



REFORMATION
S U N D A Y

October 30, 2022

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

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; it was sung by Lutheran martyrs at their death; and Gustavus Adolphus ordered it sung by his army before battle in 1631.

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

Word of God, Come Down on Earth

*Word of God, come down on earth, Living rain from heaven descending;
Touch our hearts, Bring to birth faith and hope and love unending.
Word, almighty, we revere you; Word made flesh, we long to hear you.*

*Word, eternal, throned on high, Word that brought to life creation,
Word that came from heav'n to die, crucified for our salvation,
Saving Word, the world restoring, speak to us, your love outpouring.*

*Word that speaks God's tender love, one with God beyond all telling,
Word that sends us from above God the Spirit, with us dwelling.
Word of truth, to all truth lead us; Word of life, with one bread feed us.
Word of life, with one bread feed us.*

God Speaks to Us

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Almighty and eternal God, in mercy you give the light of your gospel to your church. Keep us in sound teaching, so that we may firmly believe and faithfully follow your saving word, and finally, with its holy comfort, die in peace and joy. We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Jeremiah 31:31–34

GRACE ALONE: The Israelites couldn't keep the old covenant's laws and works. God's new covenant is not more works, but is given completely by his grace.

³¹Yes, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant I made with their fathers, when I took them by the hand and led them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant of mine, although I was a husband to them, declares the LORD.

³³But this is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD. I will put my law in their minds, and I will write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. ³⁴No longer will each one teach his neighbor, or each one teach his brother, saying, "Know the LORD," because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD, for I will forgive their guilt, and I will remember their sins no more.

FAITH ALONE: God's new covenant is received by us only through faith; that is, trust in his gracious promises to make us righteous.

¹It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not allow anyone to put the yoke of slavery on you again. ²Look, I, Paul, tell you that if you allow yourselves to be circumcised, Christ will be of no benefit to you. ³I testify again to every man who allows himself to be circumcised that he is obligated to do the whole law. ⁴You who are trying to be declared righteous by the law are completely separated from Christ. You have fallen from grace.

⁵Indeed, through the Spirit, we by faith are eagerly waiting for the sure hope of righteousness. ⁶For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision matters. Rather, it is faith working through love that matters.

ANTHEM*One Church, One Faith, One Lord*

*Your hand, O God, has guided your flock from age to age;
The wondrous tale is written full clear on ev'ry page;
Our fathers owned your goodness, and we their deeds record;
And all of this bears witness, One Church, One Faith, One Lord!*

*Your heralds brought glad tidings to greatest as to least;
They bade us rise and hasten to share the great King's feast;
And this was all their teaching in ev'ry deed and word;
And all alike proclaiming, One Church, One Faith, One Lord!*

*And we, shall we be faithless? Shall hearts fail and hands hang down?
Shall we evade the conflict, and cast away our crown?*

*Your mercy will not fail us, nor leave your work undone;
With your right hand to help us, the vict'ry shall be won;
And then by all your people, your name shall be adored;
And this shall be our anthem, One Church, One Faith, One Lord!*

GOSPEL READING

John 8:31–36

SCRIPTURE ALONE: God has chosen certain methods of transmission to give his new covenant of grace to us, his “means of grace”: the Word and Sacraments.

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.

HYMN

The Church’s One Foundation | #486

SERMON

Sola Gratia, Sola Fide, Sola Scriptura

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

God’s Word Is Our Great Heritage | #583

God Receives Our Offering

We give offerings out of thanks for all that God, in Jesus, has done for us. King of Grace uses these offerings to support the preaching and teaching of God's Word here and around the world. Contribute at www.kingofgracelutheran.com/give or in the offering plates at the doors.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Thy Word | #589

God Blesses Us

PRAYER

Psalm 46

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

C: ²**Therefore 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: ⁴**There 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: ¹¹**The 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



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