

*Reformation Sunday*  
*October 27, 2024*



*Lord of Love Lutheran Church (ELCA)*  
*10405 Fort St., 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.*

***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*** “Mighty Fortress”-setting by Johann Walther.....Luther/Baldwin  
“Let There Be Glory and Honor and Praise”..... /Court

***Announcements***

***Bell Choir*** “Amazing Grace”.....Arr. Sandra Eithun

## ***Ringing of the Bell***

**\*Gathering Song:** “Rise, Shine You People” ..... ELW 665

### **\*Greeting**

P: 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.**

### **\*Confession and Forgiveness**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
our refuge,  
our delight,  
our beginning and our end.

**Amen.**

Let us come in truth before the one who loves us  
and has freed us from our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Eternal One, robed in majesty and mercy,  
**we confess that sin has taken hold of us  
and we are complicit in its power.  
We are disturbed in spirit and our hearts cannot rest.  
Unbind us and set us free.  
Lead us again to the waters of rebirth,  
that we may live just and generous lives  
for the good of your world  
and the care of our neighbors,  
following in the servant way of Jesus.  
Amen.**

These words are trustworthy and true:  
Christ bore our sins once, for all, on the cross,  
swallowing up death forever.

For his sake, you are † forgiven  
and God remembers your sin no more.

Let your heart be glad again,  
and rejoice in your salvation.

**Amen.**

**\*Hymn of Praise**

*All*



1. Your can - o - py of vig - il lights, each  
 2. (You) walk with us a - long the way, your  
 3. (Re) - freshed by sab - bath rest this day, a -



star your hand has set in place, be - stows a bless - ing  
 Word, a lamp to pil - grim feet; stay with us now for  
 wak - en us to your sha - lom: the reign of Christ's un -



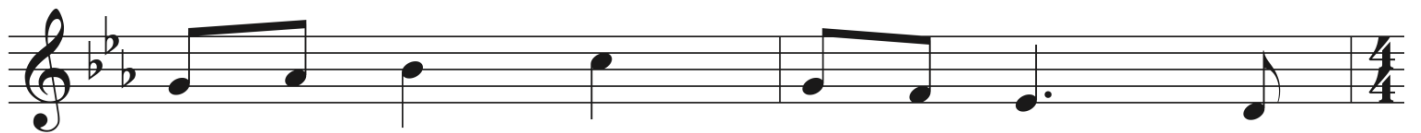
on our life, and all cre - a - tion sings your  
 each new day, our un - known guest, our host and  
 fail - ing way, where peace and jus - tice are at



praise. You formed the moon and fired the sun, you  
 feast. Grant those who share this ho - ly meal the  
 home and saints need nei - ther moon nor sun to



quick - ened dust with ho - ly breath, and  
 faith and vi - sion to be - lieve, that  
 sing your praise e - ter - nal - ly, O



bind - ing us to your dear Son, re -  
 hearts might see what eyes con - ceal: by  
 mer - ci - ful, im - mor - tal One, O



newed our life, de - stroyed our death. 2.You  
 grace your pres - ence we re - ceive. 3.Re  
 bless - ed, ho - ly Trin - i - ty.

***\*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.**

*Please be seated.*

**Choir Anthem** “*Christ, the Lord, Our Sure Foundation*”.....Lloyd Larsen

*(Please sing when directed)*

Lead on, O King Eternal,  
the day of march has come;  
henceforth in fields of conquest  
your tents shall be our home.  
Through days of preparation  
your grace has made us strong,  
and now, O King Eternal,  
we lift our battle song.

Lead on, O King Eternal,  
till sin's fierce war shall cease,  
and holiness shall whisper  
the sweet Amen of peace;  
for not with swords loud clashing,  
nor roll of stirring drums,  
with deeds of love and mercy  
the heav'nly kingdom comes.

Lead on, O King Eternal,  
we follow, not with fears;  
for gladness breaks like morning  
where'er your face appears;  
your cross is lifted o'er us;  
we journey in its light;  
the crown awaits the conquest:  
lead on, O God of might.

***First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34***

L: The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It 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. But 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. No 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.**

***Second Reading: Romans 3:19-28***

L: 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**

Al - le - lu - ia, al-le-lu-ia,  
al-le-lu-ia; Al - le - lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia.

**\*Gospel: John 8:31-36**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 8<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

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

**Hymn of the Day:** “Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word” ..... ELW 517

### ***\*The Apostles' Creed***

L: God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

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

### ***\*Prayers of Intercession***

L: Challenged by God's Word in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and the whole creation.

*A brief silence.*

Lord of all, we give thanks for the whole church throughout the world. Open wide the paths toward unity between denominations so that all followers of Christ may join in shared worship and mission. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Renewing God, as the dying leaves display their beauty, we are reminded that nature's cycle of life includes and requires both life and death. Instill in your people a mission of preservation and appreciation for trees, animals, and waterways threatened by climate collapse. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Gracious God, in the spirit of reformation we pray for all who cry out for relief from systemic oppression. May the hearts of those who occupy seats of power be reformed so that peace becomes the center of our life together. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Comforting God, be with all who are sick, suffering, or grieving in our own community and beyond. Surround them with the promise of your love, comfort, and grace that never ends. We especially pray for those on our prayer list and the names of those we lift up to you in our heart now...God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Divine Guide, continue to challenge this community to be ever reforming in our ministries and outreach efforts. Inspire creative ideas among us so that the communal, grace-filled word of God remains at the heart of our ministry. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, in Christ's resurrection you ensure that though life be wrenched away, death cannot win the day. May the truth of your saving grace through faith sustain our hope for life in you. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in the saving grace you freely give, both now and forever.

**Amen.**

**\*Peace**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*Please share signs of peace with one another.*

*Please be seated.*

***Blessing of the Quilts***

Recognition of those who have helped make the quilts throughout the year.

*Please place your hands on a quilt around you as we pray.*

P: God of love, we thank you for the beauty of the thread and cloth that have been sewn together with love by our dedicated quilting group. God bless the hands of those who give of their time to create these quilts to share your love with our neighbors in need all over the world.

**C: For the many hands and hearts working together to share your love through these quilts, we give you thanks.**

P: May the Spirit of Love, in which these quilts were created, accompany them to the people and places where they are needed. May the quilts be received as a blessing that reflects the love we ourselves know and find in Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: May these quilts shine with your love, bless and warm the hearts and lives of those who will receive them, and be an extension of your love reaching out to them with hope. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**



## Thankofferings/Offering Time

-A word of introduction about Thankofferings...

*Thankoffering gifts can be brought forward and put into the basket up front.*

*Gifts may be placed in the offering plate located in the back of the sanctuary or given electronically at [www.lord-of-love.org](http://www.lord-of-love.org).*

*Children may come forward to put their offering in the noise jar during this song.*

*Communion servers, please come forward during the offertory song.*



Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,



give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.



Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,



give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.



And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am



rich," be - cause of what the Lord has done for us. And



now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am



rich," be - cause of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

***\*Offertory Prayer***

P: Let us pray.

**Dear Lord, we give you thanks for the ways you have blessed us. Use these gifts of gratitude and honor, and the whole of our lives to be a witness and a sign of your presence at work in the world. And as we come to be fed with your good gifts from Christ's table, help them to transform us to embody the mission of Christ at work in the world all around us. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.**

***\*The Great Thanksgiving***

P: 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***

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God. The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars, beneath the sea, within each cell, with every breath. Generations bless your faithfulness: through the waters, across the wilderness, by night and day, out of exile, into the future. We give you thanks for your Son: at the heart of human life, near to those who suffer, beside the sinner, among the poor, with us now.

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

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering, upon this bread, within this cup, among your people, throughout the world. Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, Holy God, for your mercy, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your Church, without end.

**Amen.**

**\*The Lord's Prayer**

P: Gathered around the table by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us. **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.**

*Please be seated.*

**Communion Invitation**

P: The gifts of God for the people of God. All are welcome.

**Lamb of God**

The musical score for 'Lamb of God' is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). It consists of four staves of music. The first staff is an instrumental introduction. The second staff begins with the word 'All' above it and contains the lyrics 'Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the'. The third staff is marked '1., 2.' and contains the lyrics 'world; have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us.'. The fourth staff is marked '3.' and contains the lyrics 'world; grant us peace, grant us peace.'.

**Communion**

**Communion Music "Jesus I Love You" ...../Anderson**

**\*Post-Communion Prayer**

P: Creator of our days and nights, we give you thanks for this gift of life. Increase our faith and open our eyes that we might recognize Jesus in all whom you call us to love and serve. Abide with us when we struggle and doubt and be our hope and highest joy, until at last with all your saints we dwell in your unfailing Light.

**Amen.**

**\*Benediction**

P: Holy God, Blessed Trinity, strengthen your faith, increase your hope, deepen your love, ✠ and give you peace this day and always.

**Amen.**

**\*Sending Song: "A Mighty Fortress" .....** ELW 504

**\*Dismissal**

L: Go in peace. Encourage one another in Christ.

**Thanks be to God!**

**Ringing of the Bell**

**Postlude "Doxology" .....** Slechta

**Unfailing Light Liturgy**

By Marty Haugen & Susan Briehl  
Words © 2004 by Augsburg Fortress, Publishers.  
Music © 2004 by GIA Publications, Inc.

**Give Thanks**

Text: Henry Smith  
Music: GIVE THANKS. Henry Smith  
Text and music © 1978 Integrity's Hosanna! Music (ASCAP), All rights reserved. International © secured.

Liturgical text from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2007 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.

Hymns reprinted by permission under CCLI License #3067941 and One License No. A-732551. All rights reserved.