



REFORMATION
S U N D A Y

October 25, 2020

KING OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
Golden Valley, Minnesota

The Christian church at the beginning of the sixteenth century was not communicating God's gospel to the world. The good news of great joy in Jesus Christ was buried under the bad news of more sins, more money, more sacrifices, more rules. On Reformation Sunday we celebrate the restoration to the center of the church's message the truth that we are saved by grace alone, which is revealed by Scripture alone and received by faith alone. That is good news for those struggling to remain faithful to the Lord and his Word.

God Welcomes Us

HYMN

God's Word Is Our Great Heritage | #583

**God's Word is our great heritage,
And shall be ours forever;
To spread its light from age to age
Shall be our chief endeavor.
Through life it guides our way;
In death it is our stay.
Lord, grant, while worlds endure,
We keep its teachings pure,
Throughout all generations.**

INVOCATION

John 8

P: ³¹Jesus said: "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples;

C: ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."

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

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Romans 5

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God, our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P: ¹Since we are justified by faith,

C: ¹we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

P: ²through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand;

C: ²and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God.

P: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess to you both that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and also that we have each sinned against you in our thoughts, words, and actions. Therefore we flee for refuge toward your infinite mercy, pleading for your grace on the basis of the work of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: O most merciful God, you have given your only-begotten Son to die for us. Have mercy upon us and for his sake grant us remission of all our sins. And by your Holy Spirit, increase in us true knowledge of you and of your will, and true obedience to your Word, to the end that by your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

P: Lift up your hearts to God! Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us. He has given his only-begotten Son to die for us, and on the basis of Jesus' work forgives us all our sins. To all who believe in his name he gives the power to become the children of God, and has promised them his Holy Spirit. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved. Grant this, Lord, to us all.

C: Amen. Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Thy Word | Choir

*1. 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.*

*2. Lord Jesus Christ, thy pow'r make known,
For thou art Lord of lords alone;
Defend thy Christendom that we
May evermore sing praise to thee.*

*3. 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.*

God Speaks to Us

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Lord God, you have given all holy Scriptures for our learning. Lead us to hear them, read, note, learn, and inwardly digest them. Encourage and support us by your holy Word, so that we may always hold on to the joyful hope of eternal life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ. For he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Revelation 14:6–7

An angelic messenger has the privilege to proclaim the gospel, and may symbolize everyone, including Martin Luther, who faithfully proclaims salvation.

⁶Then I saw another angel flying in the middle of the sky. He had the everlasting gospel to proclaim to those who live on the earth, to every nation, tribe, language, and people. ⁷He said with a loud voice:

Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come. Worship him who made the sky, the earth, the sea, and the springs of water.

ANTHEM

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow | Trombone

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise him, all creatures here below;

Praise him above, ye heav'nly host:

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

GOSPEL READING

Jesus Sets Us Free | John 8:31–36

Jesus teaches that only his Word opens the truth to us and sets us free.

³¹So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, “If you remain in my word, you are really my disciples. ³²You will also know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

³³“We are Abraham’s descendants,” they answered, “and we have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say, ‘You will be set free?’”

³⁴Jesus answered, "Amen, Amen, I tell you: Everyone who keeps committing sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵But a slave does not remain in the family forever. A son does remain forever. ³⁶So if the Son sets you free, you really will be free."

STATEMENT OF FAITH

P: Let us confess our holy faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed:

C: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there he shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

HYMN

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God | #250

This hymn is often referred to as "the battle hymn" of the Reformation. It was sung in the streets, it was sung by poor Protestant emigrants on their way to exile, and by martyrs at their death. Gustavus Adolphus ordered it sung by his army before the battle of Leipzig in 1631 and at Lutzen in 1632. In any time of need, when we do battle with the forces of evil, God is our fortress to hide us and protect us, and the Word that endures forever will fight for us.

**1. A mighty Fortress is our God,
A trusty Shield and Weapon;
He helps us free from ev'ry need
That hath us now o'ertaken.
The old evil foe
Now means deadly woe;
Deep guile and great might
Are his dread arms in fight;
On earth is not his equal.**

**2. With might of ours can naught be done,
Soon were our loss effected;
But for us fights the Valiant One,
Whom God himself elected.
Ask ye, Who is this?
Jesus Christ it is.
Of Sabaoth Lord,
And there's none other God;
He holds the field forever.**

(the hymn continues on the next page)

**3. Though devils all the world should
fill,
All eager to devour us.
We tremble not, we fear no ill,
They shall not overpower us.
This world's prince may still
Scowl fierce as he will,
He can harm us none,
He's judged; the deed is done;
One little word can fell him.**

**4. The Word they still shall let remain
Nor any thanks have for it;
He's by our side upon the plain
With his good gifts and Spirit.
And take they our life,
Goods, fame, child, and wife,
Let these all be gone,
They yet have nothing won;
The kingdom ours remaineth.**

SERMON

I'm Speechless | Romans 3:19–28

The word 'justification' means to be declared righteous in a court of law. Because of Christ's perfect life and substitutionary death for my sins, God looks at me "just-if-I'd" never sinned!

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says is addressed to those who are under the law, so that every mouth will be silenced and the whole world will be subject to God's judgment. ²⁰For this reason, no one will be declared righteous in his sight by works of the law, for through the law we become aware of sin.

²¹But now, completely apart from the law, a righteousness from God has been made known. The Law and the Prophets testify to it. ²²This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all and over all who believe.

In fact, there is no difference, ²³because all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God ²⁴and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God publicly displayed as the atonement seat through faith in his blood. God did this to demonstrate his justice, since, in his divine restraint, he had left the sins that were committed earlier unpunished. ²⁶He did this to demonstrate his justice at the present time, so that he would be both just and the one who justifies the person who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷What happens to boasting then? It has been eliminated. By what principle—by the principle of works? No, but by the principle of faith. ²⁸For we conclude that a person is justified by faith without the works of the law.

HYMN

By Grace I'm Saved | #226: v. 1, 2, 5, 10

1. By grace I'm saved, grace free and boundless;
My soul, believe and doubt it not.
Why stagger at this word of promise?
Hath Scripture ever falsehood taught?
Nay; then this word must true remain;
By grace thou, too, shalt heav'n obtain.

2. By grace! None dare lay claim to merit;
Our works and conduct have no worth.
God in his love sent our Redeemer,
Christ Jesus, to this sinful earth;
His death did for our sins atone,
And we are saved by grace alone.

5. By grace! This ground of faith is certain;
So long as God is true, it stands.
What saints have penned by inspiration,
What in his Word our God commands,
What our whole faith must rest upon,
Is grace alone, grace in his Son.

10. By grace! Sin, death, and Satan
hearken!
I bear my flag of faith in hand
And pass—for doubts my joy can't
darken—
The Red Sea to the Promised Land.
I cling to what my Savior taught
And trust it, whether felt or not.

God Receives Our Offering

PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

HYMN (8:15)

Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice | #378: v.1-2, 4-5

1. Dear Christians, one and all, rejoice,
With exultation springing,
And, with united heart and voice
And holy rapture singing,
Proclaim the wonders God hath done,
How his right arm the vict'ry won;
Right dearly it hath cost him.

2. Fast bound in Satan's chains I lay;
Death brooded darkly o'er me.
Sin was my torment night and day;
In sin my mother bore me.
Yea, deep and deeper still I fell;
Life had become a living hell,
So firmly sin possessed me.

4. But God beheld my wretched state
Before the world's foundation,
And, mindful of his mercies great,
He planned my soul's salvation.
A father's heart he turned to me,
Sought my redemption fervently;
He gave his dearest Treasure.

5. He spoke to his beloved Son:
"Tis time to have compassion.
Then go, bright Jewel of my crown,
And bring to man salvation.
From sin and sorrow set him free;
Slay bitter death for him, that he
May live with thee forever."

RITE OF CONFIRMATION (10:45)

ANTHEM (10:45)

Song of Trust

God Blesses Us

PRAYER

Psalm 46

P: ¹God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

C: ²Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,

P: ³Though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.

C: ⁴There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells.

P: ⁵God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day.

C: ¹¹The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

BENEDICTION

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 peace.



C: A - men, a - men, a - men.

HYMN

Ye Lands, to the Lord Make a Jubilant Noise | #56

1. Ye lands, to the Lord make a jubilant noise:

Glory be to God!

O serve him with joy, in his presence now rejoice;

Sing praise unto God out of Zion!

2. Not we, but the Lord is our Maker, our God:

Glory be to God!

His people we are, and the sheep led by his rod;

Sing praise unto God out of Zion!

3. O enter his gates with thanksgiving and praise;

Glory be to God!

To bless him and thank him, our voices we will raise;

Sing praise unto God out of Zion!

4. For good is the Lord, and his mercy is sure;

Glory be to God!

To all generations his truth shall still endure;

Sing praise unto God out of Zion!

Confirmands

Nathaniel Cole Gomke

Romans 15:13—Now may the God of hope fill you with complete joy and peace as you continue to believe, so that you overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Tate William Ha

Psalms 25:2—In you I have trusted, O my God. Do not let me be put to shame. Do not let my enemies triumph over me.

Peter Dennis Hansen

Proverbs 3:5-6—Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not rely on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

Tyler James Jeska

2 Peter 3:18—Instead grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory, both now and forever. Amen.

Trevor Delane Knight

Hebrews 10:23—Let us hold on firmly to the confession of our hope without wavering, since he who promised is faithful.

Olivia Lynn Master

1 Corinthians 13:13—So now these three remain: faith, hope, and love—and the greatest of these is love.

Jack David Jeffrey Nelson

Romans 1:16—For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes—to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

Matthew Cecil Olmanson

Psalms 62:2—He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress. I will not be disturbed.

Isaiah Ronning

Romans 8:38-39—For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor rulers, neither things present nor things to come, nor powerful forces, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Brayden Wesley Strausser

1 Corinthians 1:8—He will also keep you strong until the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Abigail Rae Torfin

John 6:68—Lord, to whom will we go? You have the words of eternal life.

Announcements

Send announcements to bulletin@kog-els.org.

TRUNK OR TREAT

Decorate your trunk and bring your family to King of Grace's annual Trunk or Treat event this Saturday from 3:30–5:00 pm.

CHRISTMAS WREATHS

Purchase a Christmas wreath from the youth Pioneer group between Sunday services this week and next. Find them in the hallway by the rear doors.

GOSPEL OUTREACH WITH MEDIA

Visit www.gowm.org through 11/9 for a free, online conference hosted by the Christ in Media Institute at Bethany Lutheran College. You'll be able to read content and join in conversations from around the world about doing evangelism today.

COFFEE, CROCHET, AND CRAFTS

Ladies—Come to church on Saturday mornings at 8:30 for some friendship time with coffee and crafts. This regular gathering has recently resumed.

Calendar

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| Today | 9:30 am | Bible study and Sunday school |
| Monday | 6:30 pm | Worship Service |
| Tuesday | 9:30 am | Women's Bible study |
| | 6:30 pm | King's Daughters |
| Wednesday | 4:00 pm | Grades 7 & 8 Confirmation |
| Thursday | 9:45 am | King's Littlest Kids |
| | 7:00 pm | Choir rehearsal |
| Saturday | 8:30 am | Men's Bible Study |
| | 8:30 am | Women's coffee, crochet, and crafts |
| | 3:30 pm | Trunk or Treat |
| Sunday | 8:15 am | Communion Service |
| | 9:30 am | Bible study and Sunday school |
| | 10:45 am | Communion Service |

Preacher.....Rev. Erv Ekhoﬀ | **Liturgist**..... Rev. Ben Wiechmann
OrganistKaren Merseth | **Pianist (Monday)** Lynn Handberg
DirectorAllen Labitzky | **Trombone**.....Deb Anderson

Last Week: 242 worshiped on Sunday and 32 on Monday.

Offerings last week:

Avg. Weekly Budget: \$17,167
 Received Last Week: \$15,054

Avg. YTD Budget: \$274,672
 Received Year to Date: \$232,405



King of Grace Lutheran Church and School
 Golden Valley, MN
 6000 Duluth Street | 763-546-3131 | www.kingofgracelutheran.com
 Member of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod
 Pastors: Erwin Ekhoﬀ, Aaron Ferkenstad, & Ben Wiechmann | Principal: Allen Labitzky