

THE FESTIVAL
of the
Reformation



Sunday, October 27, 2024
Reformation

Service Theme

LIVE A LIFE OF COURAGEOUS WITNESS

Jesus repeatedly told his followers that living as his disciples would bring hardship. Living life according to God's Law is going to make one appear odd in the eyes of the world, perhaps even evil. Sharing a message of mankind's sin and God's gracious salvation can cause offense. So why not just stay silent if that makes life easier? Why not keep our faith private? Answer: because we are going to live forever. In gratitude for Christ saving us and giving us eternal life, we share the gospel with others, hoping that they will believe and be saved too. Since we know we are going to live forever in the perfection of heaven, we don't worry if being a witness for Christ brings hardship or even death. Martin Luther wanted to reform the false teaching of the church. He stood firm in the truth of the gospel, knowing it might cost him his life. But Luther knew that, thanks to Christ, he would live forever. So will we. Therefore, like Luther, let us live a life of courageous witness.

866 If God Had Not Been on Our Side

CW 866



1 If God had not been on our side and had not
2 Their fu - rious wrath, did God per - mit, would sure - ly
3 Blest be the Lord, who foiled their threat that they could



come to aid us, our foes with all their pow'r and
have con - sumed us and as a deep and yawn - ing
not de - vour us. Our souls, like birds, es - caped their



pride would sure - ly have dis - mayed us, for we, his
pit with life and limb en - tombed us. A hell - ish
net; they could not o - ver - pow'r us. The snare is



flock, would have to fear the dev - il's wolves, both far and
storm would o'er us roll from Sa - tan, who de - sires our
bro - ken— we are free! Our help - er and our strength is



near, who rise in might a - gainst us.
soul and seeks to o - ver - whelm us.
he who made the earth and heav - ens.

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941; Martin Luther, 1483–1546

Tune: Christian Egenolff, 1502–1555

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Order of Service

Service of the Word

(Red Hymnal)

The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

And also with you.

Confession of Sins

We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give us strength to live according to his will.

Amen.

In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are
 they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -
 ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -
 ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -
 ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.
 Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

Prayer

Let us pray.

Gracious Lord, our refuge and strength, pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your Word, protect and comfort them in all temptations, defend them against all their enemies, and bestow on the church your saving peace; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: A - men.

First Reading

Daniel 3:16–28

In response to an evil command offered by a pagan king, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego lived lives of fearless witness.

¹⁶Shadrak, Meshak, and Abednego answered King Nebuchadnezzar, “We have no need to answer you about this matter. ¹⁷Since our God, whom we serve, does exist, he is able to save us from the blazing fiery furnace. So, he may save us from your hand, Your Majesty. ¹⁸But if he does not, you should know, Your Majesty, that we will not serve your gods, and we will not worship the golden statue that you set up.”

¹⁹Then Nebuchadnezzar was filled with rage, and the expression on his face changed against Shadrak, Meshak, and Abednego. He said to heat the furnace seven times hotter than it was usually heated. ²⁰He ordered some men, who were soldiers from his army, to bind Shadrak, Meshak, and Abednego in order to throw them into the blazing fiery furnace. ²¹So these men were bound in their coats, their pants, their turbans, and their other clothing, and they were thrown into the middle of the blazing fiery furnace. ²²Because the king's order was urgent and the furnace was extremely hot, those men who carried Shadrak, Meshak, and Abednego were killed by the intense heat of the fire. ²³But these three men, Shadrak, Meshak, and Abednego, who had been tied up, fell into the blazing fiery furnace.

²⁴Then King Nebuchadnezzar was startled and immediately stood up. He said to his advisors, “Didn't we throw three men, who had been tied up, into the middle of the fire?”

They answered the king, “Certainly, Your Majesty.”

²⁵He said, “Look! I see four men, who are untied and walking around in the middle of the fire, unharmed. What is more, the appearance of the fourth is like a son of the gods.”

²⁶Then Nebuchadnezzar approached the door of the blazing fiery furnace. He said, “Shadrak, Meshak, and Abednego, servants of the Most High God, come out!” Then Shadrak, Meshak, and Abednego came out from the middle of the furnace. ²⁷The satraps, the prefects, the governors, and the royal advisors gathered together and looked at these men. The fire had no power over their bodies. Not a hair on their head was singed, their robes were not damaged, and the smell of fire had not stuck to them.

²⁸Nebuchadnezzar said, “Blessed be the God of Shadrak, Meshak, and Abednego, who sent his angel and saved his servants, who trusted in God and ignored the king's command. They gave up their bodies and did not pay homage or worship any god except their God.

46A The LORD Almighty Is with Us

Psalm 46A

Refrain

The LORD Al - might - y is
with us; the God of Ja - cob is our for - tress.

Tone

God is our ref- / uge and strength,
an ever-present help in / trouble.
Therefore we will not fear, though the / earth give way
and the mountains fall into the heart / of the sea,
though its waters / roar and foam
and the mountains quake with their / surging. *Refrain*

There is a river whose streams make glad the cit- / y of God,
the holy place where the Most / High dwells.
God is within her, she / will not fall;
God will help her at / break of day.
“Be still, and know that / I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted / in
the earth.”

**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,
as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. Refrain**

Tune: Dale A. Witte
Setting: Dale A. Witte

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Second Reading

Revelation 14:6–7

St. John sees God’s messenger proclaiming the true gospel to all people. In 1546, this reading served as the text for the funeral of Dr. Martin Luther.

⁶Then I saw another angel flying in the middle of the sky. He had the everlasting gospel to proclaim to those who live on the earth, to every nation, tribe, language, and people.

⁷He said with a loud voice:

Fear God and give him glory,

because the hour of his judgment has come.

Worship him who made the sky, the earth, the sea, and the springs of water.

Verse of the Day

Luke 12:32

Alleluia, alleluia. Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom. Alleluia.



Gospel

Mark 13:5-11

Jesus encourages and empowers us that we might be bold in sharing the gospel in these end times.

⁵Jesus began by telling them, “Be careful that no one deceives you. ⁶Many will come in my name, saying, ‘I am he,’ and will deceive many.

⁷“Whenever you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be troubled. Such things must happen, but the end is not yet. ⁸In fact, nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in various places. There will be famines. These are the beginning of birth pains. ⁹But be on your guard! People will hand you over to councils, and you will be beaten in synagogues. You will stand in the presence of rulers and kings for my sake as a witness to them. ¹⁰And the gospel must first be preached to all the nations. ¹¹Whenever they arrest you and hand you over, do not worry beforehand what you should say. Say whatever is given to you in that hour, because you will not be the ones speaking; instead it will be the Holy Spirit.

(Sing) Praise be to you, O Christ!

863 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

CW 863



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!

Sermon - Mark 13:5-11

The Gospel must be preached

- 1) Don't be deceived by the world's turmoil.
- 2) God uses Christian oppression as an opportunity to proclaim Christ through us.

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father

Almighty.

From there 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.**

862 Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

CW 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
3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, send peace and



by de - ceit or sword would seek to o - ver - throw your
Lord of lords a - lone; de - fend your Chris - ten - dom that
u - ni - ty on earth; sup - port us in our fi - nal



Son and to de - stroy what he has done.
we may sing your praise e - ter - nal - ly.
strife and lead us out of death to life.

Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; Martin Luther, 1483–1546

Tune: Geistliche Lieder zu Wittenberg, Wittenberg, 1543, ed. Joseph Klug

Text and tune: Public domain

Prayer of the Church

Brief intercessory prayers may be added in a fitting place.

Gracious God, in mercy you sent your only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, into this world to redeem us from sin and rescue us from hell. Through your Scriptures and by your Spirit, you have brought us to faith in your Son and have assured us that Christ has fully completed the work of our salvation. Lead us to rejoice in the message of forgiveness through faith alone in Christ Jesus. When guilt grieves our consciences and shame squelches our confidence, use your Word to encourage and comfort our souls with the good news of your unconditional love.

Almighty God, in the face of immense pressure to compromise their confession, you emboldened Martin Luther and the Lutheran reformers to take a firm stand on the truths of Scripture.

Through their clear confession of faith, you restored the gospel to your church and have preserved this saving truth among us today. Send us your Holy Spirit that we exhibit the same zeal and faithfulness as the Lutheran confessors. Give us courage to confess our faith sincerely and boldly in the classroom, the workplace, the community, and to everyone we encounter who needs to hear the truth of your Word. Use our confession to bring faith in your Son to the hearts of those who do not yet believe in you.

Eternal God, you have promised to preserve and protect your church in every age. Even when it appeared that the enemies of the gospel had silenced your truth, you kept your people faithful to you and your Word. Bless all who face hardships for their faith with an added measure of your Holy Spirit so that they do not lose heart as they bear their crosses. Comfort the sick and suffering, the depressed and lonely, those who are persecuted and ridiculed for their faith, and all others who need the encouragement of your love. Fix our eyes on the cross of your Son, his empty tomb, and the sure promise of eternal life in heaven's glory.

Lord God, you know the concerns of our hearts and minds. Hear the public prayers we have spoken with our lips and the personal prayers we offer to you in our hearts, and answer them according to your gracious will. Increase our trust in your power and wisdom that we may rest secure in the plans and purposes you have for our lives; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.

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.**

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Blessing

Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and T give you peace.



870 O Church, Arise

CW 870



1 O Church, a - rise and put your ar - mor on; hear the
 2 Our call to war— to love the cap - tive soul, but to
 3 Come see the cross, where love and mer - cy meet, as the
 4 So Spir - it come, put strength in ev - 'ry stride, give—



call of Christ our cap - tain. For now the weak can say that
 rage a - gainst the cap - tor; and with the sword that makes the
 Son of God is strick - en; then see his foes lie crushed be -
 grace for ev - 'ry hur - dle, that we may run with faith to



they are strong in the strength that God has giv - en.
 wound - ed whole we will fight with faith and val - or.
 neath his feet, for the Con - quer - or has ris - en!
 win the prize of a ser - vant good and faith - ful.



With shield of faith and belt of truth we'll stand a -
 When faced with trials on ev - 'ry side, we know the
 And as the stone is rolled a - way, and Christ e -
 As saints of old still line the way, re - tell - ing



gainst the dev - il's lies; an ar - my bold whose bat - tle
 out - come is se - cure, and Christ will have the prize for
 merg - es from the grave, this vic - t'ry march con - tin - ues
 tri - umphs of his grace, we hear their calls and hun - ger



cry is love, reach - ing out to those in dark - ness.
 which he died— an in - her - it - ance of na - tions.
 till the day ev - 'ry eye and heart shall see him.
 for the day when with Christ we stand in glo - ry.

Text: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Keith Getty, b. 1974

Tune: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Keith Getty, b. 1974

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Announcements

Church Cleaners

November 3 - Mark // November 10 – Simon

Barrhaven Christmas Parade

Divine Word is again entering a float in the Christmas Parade. In addition, this year we will be hosting an open house (from 5:30-7:30) at the church with hot chocolate, soup and caroling. There are lots of ways for you to join in this exciting outreach opportunity.

- 1) Help set up the float on Nov. 9 at 10 am.
- 2) Walk in the parade or ride on the float. Be part of the excitement of presenting the Christmas story to Barrhaven. Riders are in costume. Walkers hand out flyers and candy to the 1000s of spectators.
- 3) Be a warm, welcoming presence at church. Help prepare food. Sit and socialize.
- 4) Invite your friend and neighbor to watch the parade with you and come to church after for the open house. Take a bag from this summer to help you in your personal evangelism.
- 5) And of course, keep this outreach event in your prayers, that the Lord would bless our efforts to share the great love of our Saviour to our friends, neighbors and community.

DIVINE WORD'S TWO-WEEK CALENDAR

- Su (27) 9:00 am Sunday School / Bible Class**
10:30 am Worship
11:30 am Long Range Planning Meeting
- We (30) 4:00 pm Communicating Christ (BIC)
5:30 pm "Test the Spirits" (BIC)
- Th (31) 6:00 pm Illumine (at St. Paul's)
- Fr (1) 3:00 pm Online Women's Bible Study: Romans
4:30 pm Confirmation (D)
- Su (3) 9:00 am Sunday School / Bible Class**
10:30 am Worship (with Communion)
11:30 am Church Anniversary Potluck
3:00 pm **Worship in Poltimore**
- We (6) 4:00 pm Communicating Christ (BIC)
5:30 pm "Test the Spirits" (BIC)
- Th (7) 10:30 am Longfield Manor Devotion
6:00 pm Illumine (at St. Paul's)
6:30 pm Youth Confirmation (W)
- Fr (8) 3:00 pm Online Women's Bible Study: Romans
4:30 pm Confirmation (D)
6:00 pm Friday Fellowship
- Su (10) 9:00 am Sunday School / Bible Class**
10:30 am Worship



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