Reformation Day—October 31, 2021



Grace Lutheran Church

521 Providence Road Chesapeake, VA 23325 757-420-4704

www.GraceLutheranChesapeake.org



Pastor—The Rev. Leslie D. Weber (she/her/hers)
Minister of Music—Morgan Hatfield (they/them/theirs)

Our Mission Statement:

We are a community of believers in Christ called to be servants to all people.

Page numbers (p.) are in front half of the hymnal. Hymn numbers (#) are in back half of the hymnal. Everyone is invited to join in **bolded responses**.

+ Please stand as you are able.

+ Gathering +

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Prelude

"By Grace We Have Been Saved" ACS#1006

+ Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God whose teaching is life, whose presence is sure, and whose love is endless. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our comforter, like lost sheep, we have gone astray. We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity. We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression. We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed. Free us from our sin, gracious God. Listen when we call out to you for help. Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves. Amen.

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. By the gift of grace in 4 Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous. Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins. **Amen.**

Gathering Song

ACS#1006

By Grace We Have Been Saved



Text: Jonathan Rundman, b. 1971

Music: BY GRACE, Nathan Houge, b. 1977, and Jonathan Rundman

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+ Greeting

ELW p.98

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**.

+ Prayer of the Day

ELW p.51

Almighty God, you have taught us in your Son that love fulfills the law. Inspire us to love you with all our heart, our soul, our mind, and our strength, and teach us how to love our neighbor as ourselves, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

+Word+

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading

Deuteronomy 6:1-9

A reading from Deuteronomy.

[Moses said to the people,] ¹Now this is the commandment—the statutes and the ordinances—that the LORD your God charged me to teach you to observe in the land that you are about to cross into and occupy, ²so that you and your children and your children's children may fear the LORD your God all the days of your life, and keep all his decrees and his commandments that I am commanding you, so that your days may be long. ³Hear therefore, O Israel, and observe them diligently, so that it may go well with you, and so that you may multiply greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, as the LORD, the God of your ancestors, has promised you.

⁴Hear, O Israel: The LORD is our God, the LORD alone. ⁵You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. ⁶Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. ⁷Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. ⁸Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, ⁹and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God

Psalm 119:1-8

Let us recite together Psalm 119, verses 1 through 8, as translated in the Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal:

¹Happy are they whose way is blameless, who follow the teaching of the LORD!

²Happy are they who observe your decrees and seek you with all their hearts,

³who never do any wrong,

but always walk in your ways.

⁴You laid down your commandments, that we should fully keep them.

⁵Oh, that my ways were made so direct that I might keep your statutes!

⁶Then I should not be put to shame, when I regard all your commandments.

71 will thank you with a true heart, when I have learned your righteous judgments.

81 will keep your statutes; do not utterly forsake me.

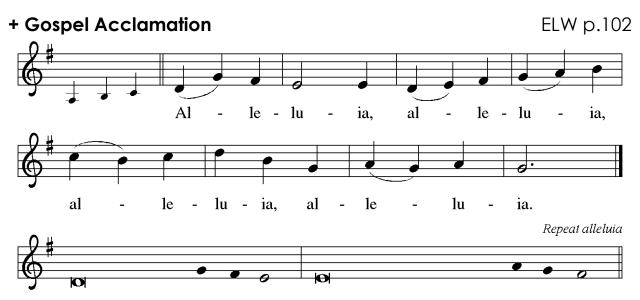
Second Reading

Hebrews 9:11-14

A reading from Hebrews.

¹¹When Christ came as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation), ¹²he entered once for all into the Holy Place, not with the blood of goats and calves, but with his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption. ¹³For if the blood of goats and bulls, with the sprinkling of the ashes of a heifer, sanctifies those who have been defiled so that their flesh is purified, ¹⁴how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to worship the living God!

Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God



Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e-ter-nal life.

+ Gospel Reading

Mark 12:28-34

The holy gospel according to Mark. Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁸One of the scribes came near and heard [Jesus and the Sadducees] disputing with one another, and seeing that [Jesus] answered them well, he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?" ²⁹Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; 30 you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' 31The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." 32Then the scribe said to him, "You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that 'he is one, and besides him there is no other'; 33 and 'to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,' and 'to love one's neighbor as oneself,'—this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices." 34When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." After that no one dared to ask him any auestion.

The gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

Young at Heart Message

Sermon

The Rev. Leslie D. Weber

+ Song of the Day "Great God, Your Love Has Called Us" ELW #358



Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: RYBURN, Norman Cocker, 1889–1953

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Nicene Creed ELW p.104

With the whole church, let us confess our faith with the words of the Nicene Creed:

We believe in one God,

the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again

in accordance with the scriptures;

he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic* and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

* universal

+ Prayers of Intercession with sung refrain

"Help Us O Lord"

Set free from sin and death and nourished by the word of truth, we join in prayer for all of God's creation.

Help us O Lord to hear your word. Open our hearts to feel your word. Give us the strength to live your word each day.

Strengthen the church to rediscover paths of love throughout the world and raise up teachers and leaders to guide communities of faith into joyful ways of welcoming, worshiping, healing, praying, singing, feeding, teaching, loving, and living.

Embolden movements of people to care for the world around us. Reveal to us creation's beauty and teach us to care for your fields, valleys, mountains, streams, oceans, and deserts, so that future generations will continue to be awed by them.

Grant courage to all world leaders who hear your call for peace. Protect all who live in lands affected by violence. Strengthen the United Nations and all worldwide peace efforts that help us to live in harmony as neighbors who share a common planet.

Help us O Lord to hear your word. Open our hearts to feel your word. Give us the strength to live your word each day.

Provide refuge and help for all who lack adequate food, housing, or health care. Strengthen organizations that provide neighborly care to all who struggle. Heal and be present with all who are sick or suffering in any way, especially those listed on our prayer list and those we name now aloud or silently (pause for names).

We give you thanks for the witness of the saints, especially reformers throughout generations who worked to rediscover the proclamation of the gospel. Guide us in their way of living until we all gather together at your table of abundance.

Confident that you hear us, O God, we boldly place our prayers into your hands; through Jesus Christ, our truth and life. **Amen.**

Help us O Lord to hear your word. Open our hearts to feel your word. Give us the strength to live your word each day.

+ Peace

+Meal+

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering

Thank you for supporting the mission of the church as you are able! Electronic donations can be made at https://tithe.ly/give new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/475611.

Checks can be also be sent to church: 521 Providence Rd, Chesapeake, VA 23325



+ Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept.

God of abundance, you cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain from the heavens. Accept the gifts you have first given us. Unite them with the offering of our lives to nourish the world you love so dearly; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

+ Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And also with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

O God before time, O God at the end, we delight in the splendor of your universe. Daily we laud your continuing creation, and we give thanks for all the homelands of your Reformation people. We glorify you, now and forever.

We glorify you, now and forever.

O God of the covenant, O God of the church, we hear you speaking to centuries of your people. We come as your children to this table, and we give thanks for your presence among

Lutheran congregations around the world. We praise you, now and forever.

We praise you, now and forever.

You came as Jesus, our wisdom, our guide, embodying forgiveness, granting us grace, setting us free, dying for sin, and alive for the life of the world. We worship you, now and forever.

We worship you, now and forever.

In the night in which 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 the remembrance of me.

Remembering his death, we cry out Amen. **Amen.**Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen. **Amen.**Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen. **Amen.**

Come, Holy Spirit, and make here the body of Christ. Breathe onto this food, that it bring us your life. Empower your Reformation people throughout the world to preach and teach, baptize and feed, pray and sing, comfort and heal. By your Spirit, preserve what is faithful; reform what we treasure; create in us what is vital and new. We honor you, now and forever.

We honor you, now and forever.

O God before time, O God at the end, Father, Son, and Spirit, we laud you, Covenant Lord, our Redeemer, the Strength of truth. Glory and praise, blessing and worship, honor and power and might be to you, our God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

+ Lord's Prayer

ELW p.112

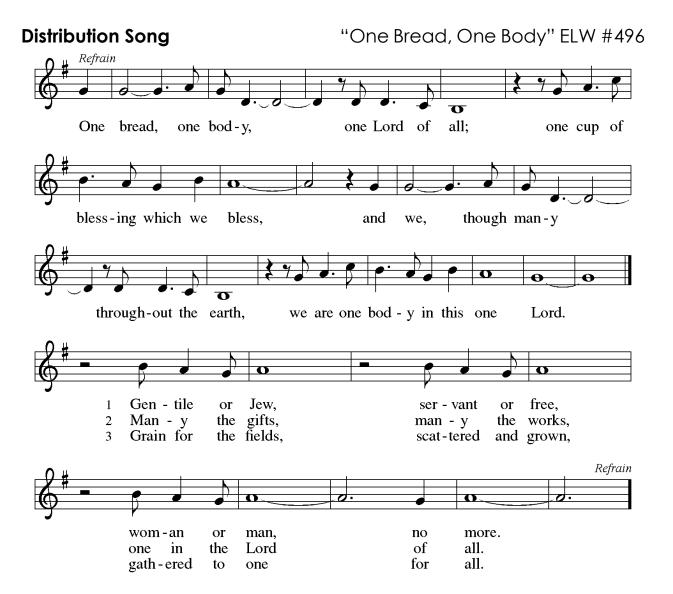
Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

Communion

All who hunger and thirst, come. The table is ready.

Where possible, commune one another saying "the body of Christ, given for you" and "the blood of Christ, shed for you."



Text: John Foley, sj, b. 1939 Music: ONE BREAD, ONE BODY, John Foley, sj

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+ Prayer after Communion

Please stand as you are able. Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept.

Lord of life, in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation. Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

+ Sending +

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

+ Blessing

People of God, you are Christ's body, bringing new life to a suffering world. The holy Trinity, + one God, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Announcements

+ Sending Song

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" ELW #504 (see next page)

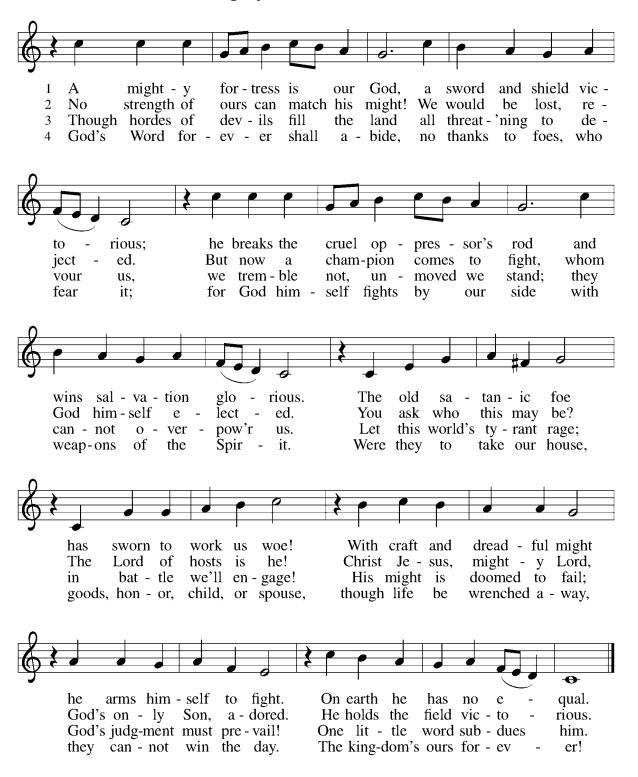
+ Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship

Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther

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