

*Reformation*  
*October 25, 2020*



## *Lord of Love Lutheran Church (ELCA)*

*10405 Fort Street*

*Omaha, NE 68134*

*“Celebrating and sharing God’s Love in a welcoming community of faith,  
while serving others”*

*Worship 9:00 a.m.*

*Bold type indicates Congregational responses*

*\*Congregation please stand as you are able*

### *Introduction*

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.

*Prelude “If Thou But Trust in God to Guide Thee”*

*Arr. Todd Marchand*

### *Announcements*

### *Ringling of the Bell*

*\*Just a reminder, when worshipping in-person, please do not sing along, but you can hum if you’d like.*

*Opening Hymn “A Mighty Fortress”*

*ELW 503*



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -  
 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -  
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -  
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who



to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and  
 ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom  
 your us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they  
 fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe  
 God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?  
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;  
 weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,



has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might  
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,  
 in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;  
 goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.  
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.  
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.  
 they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

*Confession and Forgiveness*

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
 in whose image we are made,  
 who claims us and calls us beloved.

**Amen.**

*Silence is kept for self-reflection.*

Holy One, we confess that we are not awake for you.  
 We are not faithful in using your gifts.  
 We forget the least of our siblings.  
 We do not see your beautiful image in one another.  
 We are infected by sin  
 that divides your beloved community.

**Open our hearts to your coming,  
 open our eyes to see you in our neighbor,  
 open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.**

Beloved, we are God's children,  
 and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us.  
 Through † Jesus you are forgiven,  
 by Jesus you are welcome,  
 in Jesus you are called to rejoice!  
 Let us live in the promises prepared for us  
 from the foundation of the world.

**Amen.**

Glory to God



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



☐ Lord God, heav-en - ly king, al-might- y God and Fa- ther, we



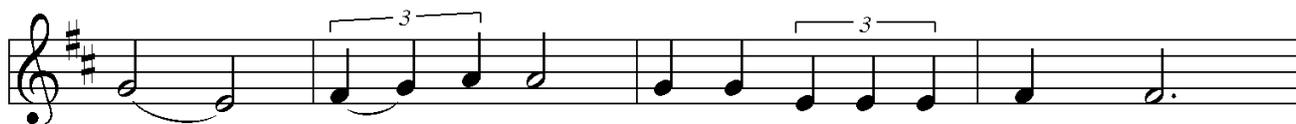
wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



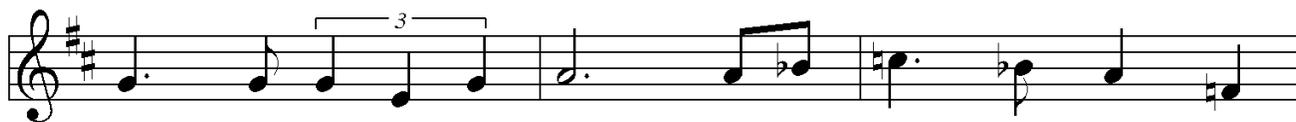
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



☐ Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



☐ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

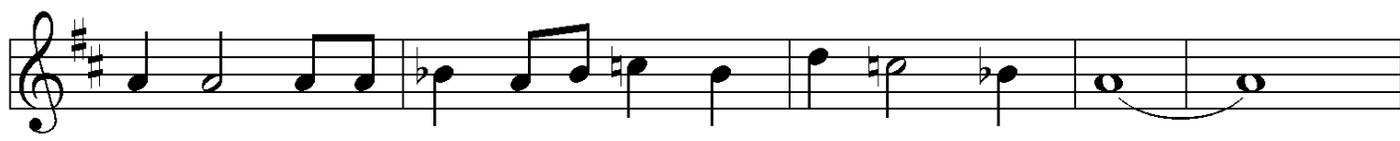


I For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

II



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly



Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther, A - men.



☐ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth,



and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

*Prayer of the Day*

L: Let us pray.

**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.**

*Bell Choir* "Trumpet Voluntary" by Jeremiah Clarke, Arr. by Martha Lynn Thompson

*Psalm:* Psalm 46

God is our refuge and strength,  
a very present help in trouble.

**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,  
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**

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

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

God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;

God shall help it at the break of day.

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

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

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

behold 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.

**"Be still, then, and know that I am God;**

**I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth."**

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

*Second Lesson:* Romans 3:19-28

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

But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, since all have sinned and fall short

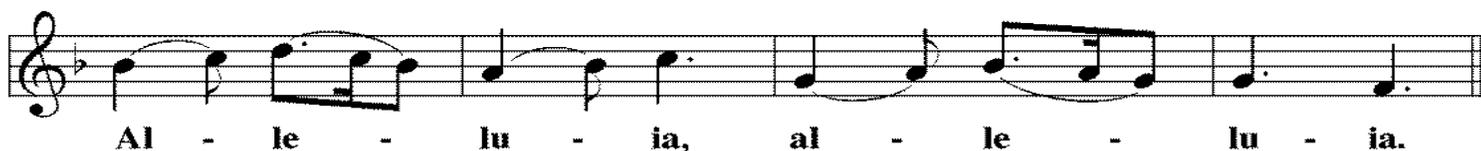
of the glory of God; they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. For 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: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 8th chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Gospel: John 8:31-36*

Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." They 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'?"

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

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Children's Sermon*

Rev. Becky Sells

*Sermon*

Rev. Becky Sells

1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that  
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and  
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I  
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his  
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but  
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that  
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me  
 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and  
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found; was blind, but now I see.  
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!  
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.  
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

### *The Prayers of Intercession*

L: With confidence in God's grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

*A brief silence.*

Renew and inspire the church in the freedom of the gospel, O God. Where the church is in error, reform it. Where the church speaks your truth, strengthen it. Where the church is divided, unify it. Ignite in us the working of the Holy Spirit. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

As the earth changes, as mountains shake and the waters roar, may we care for this planet as a holy habitation for all living things. Sustain all peoples and lands suffering and recovering from natural disasters of any kind. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Guide areas of the world divided or traumatized by conflict, especially in our own land. Free all from slavery and human trafficking, and protect all in harm's way. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Release those living in bondage to debts, chronic pain, or addiction. Grant healing touch to those who are ill, especially those named on our prayer list, and those we lift up to you in our hearts now. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

In this family of faith we give thanks for courageous voices that have remained firm in their commitment to the one who frees us from sin and death. Centered in your grace, unify us in the hope of the gospel. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Even in death, you free us and give us a place in your house. We give thanks for our ancestors who have shown us truth and freedom, especially Martin Luther and those who work for the renewal of the church. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Listen as we call on you, O God, and enfold in your loving arms all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### *The Lord's Prayer*

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

## Offering

L: We are called to reflect on how we are giving back to God for all the blessings God has given us. This includes continuing to financially support the church and its mission, along with considering how we might be called to also give and use our time and talents to further God's kingdom here on earth.

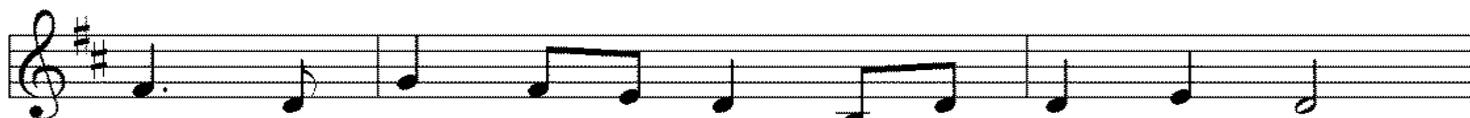
## Offertory



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



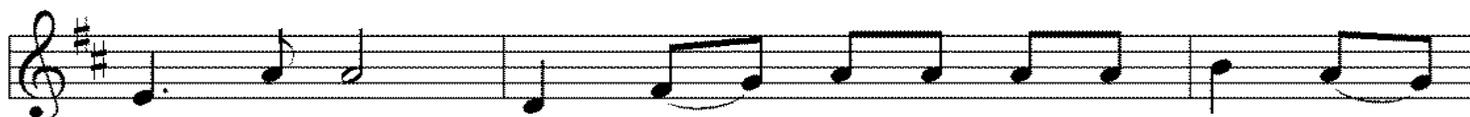
bles - sing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were



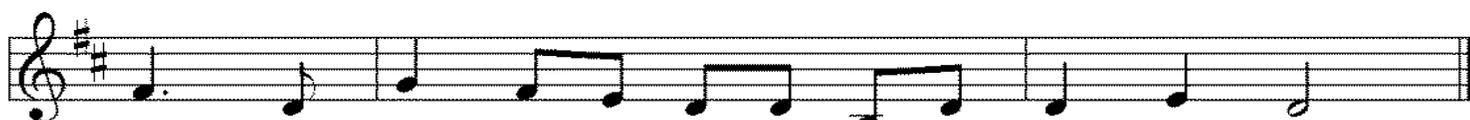
sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.



Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u-nite them with the prayers we



of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,



Lord, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

## Offertory Prayer

P: Merciful God, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The Great Thanksgiving*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Words of Institution*

On the night he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying: Thank and eat: this is the body given for you. Do this for remembrance of me.

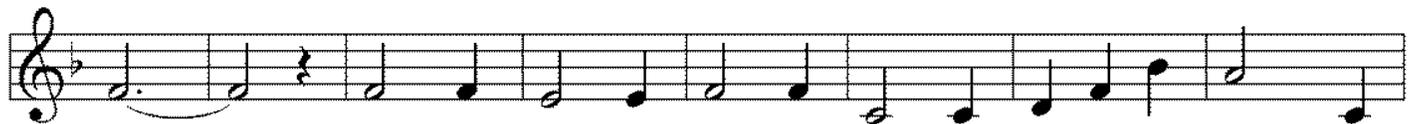
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for remembrance of me.

*Communion*

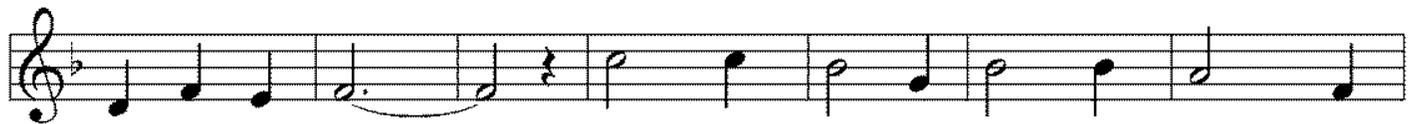
*Lamb of God*



☩ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

*\*Table Blessing*

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**Amen.**

*\*Post-Communion Prayer*

P: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the Sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*\*Blessing*

P: Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

*\*Dismissal*

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*\*Ringing of the Bell*

*Postlude "Cathedral of Praise"*

/Joseph M. Martin

*Please be seated and wait for an usher to dismiss you.*

*\*It is okay to socialize outside, as long as you remain 6 feet apart, and do not completely block the sidewalk for others to safely pass by.*

A Mighty Fortress

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*

Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther

Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Amazing Grace

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5

Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1851–1921, alt.

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2013 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #24833.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.