



**Reformation Sunday
October 31, 2021**

Rev. Kelley L. Pedersen, Interim Pastor

Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

(*please stand as you are able)

(Congregation reads **bold** print)

Welcome & Announcements

***Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
whose teaching is life, whose presence is sure,
and whose love is endless. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.
Silence is kept for reflection.

God our comforter:

**like lost sheep, we have gone astray.
We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity.
We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression.
We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed.
Free us from our sin, gracious God.
Listen when we call out to you for help.
Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves.
Amen.**

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.
By the gift of grace in ✝ Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous.
Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.
Amen.

***Hymn** "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" #504

***Greeting**

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

***Prayer of the Day**

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.

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the LORD means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the LORD will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It 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. ³³But 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. ³⁴No 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: Psalm 46

The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold. (Ps. 46:7)

¹God 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 shake in the depths of the sea;**

³though its waters rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

⁴**There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;
God shall help it at the break of day.

⁶**The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth melts away.**

⁷The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

⁸**Come now, regard the works of the LORD,
what desolations God has brought upon the earth;**

⁹behold 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.

¹⁰**“Be still, then, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”**

¹¹The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Second Reading: Romans 3:19-28

Paul’s words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ’s death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

¹⁹Now 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. ²⁰For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom 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; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For 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 -- p. 102**

*The Holy Gospel according to John, the 8th Chapter. **Glory to You, O Lord**

Gospel: John 8: 31-36

Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

³¹Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” ³³They 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’?”

³⁴Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Message

Hymn of the Day "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast In Your Word" #517

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**

Set free from sin and death and nourished by the word of truth, we join in prayer for all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

We pray for all who long for a word of truth and for the radical grace that flows from the cross. Inspire congregations to freely and boldly proclaim your love for all people with persistence and hope. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for your creation, for mountains, rivers, streams, cities, homesteads, and neighborhoods. Write in our hearts a new love and care for creation. Give us the will to curb wasteful habits and to hold accountable those who neglect the vulnerable. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for all who aspire to public office and for all who will vote on Tuesday at local polling places (*especially*). Pour wisdom and understanding upon all who govern so that communities of justice and peace may thrive. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for all who long for healing in mind, body, or spirit (*especially*). Strengthen hospitals, clinics, counseling centers, nursing homes, and recovery centers to be holy spaces of renewal that all might live the abundant life you intend. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for all who seek to grow in faith and love of you. Guide teaching and learning in confirmation, small groups, Sunday school, youth groups, schools, seminaries, and universities. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We give thanks for all the saints and reformers who have gone before us who dwell in your holy habitation (*especially*). Give us courage through their example to challenge unjust systems and work toward life-giving reformation. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Confident that you hear us, O God, we boldly place our prayers into your hands; through Jesus Christ, our truth and life.

Amen.

***Peace**

May the peace of God be with you all.

And also with you.

Offering and *Offering Prayer

God of abundance,
you cause streams to break forth in the desert
and manna to rain from the heavens.

Accept the gifts you have first given us.
Unite them with the offering of our lives
to nourish the world you love so dearly;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

***Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***Holy, Holy, Holy** p. 144

***Words of Institution**

***Lord's Prayer** p. 145

***Invitation to Communion**

All who hunger and thirst, come. The table is ready.

Communion (continuous)

Come forward in the center aisle, distancing as desired. Please cup your hands to receive the bread. Move to the right or left to receive the wine. Return to your pew via the side aisles. Gluten-free wafers are available in the container in front of the font.

Those who wish to be served at their seats or use the individual pre-packaged elements at their seats may stand to hear the words for individual distribution.

Distribution Hymns: #779—Amazing Grace; # 595—Jesus Loves Me

***Prayer after Communion**

Lord of life,
in the gift of your body and blood
you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation.
Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy,
bearing witness to the abundance of your love
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

***Blessing**

People of God, you are Christ's body,
bringing new life to a suffering world.
The holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
bless you now and forever.

Amen.

***Sending Hymn** "The Church of Christ In Every Age" #729

***Dismissal**

Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

Thanks be to God.

Baptized believers sent into God's world to share God's love and grace.

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Welcome! May you be blessed as we worship together!

Pr. Kelley can be reached at 402-750-9944 (cell).

Welcome to Sadie Robbins, TLC's new administrative assistant! We are grateful you have joined us!

This Week's Events: Oct 31-Nov 6

| | | |
|-------|------------|--|
| Sun. | 9:00am | Reformation Sunday with Communion |
| Mon. | | Office Closed |
| Tues. | 7:00pm | AA Meeting (Contact person is Larry S., 712-251-4207) |
| Wed. | 10:00am | Adult Bible Study (If another time works better, please share that with Pr. Kelley.) |
| | 3:30-5pm | Kid's Zone (through grade 6) |
| | 6:00-7:15p | Confirmation |

Upcoming Events:

| | | |
|-------------|---------------|--|
| Sun. Nov 7 | 9:00am | 24th Sunday after Pentecost with Communion |
| Sun. Nov 14 | 9:00am | 25th Sunday after Pentecost with Communion |
| Sun. Nov 21 | 9:00am | Christ the King Sunday |
| | 7:00pm | Community Thanksgiving Service hosted at Trinity Lutheran |
| Sun. Nov 28 | 9:00am | First Sunday of Advent |

Worship Assistants for October:

| | |
|--|--|
| Organist: Ruth Chartier | Altar Guild: Janna Brandt & Marcia Kuehl |
| Scripture Reader: Ann Hopp | Offertory Accountants: Julie Davidson & Nick |
| Tech Assistants: Casey & Jill Stratton | Wahlberg |

Worship Assistants for November:

| | |
|--|---|
| Organist: Ruth Chartier | Altar Guild: Cindy & Gail Ploen |
| Scripture Reader: Lisa Rippke | Offertory Accountants: Kim Steffen & Denny Bain |
| Tech Assistants: Casey & Jill Stratton | |
| Acolyte: TBA | Crucifer: TBA |

Birthdays: 1-Blake Morgan; 3-Jordan Archer; 4-Kim Koehler, T.J. Wilcke

Anniversaries: 2-Chad & Rebecca Brockhaus, Dustin & Rachel Black;
6-Rodney & Stefani Lindgren

Prayers

At Air Guard Tech. School in Biloxi, MI: Blake Morgan

For those battling cancer: Harry Kloewer-hospice; Denise Arpino-treatment; Doug Dahlke-PET scan came back clear; Brad Pautsch (Cindy Ploen's brother)-stem cell transplant done; Michelle Stovie (Harry Kloewer's daughter)-chemo, PET scan at the end of October

We also pray for Norma Thies-in the hospital; **Bruce Robbins (Sadie Robbins' father)-brain injury**; Talon Penning (Kara Koehn's brother)-life flighted to Sioux Falls with covid pneumonia; Carla Boggs; Jon Kleemeier-rehab at home; Barb Kunkel; Drake Malm; Tucker Malm (10-yrs old)-Crohn's; Kelly Martin; Paula Roling; Kereen Swanger-recovering from stroke; those in addictions/recovery; all who are grieving; victims of COVID-19, extreme weather and natural disasters, violence and domestic abuse.

THANK YOU!

- Thank you to Peggy Hopp for coffee and sweets during the congregational gathering last week!
- Thank you to all who gathered to share about the past, present & future last week!
- Thank you to all that donated & helped to compile LWR kits--our final count this year was 28 school kits and 34 personal care kits. Next year, starting in the summer, we'll set a goal to expand our outreach to possibly include quilts or additional kits. Check out <https://lwr.org/kits> and <https://www.ghm.org/handson-project-instructions> for more information!

On Ushers' Table:

- Children's bulletins
 - Lutheran Disaster Response - US Wildfires information, Haiti earthquake relief
-

Pay the Weigh

Feeding Hungry People in Western Iowa

Who: Everyone! Church council, ministry teams, men, women, young & old!

When: Now through November 30, 2021

What: Just for fun--

- 1) weigh yourself, a group, include the dog or a neighbor or two
- 2) raise/contribute the amount of your total weight or round up...WAY UP!

**It is not your weight, but a fun way to raise dollars and feed our neighbors.

The money will be equally divided to each of the six conferences in Western Iowa. Each conference will disperse the funds to local foodbanks, food pantries, and community meals that all provide food to those who are in need. You know the needs in your community!

VOLUNTEER(S) NEEDED: The Altar Guild is seeking additional members to help with communion, etc. during the months of June & October. Please reach out to Susan Christiansen (cell: 870-4378) to volunteer or if you have additional questions!

God's Work. Our gifts. Thank you to all who support our ministry!

| | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Electronic giving | \$ 142.50 |
| Mission Support | \$ 30.00 |
| <u>General Fund</u> | <u>\$1,245.00</u> |
| Total | \$1,417.50 |

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