

THE FESTIVAL OF REFORMATION

Winnebago Lutheran Association Joint Service

October 30th, 2022

St. Peter's Ev. Lutheran Church

A PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP Oh keep us in your Word, we pray; the guile and rage of Satan stay! Oh may your mercy never cease! Give concord, patience, courage, peace. Oh grant that in your Holy Word we here may live and die, dear Lord, and when our journey's ending here, receive us into glory there. Amen.

SERVICE THEME What a gift God gave to his Church through the Lutheran Reformation! The bright light of God's "new testament," his saving grace in Jesus Christ, pierced through the darkness of law-oppressed religion. As sons and daughters of the Lutheran Reformation, we both preserve this truth and share it with the world.

MARTIN LUTHER HYMNS One of the jewels handed down to us from the Reformation is the joy of singing together during worship. All hymns marked with an asterisk * were written by Martin Luther.



BELLS

OPENING HYMN

The Church's One Foundation | 855

INVOCATION

Pastor/Congregation

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

RESPONSIVE READING OF PSALM 46

God is our refuge and strength, **a helper who can always be found in times of trouble.** That is why we will not fear when the earth dissolves **and when the mountains tumble into the heart of the sea.** Its waters roar and foam. **The mountains quake when it rises.** There is a river—its streams bring joy to the city of God, **to the holy dwelling of the Most High.** God is in her. She will not fall. **God will help her at daybreak.** Nations are in turmoil. Kingdoms fall. **God raises his voice. The earth melts.** The Lord of Armies is with us. **The God of Jacob is a fortress for us.** Come, look at the works of the Lord. **What a wasteland he has made of the earth!** He makes wars cease to the end of the earth. **He shatters the bow. He cuts up the spear. He burns the carts with fire.** "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations. **I will be exalted on the earth.**" The Lord of Armies is with us. **The God of Jacob is a fortress for us.**

*Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word** | 862

1 Lord, keep us stead-fast in your Word; curb those who
2 Lord Je-sus Christ, your pow'r make known, for you are
by de-ceit or sword would seek to o-ver-throw your
Lord of lords a-lone; de-fend your Chris-ten-dom that
Son and to de-destroy what he has done.
we may sing your praise e-ter-nal-ly.

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CONFESSION OF SINS

P: What is confession?

C: Confession has two parts. The one is that we confess our sins; the other, that we receive absolution or forgiveness from the pastor as from God himself, not doubting but firmly believing that our sins are thus forgiven before God in heaven.

P: What sins should we confess?

C: Before God we should plead guilty of all sins, even those we are not aware of, as we do in the Lord's Prayer. But before the pastor we should confess only those sins which we know and feel in our hearts.

P: How can we recognize these sins?

C: Consider your place in life according to the Ten Commandments. Are you a father, mother, son, daughter, employer, or employee? Have you been disobedient, unfaithful, or lazy? Have you hurt anyone by word or deed? Have you been dishonest, careless, wasteful, or done other wrong?

P: Deeply aware of our sins, and trusting only in the merits of Jesus Christ for forgiveness, let us confess our sins:

Lord, to You I Make Confession | 653



1 Lord, to you I make con - fes - sion: I have sinned and
2 Yet, though con-science' voice ap - pall me, Fa - ther, I will



gone a - stray; I have mul - ti - plied trans - gres - sion,
seek your face. Though your child I dare not call me,



cho - sen for my - self my way. Led by you to
yet re - ceive me to your grace. Do not for my



see my er - rors, Lord, I trem - ble at your ter - rors.
sins for - sake me, do not let your wrath o'er - take me.

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P: Jesus says to his people, "If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven." His death paid for the guilt of your sins and the sins of the whole world. Do you believe this?

C: Yes, I believe.

P: Because of the promise of our Savior Jesus, I forgive you all your sins. Be assured that you are a dear child of God and an heir of eternal life.

As Surely As I Live, God Said | 656



5 The words which ab - so - lu - tion give are his who
6 When min - is - ters lay on their hands, ab - solved by



died that we might live; the min - is - ter whom
Christ the sin - ner stands; he who by grace the



Christ has sent is but his hum - ble in - stru - ment.
Word be - lieves for - give - ness, sure and sweet, re - ceives.

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Luther's Evening Prayer* | 782



1 I thank you, heav'n-ly Fa - ther, thro' Je - sus, your dear Son,
2 I trust my soul and bod - y in - to your lov - ing hands.



that gra - cious - ly you kept me while dai - ly tasks were done.
All things that I en - coun - ter I leave to your good plans.



I pray that you for - give me for all my sins and wrongs,
Send me your ho - ly an - gel to rout the e - vil one



and in your love con - tin - ue to keep me all night long.
and crush his dread - ful pow - ers. A - men. Your will be done.

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THE THREE PILLARS OF THE LUTHERAN REFORMATION

We are saved:

SOLA GRATIA—BY GRACE ALONE

Jeremiah 31:31-34

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.

By Grace I'm Saved | 575



1 By grace I'm saved, grace free and bound-less; my soul, be -
4 By grace to tim - id hearts that trem - ble, in trib - u -



lieve and doubt it not. Why wa - ver at this word of
la - tion's fur - nace tried, by grace, de - spite all fear and



prom - ise? Has Scrip - ture ev - er false - hood taught? So then this
trou - ble, the Fa - ther's heart is o - pen wide. Where could I



word must true re - main: by grace you, too, shall heav'n ob - tain.
help and strength se - cure if grace were not my an - chor sure?

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SOLA FIDE—BY FAITH ALONE

Romans 3:19-28

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.

Sola Gratia

Grace Alone

Sola Fide

Faith Alone

Sola Scriptura

Scripture Alone

I Know My Faith Is Founded | 797

1 I know my faith is found - ed on Je - sus Christ, my
2 In - crease my faith, dear Sav - ior, for Sa - tan seeks by
God and Lord; and this my faith con - fess - ing, un -
night and day to rob me of this trea - sure and
moved I stand up - on his Word. Our rea - son can - not
take my hope of bliss a - way. But, Lord, with you be -
fath - om the truth of God pro - found; who trusts in world - ly
side me I shall be un - dis - mayed; and led by your good
wis - dom re - lies on shift - ing ground. God's Word is
Spir - it, I shall be un - a - fraid. A - bide with
all - suf - fi - cient, it makes di - vine - ly sure, and,
me, O Sav - ior, a firm - er faith be - stow; then
trust - ing in its wis - dom, my faith shall rest se - cure.
I shall bid de - fi - ance to ev - 'ry e - vil foe.

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SOLA SCRIPTURA—BY SCRIPTURE ALONE

John 8:31-36

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.

God’s Word Is Our Great Heritage | 640

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. Thro’ 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.

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CONFESSION OF FAITH

Here is the first and chief article: That Jesus Christ, our God and Lord, “was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification,” and he alone is “the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,” and “the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all,” furthermore, “All have sinned,” and “they are now justified without merit by his grace, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus . . . by his blood.” Now because this must be believed and may not be obtained or grasped otherwise with any work, law, or merit, it is clear and certain that this faith alone justifies us, as St. Paul says, “For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law”; and also, “that God alone is righteous and justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.” Nothing in this article can be conceded or given up, even if heaven and earth or whatever is transitory passed away. As St. Peter says, “There is no other name . . . given among mortals by which we must be saved.” “And by his bruises we are healed”. On this article stands all that we teach and practice... Therefore we must be quite certain and have no doubt about it. Otherwise everything is lost.

SONG

The congregation is asked to join in the Refrains.

“If God Is For Us”
by James Chepponis

Refrain
If God is for us, who can be a - gainst us?
God is our sal - va - tion, al - ways by our side.

God is our refuge and our strength, an ever present aid,
and therefore, though the earth be moved, we will not be afraid;
though hills into the seas be cast, though foaming waters roar,
the Lord of hosts is by our side, a refuge strong and sure. *Refrain.*

A river flows whose streams make glad the city of our God,
the holy dwelling of the Lord, the place of God’s abode.

Since God is in the midst of it, our safety is secure;
The Lord of hosts is by our side, a refuge strong and sure. *Refrain.*

Behold the wondrous deeds of God, who causes wars to cease;
The weapons of the strong destroyed, God brings abiding peace.
“Be still and know that I am God, exalted evermore;”
The Lord of hosts is by our side, a refuge strong and sure. *Refrain.*

“God’s Word is the Church’s Glorious Confidence” *Rev. Keith Wessel*

1. It Alone is the Word of Truth
2. It Alone Sets Us Free

To Shepherds as They Watched by Night | 335*

3 O then re - jice that through his Son God is with
4 What harm can sin and death then do? The true God
sin - ners now at one; made like your - selves of
now a - bides with you. Let hell and Sa - tan
flesh and blood, your broth - er is th'e - ter - nal God.
storm and rave, Christ is your broth - er— you are safe.

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OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Our Father who art in heaven.

With these words you tenderly invite us to believe that you are our true Father and that we are your true children. And so we pray to you as boldly and confidently as dear children ask their dear father.

Hallowed be thy name.

Your name is kept holy when your Word is taught in its truth and purity, and we as your children lead holy lives according to it. Help us to do this, dear Father in heaven!

Thy kingdom come.

Your kingdom comes when you give your Holy Spirit, so that by your grace we believe your Word and lead a godly life now on earth and forever in heaven. We pray that your kingdom may come to us and many others.

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

We ask that you break and defeat every evil plan and purpose of the devil, the world and our sinful flesh, which try to prevent us from keeping your name holy and letting your kingdom come. We also ask that you strengthen us and keep us firm in your Word and in the faith as long as we live, for this is your good and gracious will.

Give us this day our daily bread.

We ask that you would provide us with all that we need for our bodily welfare – food and drink, clothing and shoes, house and home, fields and flocks, money and goods, a godly family, good workers, good government, honest leaders, good citizens, good weather, peace and order, health, a good name, loyal friends and good neighbors. We also ask that you would lead us to receive these things with thanksgiving.

And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

O Father in heaven, do not look upon our sins or because of them deny our prayers, for we are worthy of none of the things for which we ask, neither have we deserved them. But we ask that you would give them all to us by grace, for we daily sin much and surely deserve nothing but punishment. Lead us to forgive from the heart and gladly do good to those who sin against us.

And lead us not into temptation.

Lord, guard and keep us so that the devil, the world and our flesh may not deceive us or lead us into false belief, despair, and other great and shameful sins. And although we are tempted by them, we pray that we may overcome and obtain the victory.

But deliver us from evil.

Finally we pray, Father in heaven, that you would deliver us from every evil that threatens body and soul, property and reputation, and finally when our last hour

comes, grant us a blessed end and graciously take us from this world of sorrow to yourself in heaven.

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever.

We are sure that these petitions are acceptable to you, and are heard by you, for you have commanded us so to pray and have promised to hear us.

Therefore we say,

“Amen, it shall be so!”

SACRAMENT

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up unto the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is good and right so to do.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat, this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

WLA CONCERT CHOIR

“All Things Work Together for Good”
by John Carter

All things work together for good to those who love the Lord,
to those who are called according to his purpose.

WLA TRAVELING CHOIR

“All Things New”

by Elaine Hagenberg

Light after darkness, gain after loss,
Strength after weakness, crown after cross;
Sweet after bitter, hope after fears,
Home after wandering, praise after tears.

Alpha and Omega, beginning and the end,
He is making all things new.
Springs of living water shall wash away each tear,
He is making all things new.

Sight after mystery, sun after rain,
Joy after sorrow, peace after pain;
Near after distant, gleam after gloom,
Love after loneliness, life after tomb.

Alpha and Omega, beginning and the end,
He is making all things new.
Springs of living water shall wash away each tear,
He is making all things new.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

*O Lord, We Praise You** | 673

*Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice** | 557

CLOSING PRAYER

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

And his mercy endures forever.

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

BENEDICTION

May the blessing of the eternal God be upon us: his light to guide us, his presence to shelter us, his peace to unite us.

Amen.



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a trust - y shield
2 With might of ours can naught be done, soon were our loss
3 Though dev - ils all the world should fill, all ea - ger to
4 The Word they still shall let re - main nor an - y thanks



and weap - on; he helps us free from ev - 'ry need
ef - fect - ed; but for us fights the val - iant one
de - vour us, we trem - ble not, we fear no ill;
have for it; he's by our side up - on the plain



that has us now o'er - tak - en. The old
whom God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask,
they shall not o - ver - pow'r us. This world's
with his good gifts and Spir - it. And take



e - vil foe now means dead - ly woe;
"Who is this?" Je - sus Christ it is,
prince may still scowl fierce as he will,
they our life, goods, fame, child, and wife,



deep guile and great might are his dread arms in fight;
the al - might - y Lord, and there's no oth - er God;
he can harm us none. He's judged; the deed is done;
though all may be gone, our vic - to - ry is won;



on earth is not his e - qual.
he holds the field for - ev - er.
one lit - tle word can fell him.
the king - dom's ours for - ev - er!