

C For zeal to spread the message of salvation in Christ alone,
We ask for the power of Your Spirit, O Lord.

P And with grateful hearts we raise our voices to proclaim,

C "The just shall live by faith." Amen.

P And we unite in singing the Lord's Prayer:

The Lord's Prayer *Sung to the Tune of "How Firm a Foundation"*

C ♪ *Our Father in heaven, All praise to Your name!
Your kingdom among us, Your will done the same
By mortals and angels. Come, Lord, reign alone:
Oh, hear us and bless us From heaven's high throne.*

*The bread that we yearn for Provide us each day;
As we forgive others, Our sins take away;
In times of temptation, to lead us be near;
From evil deliver Your children most dear,*

*For yours is the kingdom; O'er all things You reign.
And Yours is the power; All things You maintain.
To You be the glory, Resounding again
From all of creation, Forever! Amen.*

THE BENEDICTION: *followed by the "Amen" from TLH 458:9
The blessing given by God for His people (Numbers 6:24-26).*

P The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.

C ♪ *Amen, that is, So shall it be. Confirm our faith and hope in Thee That we may doubt not, but believe What here we ask we shall receive. Thus in Thy name and at Thy word We say: Amen. Oh, hear us, Lord!*

CLOSING HYMN: TLH #370 *"My Hope is Built on Nothing Less"*

Bible Class this morning was a video on our CLC missions, which you can find here: <http://y2u.be/NMC80e9ByJw>

Our Voters' Meeting will follow the service this morning.

Thank You to Len Benter for leading the service last week!



October 29, 2023
Reformation Sunday



Faith
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✠ Opening Prayer ✠

Hymn: TLH #262

"A Mighty Fortress is Our God"

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

RESPONSIVE PSALMS

Psalm 119

P Oh LORD, how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day.

C You, through Your commandments, make me wiser than my enemies; for they are ever with me.

P I have more understanding than all my teachers, for Your testimonies are my meditation.

C I understand more than the ancients, because I keep your precepts.

P How sweet are Your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!

C Through Your precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way.

P Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

C *Lord, keep us steadfast in Thy Word;
Curb those who fain by craft and sword
Would wrest the Kingdom from Thy Son
And set at naught all He hath done.*

RESPONSIVE PSALMS

Psalm 2

P Why do the nations rage, and the people plot a vain thing?

C The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together,

P Against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying,

C "Let us break Their bonds in pieces and cast away their cords from us."

P He who sits in the heavens shall laugh; the LORD shall hold them in derision.

C Then He shall speak to them in His wrath, and distress them in His deep displeasure:

P "Yet I have set My King on My holy hill of Zion."

God. ²⁰ I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

The Lutheran Reformation of the Word "Justification"

I. The Law can only lead to pride or despair

II. Only the Gospel can lead to faith and salvation

The Offertory

In this prayer we offer our hearts, asking God for the best gift, the Holy Spirit.

C *Lord, create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence; and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.*

✠ The Offering of Thankful Hearts ✠

Hymn: TLH #377:1-6

"Salvation Unto Us Has Come"

Responsive Reformation Prayer & the Lord's Prayer

P For sending your Son to rescue the human race from sin, We thank and praise You, O Lord.

C For sending your Spirit to lead us to repentance and faith in Jesus as our Savior, We thank and praise You, O Lord.

P For teaching us that our righteous acts are filthy rags, We thank and praise You also, O Lord, for the gift of Jesus' righteousness.

C For guiding women and men like Martin Luther to understand the scriptural truth, "The just shall live by faith," We thank and praise You, O Lord.

P For blessing the spread of the gospel through the Reformation during these last 506 years, We thank and praise You, O Lord.

C For loyalty to hold to Your truth and remain Your true disciples, We ask for the power of Your Spirit, O Lord.

P For boldness to confess Your truth in a fallen world, We ask for the power of Your Spirit, O Lord.

Confession of Faith

Justification by Faith

We boldly confess what we believe using the following words from the Formula of Concord — on Justification by Faith.

“We unanimously believe, teach, and confess the following about the righteousness of faith before God:

A poor sinful person is justified before God, that is, absolved and declared free and exempt from all his sins and from the sentence of well-deserved condemnation, and is adopted into sonship and inheritance of eternal life, without any merit or worth of his own.

This happens without any preceding, present, or subsequent works, out of pure grace, because of the sole merit, complete obedience, bitter suffering, death, and resurrection of our Lord Christ alone. His obedience is credited to us for righteousness. These treasures are brought to us by the Holy Spirit in the promise of the holy Gospel.

Faith alone is the only means through which we lay hold on, accept, apply, and take them for ourselves. This faith is God’s gift, by which we truly learn to know Christ, our Redeemer, in the Word of the Gospel and trust in Him. We trust that for the sake of His obedience alone we have the forgiveness of sins by grace, are regarded as godly and righteous by God the Father, and are eternally saved.”

Hymn: TLH #528:1-3, 5-6

“If God Himself Be For Me”

Galatians 2:15-20

We ourselves are Jews by birth and not Gentile sinners; ¹⁶ yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified. ¹⁷ But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we too were found to be sinners, is Christ then a servant of sin? Certainly not! ¹⁸ For if I rebuild what I tore down, I prove myself to be a transgressor. ¹⁹ For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to

**☩ ♪ Lord Jesus Christ, Thy power make known,
For Thou art Lord of lords alone;
Defend Thy Christendom that we
May evermore sing praise to Thee.**

RESPONSIVE PSALMS

Psalm 31

- P** In You, O LORD, I put my trust; Let me never be ashamed; deliver me in Your righteousness.
- G** **Bow down Your ear to me, deliver me speedily; be my rock of refuge a fortress of defense to save me.**
- P** For You are my rock and my fortress; therefore, for Your name’s sake, lead me and guide me.
- G** **Pull me out of the net which they have secretly laid for me, for You are my strength.**
- P** Into Your hand I commit my spirit; You have redeemed me, O LORD God of truth.



**☩ ♪ 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.**

- P** God our Father has preserved His Word for us. It is a lamp for our feet and a light for our path. Our Lord Jesus has made His power known. He is sitting at the right hand of the Father and will come to judge the world. God the Holy Spirit has extended God’s grace to us through Word and Sacrament. But we have not kept the Word of our Lord. I now ask you, therefore, before God who searches the heart: Do you confess the sins you have committed in thought, word, and deed; do you repent of them, believe on the Lord Jesus for forgiveness, and sincerely intend, with the help of God’s Holy Spirit, to lead a godly life from now on?
- G** **I do so confess, believe, and intend with the help of God.**

P Upon this your confession, I, as a called servant of God's Word, announce the grace of God unto you. In the stead of my Lord Jesus Christ, and by His command, I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen. Let us praise our gracious God!

G *♪ Glory to God the Father, Son,
And Holy Spirit, Three in One!
To Thee, O blessed Trinity,
Be praise now and eternally!*

Collect Prayer of the Day

A prayer to God that collects together the thoughts and theme of the day.

P 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.

G Amen.

Daniel 6:10-12, 16-23

"Behold, When Daniel knew that the document had been signed, he went to his house where he had windows in his upper chamber open toward Jerusalem. He got down on his knees three times a day and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as he had done previously. ¹¹ Then these men came by agreement and found Daniel making petition and plea before his God. ¹² Then they came near and said before the king, concerning the injunction, "O king! Did you not sign an injunction, that anyone who makes petition to any god or man within thirty days except to you, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions?" The king answered and said, "The thing stands fast, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be revoked." . . . ¹⁶ Then the king commanded, and Daniel was brought and cast into the den of lions. The king declared to Daniel, "May your God, whom you serve continually, deliver

you!" ¹⁷ And a stone was brought and laid on the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet and with the signet of his lords, that nothing might be changed concerning Daniel. ¹⁸ Then the king went to his palace and spent the night fasting; no diversions were brought to him, and sleep fled from him. ¹⁹ Then, at break of day, the king arose and went in haste to the den of lions. ²⁰ As he came near to the den where Daniel was, he cried out in a tone of anguish. The king declared to Daniel, "O Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to deliver you from the lions?" ²¹ Then Daniel said to the king, "O king, live forever! ²² My God sent his angel and shut the lions' mouths, and they have not harmed me, because I was found blameless before him; and also before you, O king, I have done no harm." ²³ Then the king was exceedingly glad, and commanded that Daniel be taken up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no kind of harm was found on him, because he had trusted in his God.

Matthew 10:16-23

"Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. ¹⁷ Beware of men, for they will deliver you over to courts and flog you in their synagogues, ¹⁸ and you will be dragged before governors and kings for my sake, to bear witness before them and the Gentiles. ¹⁹ When they deliver you over, do not be anxious how you are to speak or what you are to say, for what you are to say will be given to you in that hour. ²⁰ For it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. ²¹ Brother will deliver brother over to death, and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death, ²² and you will be hated by all for my name's sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. ²³ When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next, for truly, I say to you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.