

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

La Crosse, Wisconsin
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

Reformation Day
October 25th, 2020



Our purpose: Faith Lutheran Church exists to share with all, God's love through Christ and His promise of salvation!

As We Gather... "And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." On this Reformation, we celebrate not how proud we are to be Lutherans, or lift up Martin Luther as some kind of semi-divine leader, but rather, we celebrate the freedom we have in the true Gospel. In fact, Martin Luther's last name comes from the Greek word "free." Our freedom in Christ's Gospel frees us not just to do whatever we please, but rather to serve others, and to proclaim this freeing Gospel to others. Although we don't worship Luther, we certainly thank the Holy Spirit working through Luther and other faithful preachers who proclaim this eternal gospel to every nation and tribe and language and people.

Pastor Jacob Eichers
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www.faithonmain.com

582 God's Word Is Our Great Heritage

God's Word is our great her - i - tage And shall be ours for -
ev - er; To spread its light from age to age Shall be our
chief en - deav - or. Through life it guides our way, In death it
is our stay. Lord, grant, while worlds en - dure, We keep its
teach - ings pure Through - out all gen - er - a - tions.

Text and tune: Public domain

Common Versicles

219

- L** O Lord, open my lips,
- C** and my mouth will declare Your praise.
- L** Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
- C** make haste to help me, O Lord.
- C** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.
Praise to You, O Christ. Alleluia.

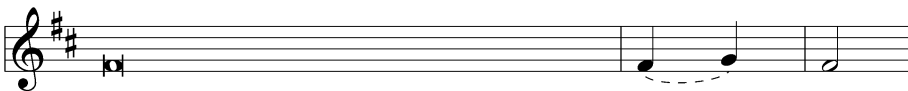
Antiphon (Common)

LSB 220

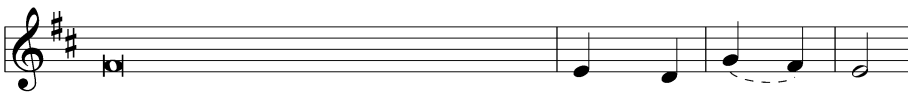
- L** Blessed be God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
- C** O come, let us worship Him.

Venite

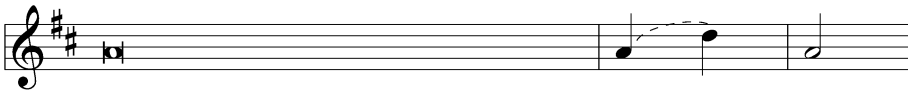
LSB 220



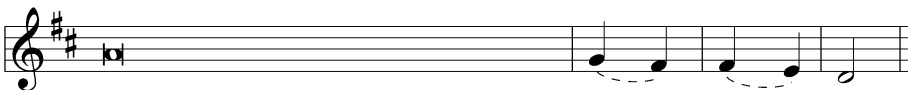
- 1 O come, let us sing to the Lord,
 - 2 For the Lord is a great God
 - 3 The sea is His, for He made it,
- 5 Glory be to the Father and to the Son



- 1 let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal - va - tion.
 - 2 and a great king a - bove all gods.
 - 3 and His hand formed the dry land.
- 5 and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;



- 1 Let us come into His presence with thanks - giv - ing,
- 2 The deep places of the earth are in His hand;
- 3 O come, let us worship and bow down,
- 4 For He is our God,
- 5 as it was in the be - gin - ning,



- 1 let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise.
- 2 the strength of the hills is His al - so.
- 3 let us kneel before the Lord, our mak - er.
- 4 and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.
- 5 is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

Antiphon (Common)

LSB 221

- L** Blessed be God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
- C** O come, let us worship Him.

Introit

Psalm 34:1–2, 11, 22; antiphon: Psalm 119:46

- P** I will speak of your testimonies before kings, [O Lord,] and shall not be put to shame.
- C** I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.
- P** My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad.
- C** Come, O children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

P The Lord redeems the life of his servants; none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.

C **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P I will speak of your testimonies before kings, [O Lord,] and shall not be put to shame

Luther's Small Catechism

P The Lord's Prayer

P The Second Petition

C **Thy kingdom come.**

P What does this mean?

C **The kingdom of God certainly comes by itself without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may come to us also.**

P How does God's kingdom come?

C **God's kingdom comes when our heavenly Father gives us His Holy Spirit, so that by His grace we believe His holy Word and lead godly lives here in time and there in eternity.**

Old Testament Reading

Revelation 14:6–7

⁶Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people. ⁷And he said with a loud voice, "Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come, and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water."

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle Reading

Romans 3:19–28

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin. ²¹But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: ²³for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. ²⁶It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. ²⁷Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded.

By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading

John 8:31–36

³¹So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” ³³They answered him, “We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, ‘You will become free?’” ³⁴Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. ³⁶So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.”

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Responsory

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L Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.

C **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

L Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.

C **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

L Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

C **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

656 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



1 A might - y for - tress is our God,
 2 With might of ours can naught be done,
 3 Though dev - ils all the world should fill,
 4 The Word they still shall let re - main



A trust - y shield and weap - on;
 Soon were our loss ef - fect - ed;
 All ea - ger to de - vour us,
 Nor an - y thanks have for it;



He helps us free from ev - 'ry need
 But for us fights the val - iant One,
 We trem - ble not, we fear no ill;
 He's by our side up - on the plain



That hath us now o'er - tak - en.
 Whom God Him - self e - lect - ed.
 They shall not o - ver - pow'r us.
 With His good gifts and Spir - it.



The old e - vil foe Now means
 Ask ye, Who is this? Je - sus
 This world's prince may still Scowl fierce
 And take they our life, Goods, fame,



dead - ly woe; Deep guile and great might
 Christ it is, Of Sab - a - oth Lord,
 as he will, He can harm us none.
 child, and wife, Though these all be gone,

Are his dread arms in fight; On earth
 And there's none other God; He holds
 He's judged; the deed is done; One lit -
 Our vic - t'ry has been won; The King -

is not his e - qual.
 the field for - ev - er.
 tle word can fell him.
 dom ours re - main - eth.

Tune and text: Public domain

Sermon

Apostles' Creed

- ☐ 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
 From thence He will 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.



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

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.

Collects

Introduction to Collects

LSB 227

- L** O Lord, hear my prayer.
- C** And let my cry come to You.

Prayer of the Church

Prayer of the Church

P Having confidence in our justification by grace through faith and having access to the Father in Jesus' name, ...

[Various petitions are offered, when the Pastor says, "Lord, in your mercy" The congregation replies "Hear our prayer."]

- P** ... all these things we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Collect of the Day

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.

C Amen.

Collect for the Word

L Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Collect for Grace

L O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus

LSB 228

L Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

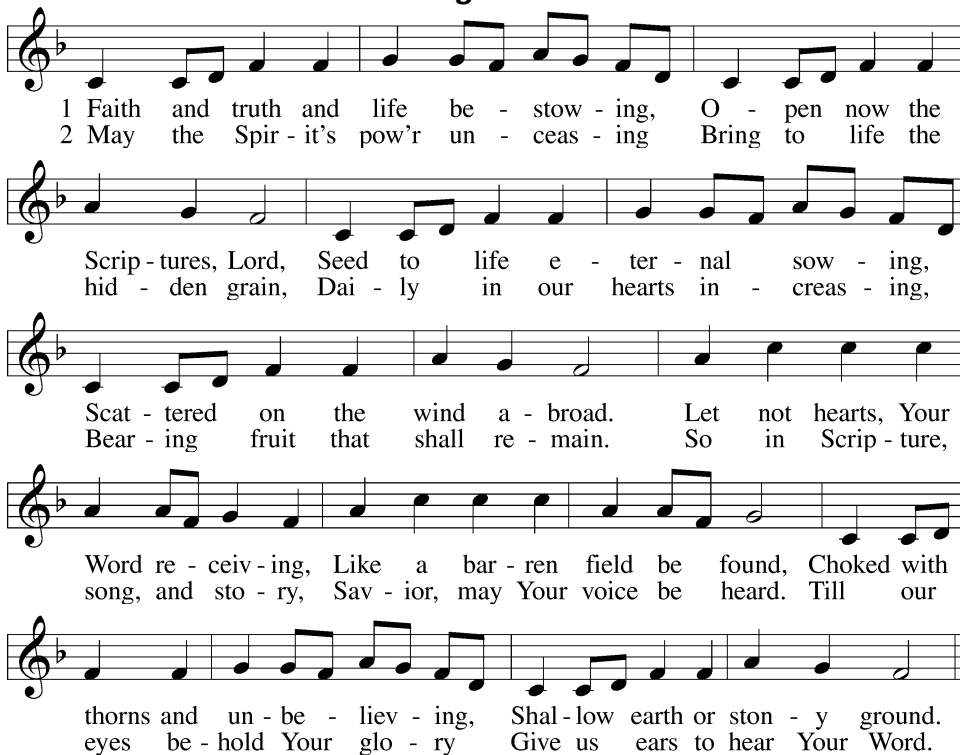
Benediction

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P The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C Amen.

584 Faith and Truth and Life Bestowing



1 Faith and truth and life be - stow - ing, O - pen now the
2 May the Spir - it's pow'r un - ceas - ing Bring to life the
Scrip - tures, Lord, Seed to life e - ter - nal sow - ing,
hid - den grain, Dai - ly in our hearts in - creas - ing,
Scat - tered on the wind a - broad. Let not hearts, Your
Bear - ing fruit that shall re - main. So in Scrip - ture,
Word re - ceiv - ing, Like a bar - ren field be found, Choked with
song, and sto - ry, Sav - ior, may Your voice be heard. Till our
thorns and un - be - liev - ing, Shal - low earth or ston - y ground.
eyes be - hold Your glo - ry Give us ears to hear Your Word.

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Verse to Ponder

Luke 24:31

³¹And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight.

Acknowledgments

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

VISITORS: Welcome to Faith Lutheran Church. We're glad to have you join us today and hope you find your worship here to be fulfilling and joyful! Please fill out the Record of Fellowship in the pew books, sign our Guest Book in the Narthex, and be sure to speak with an usher for a Welcome packet. We hope to see you again soon!

PLEASE NOTE... Faith Lutheran Church is pleased to be able to offer a loop hearing assistance system. To access this system, simply activate the T-coil setting on your hearing aid. If you don't have a hearing aid or your hearing aid lacks a T-coil switch, we have headsets available which will provide sound amplification throughout the worship service. Please see an usher if you have any questions.

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are given to the Honor and Glory of God by Ding and Janet Virata.

LUTHERAN HOUR RADIO is broadcast on WKTY 580 AM Sundays at 7:30 AM. On **Sunday Oct 25th** Rev. Dr. Michael Ziegler shares his message titled **"Some People Never change?"** Some people never change. Most people do. With God, all people can.

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE October 25th "I pray that the love of Christ emboldens you to rejoice in the Word and to speak it without fear of consequence ... may future generations speak of us like we do of David, Josiah, Luther, and our forefathers. May our children say of you and me, 'Our forefathers stood their ground on Christ alone, on His Word of truth alone.' The truth has set you free. Enjoy your own personal reformation. Then let your freedom in Christ be contagious! Let your life continue to shout: Thank Jesus Christ my Savior! I'm free at last ... and so are you! Amen." Rev. Peter Sulzle, St. John Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life ♥ www.lutheransforlife.org

MIDWEEK VESPERS Evening prayer services are held on Wednesdays, 6:30 pm, to augment your home devotions. The readings follow the green sheet, and the message is different than Sunday. We livestream the service so you may follow along from home. *NB: We consistently encourage everyone to follow our county health department's guidance on physical distancing and our governor's emergency order mandating masks, we are admitting to this Wednesday night service, those who, for medical reasons, cannot wear masks (see emergency order section 3.b.). Please keep this in mind as you make choices on attending this service in person as not everyone will be wearing a mask. Please note that we still require masks to be worn at the Sunday services and all Bible studies regardless of the status of the governor's mask mandate.*

THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE Wednesday November 25th at 6:30—Online

ADVENT MIDWEEK SERVICES 6:30 p.m. Wednesday nights in December—ONLINE In the courtroom dramas, a common trope is the prosecutor asking the witness, "Where were you on the night of [insert date here]?" Join us as we attempt to put God in the witness stand and ask Him where He was in the year 2020. This question, known formally as theodicy, asks how a perfect, almighty God can allow evil. This is a question that the faithful have been asking for centuries. One such faithful believer is Habakkuk who writes concerning the impending doom of Jerusalem. On the evenings of December 2nd, 9th, and 16th, tune in to God as my Witness: Wrestling with God in Habakkuk. Each night follows a theme that starts with a W: "Why, God?", "Wait." — God, and Worship God.

A WORD ON ONLINE SERVICES Due to the increased risk of in-person gathering, we encourage Faith members to watch the live stream of the Thanksgiving and Advent midweek services. However, we do need some volunteers to lend their voices to the recording of the service. Email pastor@faithonmain.com if you are interested in attending in person.

THANK YOU for the wonderful card and gift card to Concordia Publishing House. We have a family of bookworms and it will not only help toward my academic studies, but also help purchase devotional materials for the family. We feel very appreciated and cared for in the midst of these difficult times! — Pastor Eichers, Kara, Gwen, and Silas

BIBLE STUDIES THIS WEEK

College Study: Cross: How do Christians Make Sense of Suffering? – Join us on Zoom

Men's Study: Promise: God is For Us – Thursday at 9:00 AM

Women's Study: Women of the Bible – Thursday at Noon

Sunday Study: Today: The Road to Emmaus

Next Week: The Ascension

SPREAD THE WARMTH: Winter is coming and we are looking for handmade hats. We are also looking for donations of money to buy hats and socks. If interested in helping, contact Sandy Kirchner at kirchners@centurytel.net.

Title: What is Reformation Day About?

Text: John 8:31–36

What is the Reformation all about?

We Lutherans are part of a broader category called _____.

- The Reformation isn't about _____ other Christians.

"I subscribe to their opinion. I myself do not know _____ either, nor do I want to know him, nor do I preach anything about him, but about Christ"

- The Reformation isn't about _____ Luther.
- The Reformation is about the _____ setting you free.

He changed his name to Luther which comes from the Greek word "_____."

THE REFORMATION IS ABOUT THE _____ OF CHRIST'S GOSPEL FREEING SINNERS.