

Reformation Sunday

Sunday, October 25, 2020

Prelude

Johann Pachelbel, "Ein Feste Burg is unser Gott"

Ralph Vaughan Williams, "The Call" from *Five Mystical Songs*

Opening Hymn (Sung by Musicians)

ELW 631 "Love Divine, All Love's Excelling"

- 1 Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter ev'ry trembling heart.
- 4 Finish then thy new creation,
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee!
Changed from glory into glory,
till in heav'n we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise!

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: Amen

Prayer of the Day

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.
Amen.

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

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. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 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; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 46 (by musicians)

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

¹⁸For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

²⁶Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no one might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (setting 4—Alleluia—Musicians Sing)

Gospel: John 8:31-36

C: Glory to you, O Lord

Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." They 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'?"

Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

ELW 504 "A Mighty Fortress is Our God"

- 1 A mighty fortress is our God,
a sword and shield victorious;
he breaks the cruel oppressor's rod
and wins salvation glorious.
The old satanic foe
has sworn to work us woe!
With craft and dreadful might
he arms himself to fight.
On earth he has no equal.

- 4 God's Word forever shall abide,
no thanks to foes, who fear it;
for God himself fights by our side
with weapons of the Spirit.
Were they to take our house,
goods, honor, child, or spouse,
though life be wrenched away,
they cannot win the day.

The kingdom's ours forever!

Apostle's Creed

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Holy God, by your grace we are saved. You have revealed your love for us in the cross of Christ; you are present to us in our weakness and our strength when we are afraid. Free us from all fear and set us free to live boldly as your people, we ask in Jesus' name and through his Spirit. In your mercy,

Hear our prayer

Holy God, open all ears to hear your Word of salvation, for you alone give light and understanding. Increase our understanding and awe of your creation; guide the work of scientists and researchers to find a cure to the COVID-19 virus, that we may all live in safety, we ask in Jesus' name and through his Spirit. In your mercy,

Hear our prayer

Holy God, we pray for the healing of all in need: those who are tired, feeling despair, sick, or oppressed especially those we now name before you Joe, Nancy, Carol, Dennis, Rob, Pastor Steve Swanson, Renee, Arnie and all those diagnosed with COVID-19. Give your consolation and free us from all that keeps us bound, we ask in Jesus' name and through his Spirit. In your mercy,

Hear our prayer

Your mercy is great.

Holy God, in you we live and move and have our being. Bless our Bishops, Bishop Eaton and Bishop Curry, our pastors, deacons, and congregational leaders. We praise you for the gift of Concordia in all its ministries, in Jesus' name and through his Spirit. In your mercy,

Hear our prayer

Receive these prayers, O God, and those too deep for words; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Eucharist Liturgy

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 him thanks and praise.**

P: Blessed are you, O Lord our God.
Your abundant grace fills our lives with blessings.
All of Heaven and earth sing of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
Who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
Who preached good news to the poor,
And who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us
he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread,
gave it to his disciples, and said:
"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me."

We give you thanks and praise for
your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**C: Christ has died.
Christ has risen.
Christ will come again.**

P: Send your Holy Spirit on us, gathered here,
and on this gift of bread and all who share in the body of your Son.

May your saving acts be proclaimed
and your name forever be praised, Almighty Father.
We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ,
with your Holy Spirit in your holy church throughout the world.

C: Amen. Your Kingdom come.

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

**C: 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 Distribution

You are invited to come to the altar for Holy Communion. Places are marked where you may stand. Communion will be by the distribution of bread alone. After you have communed, please return to your place in the pews. We ask that everyone observe the protocols of social distancing and wear your mask when approaching and leaving the altar.

Anthem (sung by Musicians)
César Franck, "*Panis Angelicus*"

Post Communion Blessing

P: The body of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

A: Let us pray.

Holy and gracious God, you have blessed us at this holy meal and united us in the fellowship of our savior, Jesus Christ. Your generous blessings renew us to go forth to serve as your faithful people until your kingdom comes and your rule is established throughout the whole world.

C: **Amen. Come Lord Jesus, Come.**

Closing Hymn Sung by Musicians
ELW 661 "*I Love to Tell the Story*"

1 I love to tell the story
of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory,
of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story,
because I know it's true;
it satisfies my longings
as nothing else would do.

Refrain

I love to tell the story;
'twill be my theme in glory
to tell the old, old story
of Jesus and his love.

3 I love to tell the story,
for those who know it best
seem hungering and thirsting
to hear it like the rest.
And when, in scenes of glory,
I sing the new, new song,
I'll sing the old, old story
that I have loved so long. *Refrain*

Benediction and Dismissal

P: Go forth in the power of the Holy Spirit!
Proclaim the gospel throughout the earth!
Serve the Lord with gladness,
with deeds of justice and mercy!

C: Amen.

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Léon Boëllmann, “Minuet” from *Suite Gothique*

From sundaysandseasons.com.

Copyright © 2020 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS003952.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.

Announcements

- We want our children to be able to participate in Sunday worship and learn about God’s love for them, even while we cannot hold classes or activities here at church. Concordia Church is mailing (monthly) resources to families that include a weekly bulletin with fun activities/lessons that corresponds to that week’s readings and a coloring page for each child in the home. If you would like to receive these monthly mailings of children’s faith resources, or if you have any questions, please connect with Jen Phillips at jphillips@concordiafaith.org or call her at 773-463-1600 x 402. We also enjoy hearing from you – we invite you to connect and share how things are going for you and let us know how we can support your child’s growth in faith at home.
- Next Sunday is All Saint’s Day (November 1st), the day on which we honor those who have entered the Church Triumphant. If you have a name of a loved one who you would like honored next week, please send the name(s) to Desirae at ddiehl@concordiafaith.org.
- We appreciate your continued gifts to Concordia Church! Remember, you may give in three ways:
 1. Text-to-give: Text “Concordia” to 73256 and follow the link you receive
 2. Give online at onrealm.org/concordiafaith/give
 3. Send a check via mail to the church