

# REFORMATION



# SUNDAY



October 25, 2020  
9:00 a.m./10:00 a.m.

*Lutheran Church of the Redeemer*  
1800 W. Maple  
Birmingham, Michigan 48009

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
**October 25, 2020 – 9:00 a.m./10:00 a.m.**  
**Reformation Sunday**  
**Theme: Free Indeed**

**As We Gather**

Martin Luther's pastoral advice during the Black Plague: "I shall ask God mercifully to protect us. Then I shall fumigate, help purify the air, administer medicine, and take it. I shall avoid places and persons where my presence is not needed in order not to become contaminated and thus perchance inflict and pollute others and so cause their death as a result of my negligence. If God should wish to take me, he will surely find me, and I have done what he has expected of me and so I am not responsible for either my own death or the death of others. If my neighbour needs me however I shall not avoid place or person but will go freely as stated above. See this is such a God-fearing faith because it is neither brash nor foolhardy and does not tempt God." (Martin Luther, Works v. 43, p. 132. Letter "Whether one may flee from a Deadly Plague" written to Rev. Dr. John Hess)

**Prayer Before Worship**

Dearest God and Lord, strengthen and uphold us in your pure, precious Word through Jesus Christ our Lord, and help us to show and live our thanks with our fruits of faith to your praise and thanks forever. Amen. (Martin Luther)

**Prelude**

Rick Helderop

**Opening Hymn 261** Lord Keep us Steadfast in Thy Word  
Written by Martin Luther

1. Lord, keep us steadfast in Thy Word;  
Curb those who fain by craft and sword  
Would wrest the Kingdom from Thy Son  
And set at naught all He hath done.

2. Lord Jesus Christ, Thy pow'r make known,  
For Thou art Lord of lords alone;  
Defend Thy Christendom that we  
May evermore sing praise to Thee.

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.

### **Order of Service**

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: Make haste, O God, to deliver me.

**C: Make haste to help me, O Lord.**

P: The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit.

**C: A broken and contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.**

### **Epistle Reading**

Romans 1:16-17

(The Righteous Will Live By Faith)

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile. For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed — a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: “The righteous will live by faith.”

**Response:** Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

## **Anthem**

A Mighty Fortress – Hayes

Chancel Choir Quartet

Bonnie L. Brooks, Alison Ristovski, Max Trombley, Steve SeGraves –  
vocalists; Brian Buckmaster, drums; Greg Weipert, bass

## **Gospel Announcement**

**Response:** Glory be to Thee, O Lord!

## **Gospel Reading**

John 8:31-36

(Dispute over whose children Jesus' opponents are)

To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." They answered him, "We are Abraham's descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?" Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

**Response:** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

## **Sermon Hymn 262** A Mighty Fortress is Our God

Written by Martin Luther

1. 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.
2. 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.

3. 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.

**Sermon**

Text: John 8:31-36

“Mask Up With Luther”

Rev. Randall J. Schlak

**A Time for Response 252** We All Believe in One True God  
Written by Martin Luther

1. We all believe in one true God,  
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Ever present help in need,  
Praised by all the heavenly host,  
By whose mighty power alone  
All is made and wrought and done.
2. We all believe in Jesus Christ,  
Son of God and Mary's Son,  
Who descended from his throne  
And for us salvation won;  
By whose cross and death are we  
Rescued from all misery.
3. We all confess the Holy Ghost,  
Who from both fore'er proceeds;  
Who upholds and comforts us  
In all trials, fears, and needs.  
Blest and Holy Trinity,  
Praise forever be to Thee! Amen.

## **Prayer of the Church**

Since the beginning of time, O Lord, You have spoken to humanity. Even though people have sought to silence Your voice, You have pierced the vale of silence with your powerful Word. Through Moses and the prophets You made Your will known among us. When Your messages were ignored, You miraculously embodied Your Word in the person of Jesus Christ. Again some tried to still Your voice by nailing Your Word to a cross, but You could not be silenced. You raised Your “Word made flesh” from the dead so that many have heard the message. We thank You, Lord, that we have heard the message through Christ. Many have been the heroes and saints who have, at great personal sacrifice, handed the Gospel on to us today. Many sacrificed their lives in the defense of Your truth and the Gospel. In spite of their efforts, however, human barriers have often curtailed the free distribution, teaching, and preaching of Your Word. Many times Your Word has been buried under the rubble of man-made laws and traditions. But You have always brought forth one of Your chosen servants to restore Your Word. For giving us such men to lead us out of spiritual darkness into the marvelous light of the Gospel, we give You thanks. Bless all those who call on you, and today we remember: (petitions spoken by the pastor)

## **Lord’s Prayer**

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.

**Benediction and Response:** Amen! Amen! Amen!

## **Closing Hymn**

## **Lift High the Cross**

(Favorite hymn of Alexandra Stephens, Katie Stephens, Mallory Glazier, Sara Pridmore, Sean McCauley, Nancy Kabacinski, Pat Raezler, Kris Held, Stephanie Raezler, Jeanne Bolcer, Jeanie Buechner, Robert Anderson, Denise McNaughton, Cindy Grove, Erin Speller, Leslie Whitfield, Shirley Pariseau, Gary Priskorn, Ellen Baker, Angela Mammel, Cindy Grove, Kristen Rolf, Kitty Sweitzer, Donna Hollis, Robin Swift, Brigitta Burgess, Jimmy Greenwalt, Rosemary Ging)

### **Refrain:**

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
'Till all the world adore His sacred name.

1. Come, Christians, follow where our captain trod,  
Our King victorious, Christ, the Son of God. Refrain
2. Led on their way by this triumphant sign,  
The hosts of God in conqu'ring ranks combine. Refrain
3. All newborn soldiers of the Crucified  
Bear on their brows the seal of Him who died. Refrain

## **Silent Prayer**

## **Postlude**

Rick Helderop



Sanctuary altar flowers were given by Jim and Marilyn Staargaard with gratitude to God for 31 years of wonderful marriage, beautiful family and our great church, Redeemer. Sanctuary lectern flowers were given by Bob, Diane and Dustin Meyer in memory of Raymond F. Meyer's birthday. Chapel altar flowers were given by the Doolin family in gratitude for our 32nd wedding anniversary.

Family of God Soup Kitchen sponsors for this month are the Raezler family; Jim & Cindy Grove in thanksgiving for our growing family and the importance of togetherness; and Tom & Kathy Eley in thanksgiving for God's blessings. Family of God Soup Kitchen - Positive Parenting sponsors for this month are Aimee and Eric Stein in celebration and gratitude for our wonderful families; the Staargaard family; and an anonymous donation.

Audio/Video Operators

9:00 - Brian Tyler and Jim Perryman

10:00 - Greg Merryman

Acolytes

9:00 - Xander & Janae Gallo

10:00 - Georgia Lewis and Max McCulloch