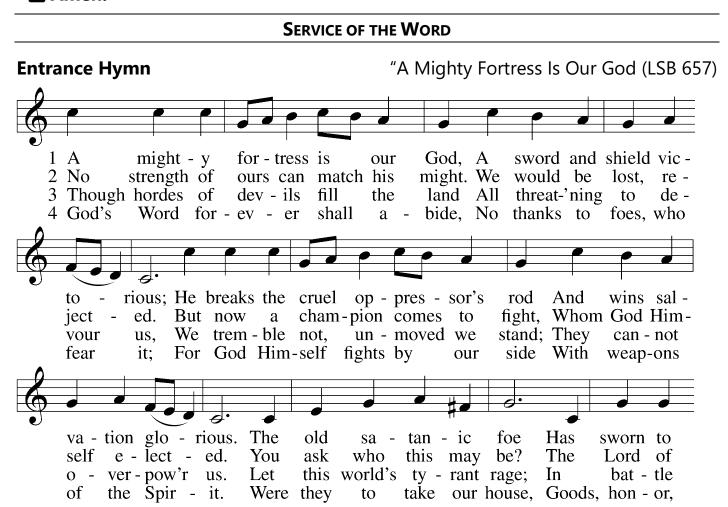
P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that 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.

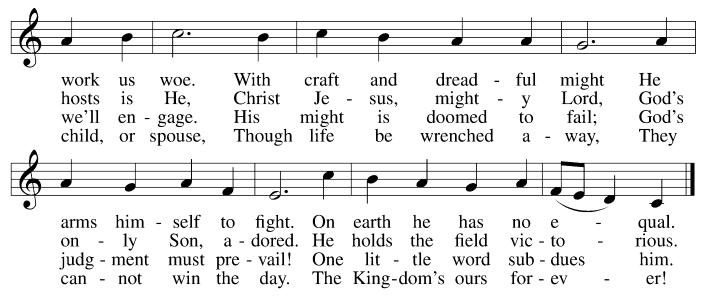
[Luke 18:13]

Please kneel or be seated for a time of silent prayer and confession, as able

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

 [John 20:19-23]
- C Amen.





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Greeting

Kyrie

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



Mark 10:47



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry, You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King. Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—In God the Fa-ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

- **C** And also with you.
- P Let us pray.

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.

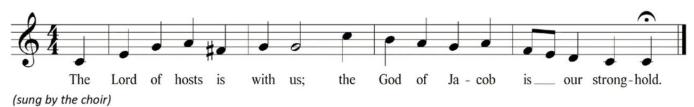
C Amen.

First Reading Revelation 14:6-7

⁶Then 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."

- **L** This is the Word of the Lord.
 - **C** Thanks be to God.

Refrain (sung by the congregation):



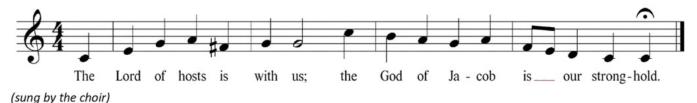
- ¹ God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
- ² Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, and though the mountains be toppled into the depths of the sea;
- ³ Though its waters rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble at its tumult.

Refrain (sung by the congregation):



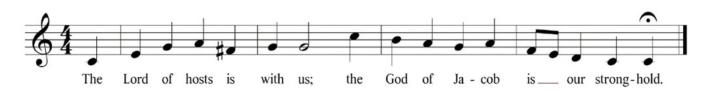
- ⁵ There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.
- ⁶ God is in the midst of her; she shall not be overthrown; God shall help her at the break of day.
- ⁷ The nations make much ado, and the kingdoms are shaken; God has spoken, and the earth shall melt away.

Refrain (sung by the congregation):



- ⁹ Come now and look upon the works of the Lord, what awesome things he has done on earth.
- ¹⁰ It is he who makes war to cease in all the world; he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.
- ¹¹ "Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth."

Refrain (sung by the congregation):



Epistle Romans 3:19-28

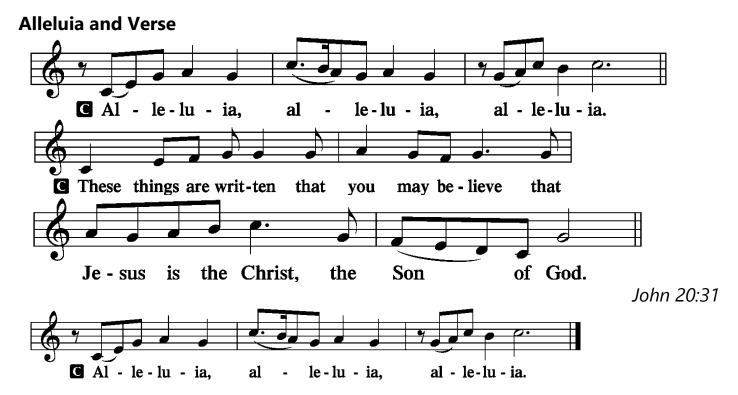
Please join in reading aloud the **highlighted portion** of Scripture and consider committing this passage to memory in the week ahead.

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.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.



Holy Gospel St. John 8:31-36

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord

³¹So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in 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 commits 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."

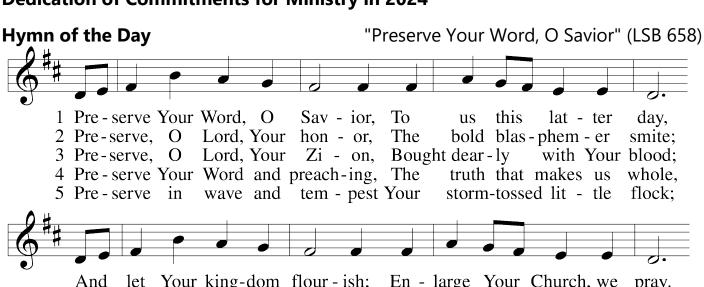
P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon

"The Grace of Giving: Truth and Freedom"

Dedication of Commitments for Ministry in 2024



En - large Your Church, we pray. And let Your king-dom flour - ish; er - ror's night. Con-vince, con - vert, en - light - en The souls in Pro - tect what You have cho - sen A - gainst the hell - ish flood. The mir - ror of Your glo - ry, The pow'r that saves the soul. As - sailed by wind and weath - er, May en dure each shock. it



keep our faith from fail - ing; Keep hope's bright star a - glow. who dwell be - low, Re - veal Your will, dear Sav - ior, To all al - ways our de - fend - er When dan - gers gath - er round: of heav'n-ly Oh, may this liv - ing wa - ter, This dew grace, the helm, our the course a - right; pi - lot, And Stand at set



be - low. While liv - ing Let noth-ing from truth here turn us Great light of That all Your name may know. all the liv - ing, When all the earth is crum-bling, Safe may Your Church be found. Sus - tain us while here liv - ing Un - til see Your face. Then we will reach the har - bor In Your e - ter - nal light.

Text: Andreas Gryphius, 1616–64; tr. William J. Schaefer, 1891–1976, alt.
Tune: Neu-vermehrtes . . . Gesangbuch, 1693, 3rd ed., Meiningen
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Profession of Faith

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father 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; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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.

Prayer of the Church

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

P Seeking the renewal of the Holy Spirit in our communities and in our world, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

Special prayer requests are announced followed by a brief silence for private prayer. During the season after Pentecost each petition ends with the phrase: "Lord, in your mercy."

Please respond by saying "Hear our prayer."

The prayers end with the words:

P Into your hands, holy God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abundant mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C Amen.

Following the prayers, the people may stand and greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying,

"Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace

(Matt. 5:22-24; Eph. 4:1-3).

Announcements

Offertory "Grant Us, Lord, the Grace of Giving"



Offertory Prayer

- L Let us pray: Merciful God,
- We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Preface

P The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

- **C** And also with you.
- **P** Lift up your hearts.

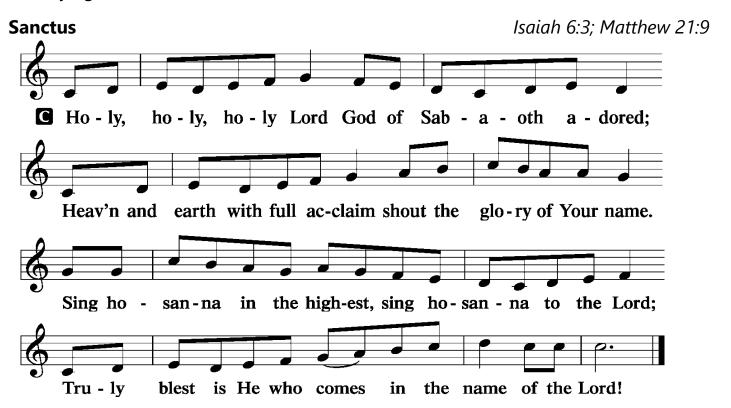
G We lift them to the Lord.

[Colossians 3:1]

- **P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- **G** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

[Psalm 136]

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits

of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer Matthew 6:9-13

© 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.

The Words of Our Lord

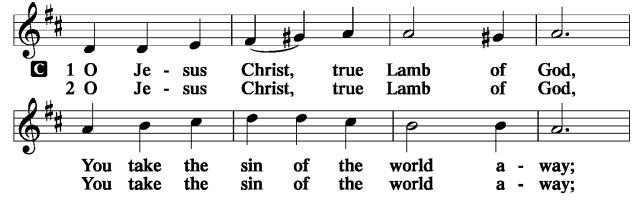
Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

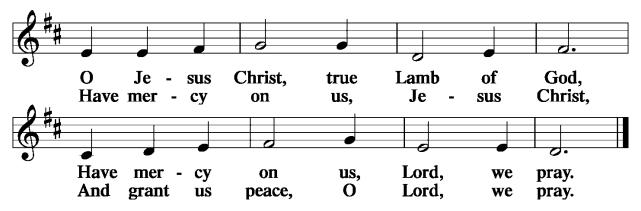
- P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ⅓ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."
- P In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My → blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini John 20:19

- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.

Agnus Dei John 1:29





Please be seated

Distribution

Lutheran Christians believe and teach that in the Sacrament of the Altar, Christ's body and blood are given to those who receive the bread and wine. With the bread and wine, the gifts of His body and blood are given to Christ's people for forgiveness of sins, strength for our journey of faith, and a foretaste of the heavenly banquet. All who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and who trust His words that these gifts are given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins, are invited to receive the Eucharist.

Please follow the direction of the ushers to come to the Lord's Table. The bread will be distributed first. **Gluten-free wafers** are available for those who may need these. Please indicate this to the pastor at the distribution. The wine is then received by individual glasses only. Non-alcoholic grape juice is available for those who for medical or recovery purposes must abstain from alcohol.

Children who do not receive the Sacrament are invited to come forward and receive a blessing. Please cross arms over chest so the pastor and lay assistant are able to distinguish children who do commune from those who do not yet receive the Sacrament.

For additional self-preparation to receive the Sacrament, please see "Christian Questions with Their Answers" beginning on page 1351 in the pew Bible.

Music at the Distribution

Distribution Anthem

"The Ten Words" (Lloyd Pfautsch) Choir of St. John's

Praise God, whose word and deed are one, creative Spirit, human Son! Bring through us all the day to birth when word and deed are one on earth.

The great commandment of our Lord: translating language into deed and giving shape to spoken word, creating life from clay of creed.

Ten times, for every finger once, he spoke and all things came to be. Ten times the Lord

of life pronounced the words that set his people free.

The hands of God create and guide; he goes before us on our way. He gives his Word to take our side and hallow each surprising day.

Lord, use our hands to care and bless, and make us fluent in your speech. Help us to be what we profess, to represent your love to each.



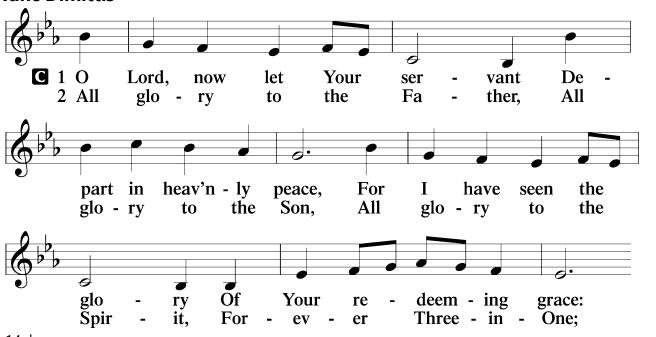


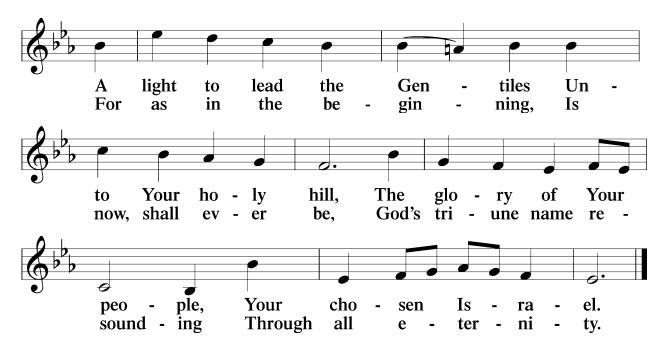
(Purple, Worship & Praise Songbook 140)



Dismissal

Nunc Dimittis





Post-Communion Collect

L Let us pray:

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus and Benediction

L Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

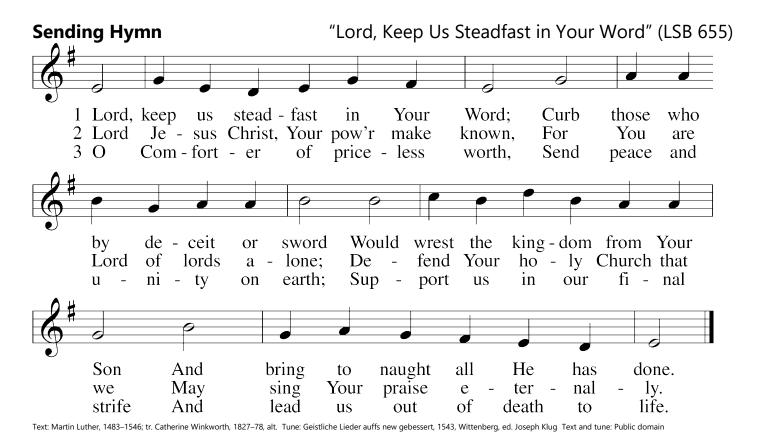
[Psalm 103:1]

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

Numbers 6:24-26

C Amen.



Postlude

"Toccata & Fugue in D Minor" (J. S. Bach)

+ + +

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Our Ministry Of Worship

Officiant/Preacher Pastor Meehan

Welcome & Children's Message Jennifer Hills, Director of Discipleship

Lay Assistant Mark Guilfoil
Communion Lay Assistant Jennifer Hills

Organist/Pianist David Leahey, Director of Music

Acolyte Caleb Rempe
Crucifier Grace Rempe
Ushers Joe Goodwin

Greg Miller

Altar Care Cathy Long

AV Operators Scott Budzien

Jim Haugan

Welcome Host Debbie Haugan

Nursery Haley Merritt

+ + +



This weekend's **altar flowers** are given by donations to the flower fund.

To **view** the current edition of our electronic weekly newsletter,

Midweek Update, scan this OR Code



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A member congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

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