

Benediction (*Ephesians 3:16-21*)

L: According to the riches of his glory, God grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. May you have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

C: **Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.**

Hymn “They’ll Know We Are Christians by Our Love” Insert
Accompanied by the Ringers of Faith

What Does This Mean?

Questions about today's worship theme: *John 8:31-36*

1. How does God intercept us? What does he intercept us from?
2. How has God surprised you with his grace?
3. What does it mean to be free?

Thank you to the Ringers of Faith, Faith Singers and Sharon Barton for the special music selections today.

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Faith Lutheran Church

LCMC

8:00 a.m. First Word Service

October 29, 2023

Reformation Sunday

Prelude

Introit on Ein Feste Burg Ringers of Faith

Processional Hymn “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” LBW #229

Greeting/Announcements

Litany for Reformation Sunday

Martin Luther considered his Small Catechism to be one of his most valuable works and Lutherans through the ages have concurred. It remains an invaluable explanation of the theological heart of Christian faith. Each part of this litany reflects one of the five chief parts of the catechism: the Ten Commandments, Apostles’ Creed, The Lord’s Prayer and the sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion.

“What Does It Mean?” Erhalt uns Herr

**What does it mean that God’s good will,
Once thundered down from Sinai’s hill,
Is uttered now to pierce our hearts,
Commandments that our God imparts?**

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.*

**What does it mean – what doubts relieve -
That we may speak what we believe
And in confessing witness bear
To Father, Savior, Comforter?**

L: *This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my Law within them, and will write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they shall be my people.*

**What does it mean that we may pray
To God as “Father” day by day,
Make known our needs, God’s grace implore,
And vow allegiance evermore?**

L: *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.*

**What does it mean that water poured
Conveys the promise of the Lord,
And in the forms of bread and wine
We gather in Christ's love to dine?**

L: *For I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.* (Based on Jeremiah 31:31-34)

**What does it mean? God's on our side;
By grace we have been justified
Through faith in Jesus Christ, our Lord,
As taught in God's unbroken Word.**

Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness pg 77 LBW

The Prayer of the Day (*Attributed to Martin Luther*)

Behold, Lord, an empty vessel that needs to be filled. My Lord, fill it. I am weak in the faith; strengthen me. I am cold in love; warm me and make me fervent, that my love may go out to my neighbor. I do not have a strong and firm faith; at times I doubt and am unable to trust in you. In you I have sealed the treasure of all I have. I am poor; you are rich and came to be merciful to the poor. I am a sinner; you are upright. With me, there is an abundance of sin; in you is the fullness of righteousness. Therefore, I will remain with you, of whom I can receive, but to whom I may not give. Amen.

First Reading: Revelation 14:6-7

Psalms 46 "The Reformation Psalm" St. Anne

**God is our Refuge and our Strength, our Helper ever near.
The Lord of hosts is on our side to shelter us from fear.**

**Though mountains fall and storms arise and fearful tempests blow,
Our God is with us, and he leads where peaceful waters flow.**

**God's steadfast help will surely come as certain as the dawn.
The Lord of hosts is on our side, so let all fear be gone!**

**Come and behold what God has done: as adversaries yield, He breaks
the bow and snaps the spear and burns with fire the shield.**

**The trembling nations hear his voice, their awesome Sov'reign own:
"Be still, and know that I am God, and I will reign alone!"**

**O God our Refuge, God our Strength, accept the praise we bring. For
mercy shown by grace alone through Christ, our Savior-King!**

Second Reading: Romans 3:19-28

Faith Seeds FLIPtern Courtney Corrente
Faith Seeds is a time for children of all ages to come forward for a lesson geared to them.

Gospel Acclamation Sine Nomine

**The Holy Spirit, as the Lord foretold,
With flames of fire descending now behold,
That all might gather in the Shepherd's fold. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Gospel: John 8:31-36

**Christ's true disciples let us prove to be,
Firm in the Word remaining steadfastly,
Blest with the truth that makes us truly free. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Sermon "Intercepted!" Pastor Dave Wollan

Hymn "Salvation unto Us Has Come" LBW #297

A Confession of Faith: Darwall's 148th

**The Father's mighty word once said, "Let there be light!"
Chaotic darkness heard and yielded to his might.**

**Things great and small—
God's saints confess his pow'r to bless; God made them all!**

**Christ Jesus we believe, who came at God's own hour,
Whom Mary did conceive by Holy Spirit's pow'r
Great peace he gives: The Crucified who for us died forever lives!**

**God's ransomed saints believe in God the Holy Ghost
By whom we all receive the faith in which we boast.
Forgiven, we shall flee our graves. The Lord who saves has set us free!**

Offering/Special Music "O God of Love, O King of Peace" Faith Singers

Offertory Response ... "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

LBW #565 Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711 Tune: Louis Bourgeois, c. 1510-1561

Prayers of the Church

The Lord's Prayer