



Reformation Sunday

October 25, 2020

8:45 AM

Holy Communion

First Lutheran Church, Kearney, NE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

"I Love to Tell the Story" arr. Susanna Keeney

Betty Heggemeyer

GATHERING

Please stand as you are able

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

C: Amen

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Please pray silently

P: Faithful God, have mercy on us. We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways. We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves. We place our own needs before those of our neighbors. We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves. Make us humble, cast away our transgressions, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

P: God hears the cries of all who call out in need, and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own. Hear the truth that God proclaims: Your sins are forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ. Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness to do God's work in the world.

C: Amen

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: 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.

C: Amen

Please be seated

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Let Us Break Bread Together” arr. Mark Hayes

Chancel Choir Singers

WORD

A Reading of Psalm Forty-Six

P: ¹God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

²Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;

³though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

⁴There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help it when the morning dawns.

⁶The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts.

⁷The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

⁸Come, behold the works of the LORD; see what desolations he has brought on the earth.

⁹He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire.

¹⁰"Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth."

¹¹The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

(Psalm 46)

A Reading from Romans the Third Chapter

P: ¹⁹Now 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. ²⁰For "no human being will be justified in his sight" by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin. ²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom 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; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law. (Romans 3:19-28)

P: Word of God, Word of Life. **C:** **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able

GOSPEL

P: A Reading from the Eighth Chapter of the Gospel of St. John

C: Glory to you, O Lord

P: ³¹Then Jesus said to the Judaeans who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." ³³They 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'?" ³⁴Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.

(John 8:31-36)

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ

Please be seated

SERMON

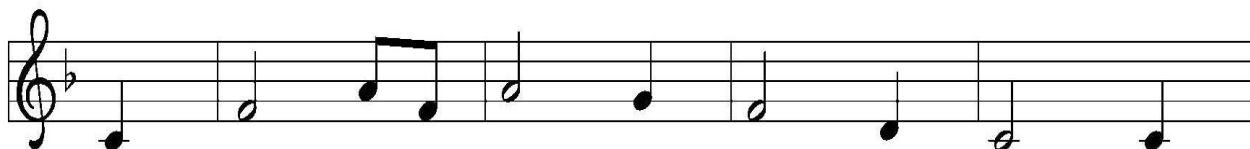
"Let the Children Hear"

Pastor Elisabeth Himmelman

Please stand as you are able

HYMN OF THE DAY

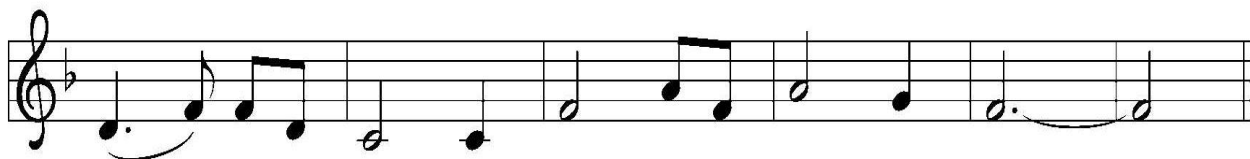
“Amazing Grace” ELW #779



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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

A brief silence.

P: 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,

C: hear our prayer.

P: 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 recovering from natural disasters of any kind. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

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

C: hear our prayer.

P: Gracious host, our peace and our strength, we pray for our nation and the world as we continue to face uncertainties around coronavirus. Protect the most vulnerable among us, especially all who are currently sick or in isolation. Grant wisdom, patience, safety and clarity to health care workers, especially as their work caring for others puts them at great risk. Give insight to researchers and scientists as they develop therapies and vaccines for COVID-19. Guide us as we consider how best to respond in our families, congregations, workplaces, and communities. Give us courage to face these days not with fear but with compassion, concern, and acts of service, trusting that you abide with us always. Lord in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

P: God of light, let your gentleness be known among those who are weary or ill. Bring hope to the hopeless. Release those living in bondage to debts, chronic pain, or addiction. Grant healing touch to those who are ill. We pray especially for....

Building Committee for
Habitat for Humanity
Terry & Vickie Buschelman
Roland Carlson
Jan Carnell
Yvonne Deyle Barth
Dennis Drabek
Tammy Edwards
Nate Eidem
Nicole Gordon
Gayle Guilfoyle
Phyllis Handwerk
Betty Henning
Ryan Heywood
Marv Hilton
Karen Hiskett
Janet Holley
Jackie Holscher
Linda Holsten

Wayne Karschner
Craig Knispel
Talia Krumbach
John McLane
Betty McMaster
Rev. Dave Nordstrom
Rachel Ostrom
Brenda Rae Peterson
Bev Pulver
Diane Riddle
Robin Shanks
Charlotte Sitorus
Jaxtyn Danger McCollough
Jerry Stithem
Kim Straatmann-Roethemeyer
Karen Verraneault
Misty White
David B. Wright
Frank Wright
Karson Wright

Prayers of Sympathy and Comfort for:

- Myron and Diane Riddle and family and Dave and Renae Zimmer and family on the death of Myron's nephew, Brady Hanson.
- The families of Janiene Rewerts, Randy Hinrichs and Pam Epley on the death of their cousin, Karen Hawley.

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving for:

- The birth of Jaxtyn Danger McCollough, grandson of Bryan and Susan Slater.

P: Lord, in your mercy
C: **hear our prayer.**

P: 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
C: **hear our prayer.**

P: 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.
C: **Amen**

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.
C: **And also with you.**

Please be seated

MEAL

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“Come, Now is the Time to Worship” arr. Douglas E. Wagner

Clappers Bell Choir

Offering boxes are located by the entrances and in the narthex or you may give online. We will not be passing the plate.

Please stand as you are able

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. You have set before us these gifts of your good creation. Prepare us for your heavenly banquet, nourish us with this rich food and drink, and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world, through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: In the night in which he was handed over, 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 the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, how he fed the hungry and gave company to outcasts; how he healed the sick and freed those in bondage; how he taught and guided those who were seeking you; how he was handed over and gathered in for our sake; how he was resurrected as the first fruits of the dead, and how he promised to return for the great harvest home; we give you thanks, not as we ought, but as we are able.

Send, we pray, your Spirit to this meal. Supply our needs, and those of all your saints, and fill us until we overflow with thanksgivings. Empowered by this meal, enlivened by your Spirit, move us to glorify you in faithfulness to the gospel and in generosity to all in need.

United by your Spirit with all your people, we pray through your Son, Jesus Christ, to you, our Source and our Goal, our Sun and our Shield, our God now and forever.

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Let us pray silently as Jesus taught us:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

COMMUNION

P: Just as this broken bread was first scattered on the hills, then was brought together and became one, so let your church be brought together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours are the glory and the power through Jesus Christ forever. Amen.

Please be seated

RECEIVING THE ELEMENTS

P: In the receiving of one element, we receive all the gifts given to us in the Lord's Supper.

P: The body of Christ given for you.

COMMUNION MUSIC

"Where'er You Walk" G.F. Handel, arr. Lani Smith

Betty Heggemeyer

Please stand as you are able

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: We give you thanks, gracious God, that you have once again fed us with food beyond compare, the body and blood of Christ. Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven, into your beloved vineyard to wipe away the tears of all who hunger and thirst, guided by the example of the same Jesus Christ and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen

SENDING

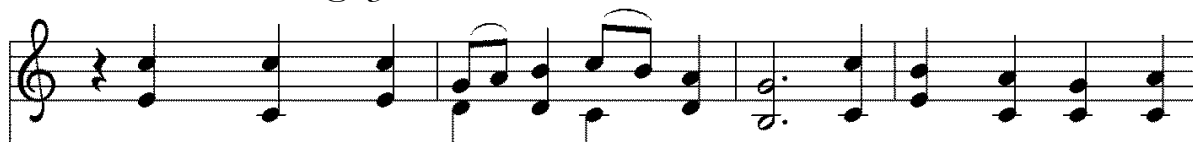
BLESSING

P: Mothering God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life.

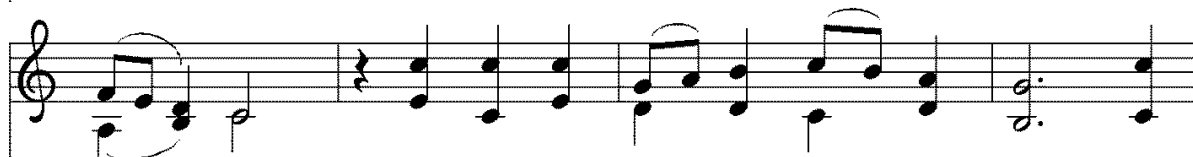
C: Amen

SENDING HYMN

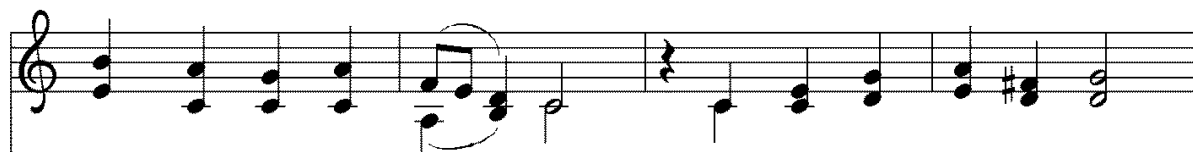
"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" ELW #504



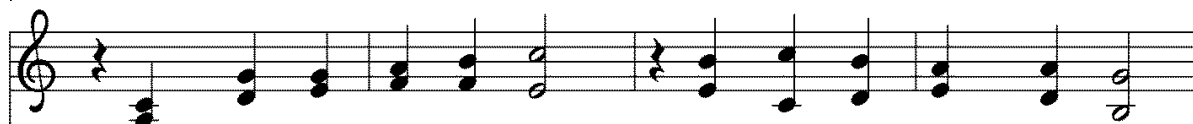
1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat -'ning to de -
4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who



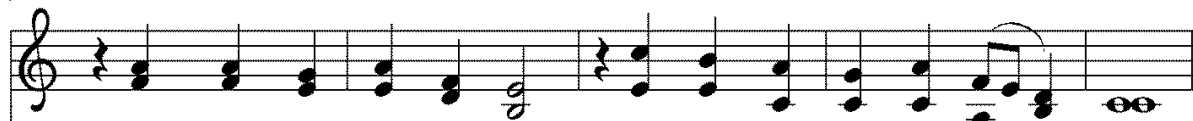
to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
your us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



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!

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Remember the poor.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

“Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus” arr. Robert J. Hughes

Betty Heggemeyer



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**Rev. Elisabeth Himmelman, Preaching Pastor
Rev. Dr. Michelle Carlson, Presiding Pastor
Rev. Dr. Rick Carlson, Liturgist**

Organist: Betty Heggemeyer

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