

Augsburg Evangelical Lutheran Church
October 25, 2020 - Reformation Sunday

Welcome *Today we would like to thank Emily Coonjah for reading the lessons.*

Greeting

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.

Song – A Mighty Fortress ¹

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;
our helper frees us from the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe, forsworn to work us woe, with guile and dreadful might
is armed to wage the fight: on earth there is no equal.

If we our own strength confide, our striving turns to losing;
the righteous one fights by our side, the one of God's own choosing.
You ask who this may be: Christ Jesus, it is he, the Lord of hosts by name.
No other God we claim! None else can win the battle.

God's word shall stand above the pow'rs, shall end all their thanksgiving.
The Spirit and the gifts are ours, for God with us is living.
Let goods and kindred go, the mortal life also; though all of these be gone,
they yet have nothing won. The Kingdom's ours forever!

Call to Worship (written by Thom Shuman, and posted on [Lectionary Liturgies](http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.ca/). <http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.ca/>)

L: Be still!

C: We come to quiet ourselves in a haven of holiness.

L: Be still and know . . .

C: we come to discern the Word which can set us free.

L: Be still and know that God is

C: our Hope, our Help, our Refuge, and our Redeemer.

Prayer of the Day

A 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, irrespective of 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.

Psalm 46

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

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;
though its waters roar and foam,
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 moved;
God will help it when the morning dawns.

The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter;
he utters his voice, the earth melts.

The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Come, behold the works of the Lord;
see what desolations he has brought on the earth.

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

'Be still, and know that I am God!
I am exalted among the nations,
I am exalted in the earth.'

The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.

The Holy Gospel according to St. John 8:31-36

Then Jesus said to those 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.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Reflection

Song: Amazing Grace²

Amazing grace! -how sweet the sound- that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares I have already come:
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

The Lord as promised good to me; his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be, as long as life endures.

When we've been here ten thousand years, bright shining like the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

Prayers of the People

We pray: *Lord, in your mercy...* and respond: *Hear our prayer.*

Holy Communion (Zoom Only)

The Lord's Prayer

L: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us;

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Benediction

Song – Rise, O Church, Like Christ Arisen³

Rise, O church, like Christ arisen, from this time of love and grace;
may we through such love envision whose we are, and whose, our praise.
Alleluia, Alleluia; God the wonder of our days.

Rise, transformed, and chose to follow after Christ, the wounded whole;
broken, shared, our lives are hallowed to release and to console
Alleluia, Alleluia; Christ the present, past and goal.

Service be our sure vocation; courage be our daily breath;
mercy be our destination from this day and unto death.
Alleluia, Alleluia. Rise, O church, a living faith.

Dismissal

L: Go now to love and serve to the Lord. *C: Thanks be to God*

¹ ELW hymn #505 verses 1, 2 & 4. In the public domain.

² ELW hymn #779. In the public domain

³ ELW hymn #548. verse 1, 2 & 4. Text: Susan Palo Cherwien. Music: Timothy J. Strand © 1997 Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-736240. All rights reserved