

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

4672 N Cedar Ave. Fresno, CA 93726

Rev. Michael N. Vernava

Rev. Khai N. Lee

REFORMATION DAY

October 29, 2023

The Mission of Peace Lutheran Church is to honor our Lord Jesus Christ through worship and ministering to all God's people equipping them for service to God and to each other.

REFORMATION MATINS (LSB pg. 219-228)

PRELUDE Organist

OPENING HYMN "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" LSB 656

A mighty fortress is our God,
A trusty shield and weapon;
He helps us free from ev'ry need
That hath us now o'ertaken.
The old evil foe
Now means deadly woe;
Deep guile and great might
Are his dread arms in fight;
On earth is not his equal.

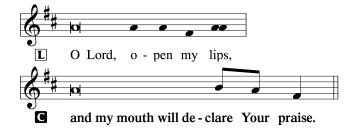
With might of ours can naught be done, Soon were our loss effected; But for us fights the valiant One, Whom God Himself elected. Ask ye, Who is this? Jesus Christ it is, Of Sabaoth Lord, And there's none other God; He holds the field forever.

- Though devils all the world should fill,
 All eager to devour us,
 We tremble not, we fear no ill;
 They shall not overpow'r us.
 This world's prince may still
 Scowl fierce as he will,
 He can harm us none.
 He's judged; the deed is done;
 One little word can fell him.
- 4 The Word they still shall let remain
 Nor any thanks have for it;
 He's by our side upon the plain
 With His good gifts and Spirit.
 And take they our life,
 Goods, fame, child, and wife,
 Though these all be gone,
 Our vict'ry has been won;
 The Kingdom ours remaineth.

 Text: tr. composite: Martin Luther. 1483-1546 Text: Public domain

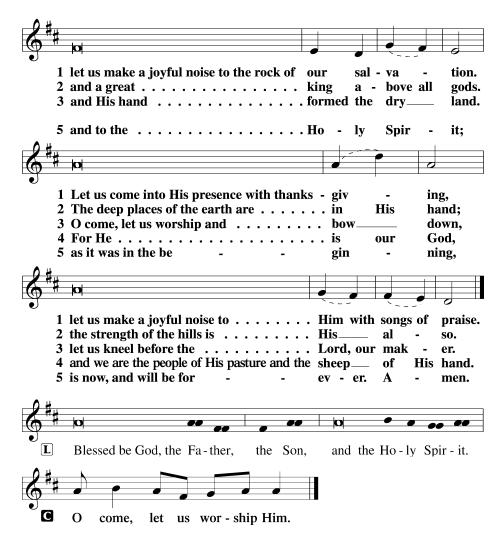
Corporate Confession and Absolution

Stand



Psalm 51:15





ADDITIONAL PSALMS

Psalm 46

- P God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
- C Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,
- P though its waters roar and foam,

- though the mountains tremble at its swelling.
- C There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.
- P God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns.
- C The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts.
- P The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.
- C Come, behold the works of the LORD, how he has brought desolations on the earth.
- P He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the chariots with fire.
- C "Be still, and know that I am God.
 I will be exalted among the nations,
 I will be exalted in the earth!"
- P The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.
- C Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Sit

OFFICE HYMN "All Glory Be to God on High" LSB 947

All glory be to God on high And thanks for all His favor; No harm can touch or terrify A child of God forever. God shows His good and gracious will And grants His peace, the world to fill—All strife at last has ended.

- We praise and laud and worship You;
 We give You thanks forever,
 O Father, for Your rule is true
 And just and changes never.
 With boundless pow'r, Your mighty reign
 Fulfills whatever You ordain.
 Lord, grant us ev'ry blessing!
- O Jesus Christ, the only Son
 Begotten of the Father,

 Your saving death has made us one
 With God and with each other.

 O Lamb of God, to You on high
 In our distress we sinners cry,
 Have mercy on us, amen!
- 4 O Holy Spirit, our delight
 And source of consolation,
 Protect us from the devil's might
 Through Jesus, our salvation,
 Who by His death upon a tree
 Has rescued us from misery:
 To this we hold forever.

Text: Nicolaus Decius, c. 1485–after 1546; tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006 Text: © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000368

READINGS

OLD TESTAMENT

Jeremiah 31:31–34

³¹"Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, ³²not like the covenant that I made with

their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares 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. ³⁴And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE Romans 3:19–28

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

²¹But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: ²³for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. ²⁶It was to show

his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

- L This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Stand

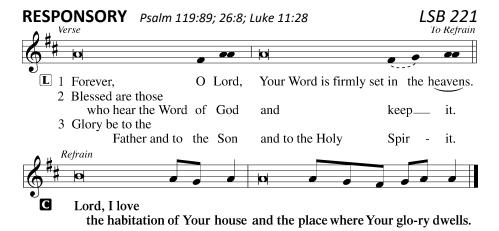
HOLY GOSPEL John 8:31–36

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter.
- C Glory to You, O Lord.

³¹So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." ³³They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?"

³⁴Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. ³⁶So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."

- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to You, O Christ.



Sit

SERMON HYMN

"Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word" LSB 655

- 1 Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word; Curb those who by deceit or sword Would wrest the kingdom from Your Son And bring to naught all He has done.
- 2 Lord Jesus Christ, Your pow'r make known, For You are Lord of lords alone; Defend Your holy Church that we May sing Your praise eternally.
- 3 O Comforter of priceless worth, Send peace and unity on earth; Support us in our final strife And lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Text: Public domain

SERMON

"The Blessings of the New Covenant"

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Stand

CANTICLE

"We Praise You and Acknowledge You, O God" LSB 941

1 We praise You and acknowledge You, O God, to be the Lord,

The Father everlasting, by all the earth adored.

To You all angel powers cry aloud, the heavens sing, The cherubim and seraphim their praises to You bring:

"O holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth; Your majesty and glory fill the heavens and the earth!"

2 The band of the apostles in glory sing Your praise; The fellowship of prophets their deathless voices raise.

The martyrs of Your kingdom, a great and noble throng,

Sing with the holy Church throughout all the world this song:

"O all-majestic Father, Your true and only Son, And Holy Spirit, Comforter—forever Three in One!"

You, Christ, are King of glory, the everlasting Son, Yet You, with boundless love, sought to rescue ev'ryone:

You laid aside Your glory, were born of virgin's womb, Were crucified for us and were placed into a tomb; Then by Your resurrection You won for us reprieve—You opened heaven's kingdom to all who would believe.

4 You sit in splendid glory, enthroned at God's right hand, Upholding earth and heaven by forces You command.

We know that You will come as our Judge that final day,

So help Your servants You have redeemed by blood, we pray;

May we with saints be numbered where praises never end.

In glory everlasting. Amen, O Lord, amen!

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955
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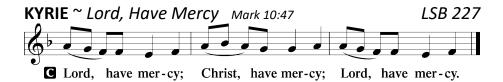
OFFERTORY "We Praise You, O God" LSB 785

- We praise You, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
 In grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
 We lay it before You, we kneel and adore You;
 We bless Your holy name, glad praises we sing.
- We worship You, God of our fathers, we bless You; Through trial and tempest our guide You have been. When perils o'ertake us, You will not forsake us, And with Your help, O Lord, our struggles we win.
- With voices united our praises we offer And gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise. With You, Lord, beside us, Your strong arm will guide us. To You, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!

Text: Julia B. Cory, 1882–1963, alt. Text: Public domain

PRAYER

Kneel/Stand



LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

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.

COLLECTS



2 Timothy 4:22

Collect of the Day

Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people. Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and deliver us in times of temptation, defend us against all enemies, and grant to Your Church Your saving peace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Following the prayers, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22-24; Eph. 4:1-3).

Collect for Grace

L O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Stand

BENEDICAMUS

LSB 228



[Psalm 103:1]

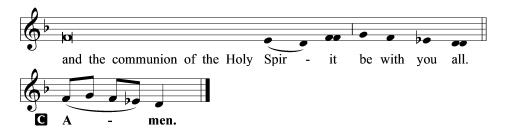


BENEDICTION 2 Corinthians 13:14

LSB 228



The grace of our Lord + Je - sus Christ and the love of God



CLOSING HYMN "Lord, Help Us Ever to Retain" LSB 865

- 1 Lord, help us ever to retain The Catechism's doctrine plain As Luther taught the Word of truth In simple style to tender youth.
- 2 Help us Your holy Law to learn, To mourn our sin and from it turn In faith to You and to Your Son And Holy Spirit, Three in One.
- 3 Hear us, dear Father, when we pray For needed help from day to day That as Your children we may live, Whom You baptized and so received.
- 4 Lord, when we fall or go astray, Absolve and lift us up, we pray; And through the Sacrament increase Our faith till we depart in peace.

Text: Ludwig Helmbold, 1532–98; tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt. Text: Public domain

CURRENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE Organist

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