

# October 30, 2022 + Reformation Sunday

*An asterisk \* invites you to stand in body or in spirit, and you are invited to read responses found in **bold**.*

*Welcome to First Lutheran Church!*

## Gathering in God's Presence

**Prelude** — “A Mighty Fortress”

Setting by Michael Praetorius

**\*Processional Hymn** — no. 504

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

**\*Words of Welcome**

**\*Confession and Forgiveness**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who is eager to forgive  
and who loves us beyond our days.

**Amen.**

Dear friends, together let us acknowledge  
our failure to love this world as Jesus does.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of mercy and forgiveness,  
**we confess that sin still has a hold on us.**

**We have harmed your good creation.**

**We have failed to do justice,  
love kindness, and walk humbly with you.**

**Turn us in a new direction.**

**Show us the path that leads to life.**

**Teach us to be a Christ to our neighbor,  
whether next door or on the other side of  
the world.**

**Be our refuge and strength on the journey,  
through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and  
friend. Amen.**

Beloved of God:  
your sins are forgiven † and you are made  
whole.

God points the way to new life in Christ,  
who meets us on the road.

Journey now in God's abiding love  
through the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

**\*Greeting & Kyrie** — pg. 147, front of hymnal, *ELW* Setting Four

**\*Canticle of Praise** — pg. 149, front of hymnal, *ELW* Setting Four

“This Is the Feast”

**\*Prayer of the Day**

May God be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

Almighty God, gracious Lord, 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 and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

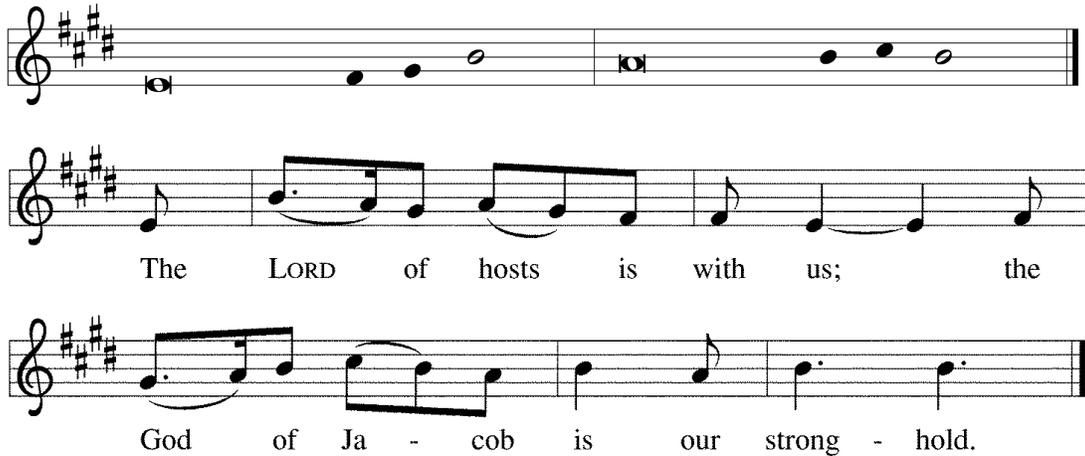
## Hearing & Responding to Scripture

### A Reading from the book of Jeremiah— Jeremiah 31:31-34

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. 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. 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. 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.

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 46 — *Sung all together in unison*



The LORD of hosts is with us; the  
God of Ja - cob is our strong - hold.

God is our ref- | uge and strength,  
a very present | help in trouble.  
Therefore we will not fear, though the | earth be  
moved,  
and though the mountains shake in the  
depths | of the sea;  
though its waters | rage and foam,  
and though the mountains tremble | with its  
tumult.  
There is a river whose streams make glad the cit- |  
y of God,  
the holy habitation of | the Most High.  
God is in the midst of the city; it shall | not be  
shaken;  
God shall help it at the | break of day.  
The nations rage, and the | kingdoms shake;  
God speaks, and the earth | melts away. R

The Lord of | hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.  
Come now, regard the works | of the Lord,  
what desolations God has brought up- | on  
the earth;  
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.  
“Be still, then, and know that | I am God;  
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be  
exalted | in the earth.”  
The Lord of | hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob | is our stronghold. R

## A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans — 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, apart from 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.

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

### \*Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

### \*Gospel — John 8:31-36

The Gospel of John, the 8th chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to the Jews 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.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon** — “Sunk in the mud”

Dr. Garrett Paul

\***Hymn** — no. 511

“Thy Strong Word”

**\*Affirmation of Faith — 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.**

**\*Prayers of Intercession**

In gratitude and humility, let us join together in prayer on behalf of all of God's creation.

God our fortress, we pray for the church. Write your law of love on the hearts of your people, that we remain steadfast in our witness to your grace. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God our liberator, we pray for your earth. Bring new life to overused land and contaminated rivers. Reform and reorient our relationship with the environment, that we faithfully care for all of your creation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God, our refuge and strength, we pray for the nations. Where they are in an uproar, bring wise leadership and comfort for those in distress. Make wars to cease and peace to enter every land. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God, our very present help in trouble, we pray for those in need. Show mercy to refugees and all fleeing from danger. Shelter any without homes. Calm all who are facing illness, surgery, or a new diagnosis. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God our redeemer, we pray for our congregation. Bless all who are preparing for baptism or affirmation of baptism. Open their hearts to your Holy Spirit, teach them your word, and give them courage to proclaim their faith. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God our stronghold, we give thanks for those who have gone before us in faith, especially Martin Luther and all reformers. Renew and reform us as we strive to continue in your word. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

With grateful hearts we commend our spoken and silent prayers to you, O God; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

## Offering

*Music at the Offering*

“Four Variations on ‘A Mighty Fortress’”

Setting by Larry Long

Theme

Trumpet Tune

Hordes of Devils

Finale

# Departing to Serve God’s World

## Announcements

**\*Sending Hymn** — no. 729

“The Church of Christ, in Every Age”

## \*Blessing & Dismissal

God, who gives life to all things and frees us from despair, bless you with truth and peace.

And may the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, guide you always in faith, hope, and love. **Amen.**

Go in peace, with Christ beside you. **Thanks be to God!**

**\*Postlude** — “A Mighty Fortress”

Setting by Jan Bender

## Acknowledgements

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## Worship Assistants

Pastor: Chris Culuris

Substitute Preacher: Garrett Paul

Music Leader: David Fienen

Audio/Video: Audrey Menning

Greeter: Rebekah Roemhildt, Amelia Staples, Kay Moline

Reader: Annalise Rivas

Ushers: John Nadeau, Cindy Nadeau

Acolytes: Aaven Twaddle, Natalie Twait

## Announcements

- All Saints Sunday falls on the first Sunday in November each year. This year, that's next Sunday, November 6th. You are invited to bring a photo or small keepsake of a loved one to display during worship, and you will have the opportunity to light a candle for them.
- **November 13: Jeremiah Band:** Do you have a student interested in singing or playing keyboard, guitar, or percussion? If so, the Jeremiah Band might be a great fit for them! Join guitarist Steve Kidder for a rehearsal on Wednesday, November 9 at 5:30pm in the Chapel and Sunday, November 13 at 9:00am in the Sanctuary to practice before leading worship! Sign up here: <https://tinyurl.com/374h5mdr>
- Fellowship refreshments today are provided by the Fellowship Committee.
- Flowers for the Altar are given today by John and Aileen Bipes in thanksgiving for the Reformation!
- While Pastor Chris is away, please call the church office if you have an emergency.

## Prayers

- We lift up prayers for those on our long-term list: Elgene Lund, Chuck Petry, Bob Cady, Joan Williams, Myrene Bunge, Glenn Stryker, Erika Schuldt, Claire Cardwell, Ursula McRostie, Karen Wendroth and Gene Roemhildt.
- We pray for the family of Lynn Kidder as they are mourning the loss of her father Lowell Mattila.
- We pray for Kathryn Christenson who is mourning the loss of her daughter Abigail.
- We pray for Dan Polzin who is mourning the loss of his father Ken.
- We pray for peace around the world; for all affected by natural disasters; and, for healing and wholeness in the lives of all who are ill.
- We pray for the family of Arlene Hilding who passed away on October 14 in New Prague.