October 29, 2023 - Where Do I Go When I…Live

Living for All – Reformation Sunday

Over 500 years ago, a simple monk came to understand God was a God of love and acceptance. This monk, Martin Luther, was so convicted of God's grace and love, he ended up starting a new church as he tried to reform the one he was in. His love for God and God's grace was so great, it compelled him to something new. Was that something just for Luther? Or perhaps, is God longing for us to be so convicted of God's grace for us and others, we are willing to reform ourselves, as individuals and as a community so that others might know God's love today? It's a great question! We will celebrate the reformation that happened and the one that is happening now!

Scripture:

Psalm 46

God is our refuge and strength, always ready to help in times of trouble. 2 So we will not fear, when earthquakes come and the mountains crumble into the sea. 3 Let the oceans roar and foam. Let the mountains tremble as the waters surge! [4] A river brings joy to the city of our God, the sacred home of the Most High. 5 God dwells in that city; it cannot be destroyed. From the very break of day, God will protect it. 6 The nations are in chaos, and their kingdoms crumble! God's voice thunders, and the earth melts! 7 The Lord of Heaven's Armies is here among us; the God of Israel is our fortress. [8] Come, see the glorious works of the Lord: See how he brings destruction upon the world. 9 He causes wars to end throughout the earth. He breaks the bow and snaps the spear; he burns the shields with fire. [10] "Be still and know that I am God! I will be honored by every nation. I will be honored throughout the world." [11] The Lord of Heaven's Armies is here among us; the God of Israel is our fortress.

Colossians 3: 12-17 NLT

Since God chose you to be the holy people he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. [13] Make allowance for each other's faults and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others. [14] Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony. [15] And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body, you are called to live in peace. And always be thankful. [16] Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts. [17] And whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through him to God the Father.

Questions:

- Have you ever had to change the way you lived? If so, what happened? What compelled you to change? How did it feel? How does it feel now?
- We have the tendency as people, when we get to a place where we're comfortable, we don't want things to change. We want to stay comfortable. How does that tendency line up with Jesus' call to live lives for the sake of the world knowing the love of God?
- When you think of "church' what are the things you wished stayed the same? What would you change? Why is it important for the church to be willing to change too?

Reading for the Week:

Monday: Ephesians 4:31-32
Tuesday: Psalm 32:1
Wednesday: 2 John 1:3
Thursday: Psalm 51
Friday: Titus 2:11-14