

Gathering Music

Greeting – 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.**

Welcoming Words & Worship Instructions

Welcome, and to those of you joining online.

We gather on this the traditional lands of the Haudenosaunee, Anishnaabe and Neutral peoples along the unceded Haldimand Tract of 1784.

We also gather on this Reformation Sunday, the annual Festival in the Lutheran Calendar Year (the last Sunday in October), where we pay particular attention to 16th church reformer Martin Luther (our church's namesake), and the Church reformation that his life and work helped unleash.

We celebrate Holy Communion, in one kind. I will drop the bread wafer into your outstretched palms, and then you may make your way back using the outside aisles, and eat the bread when you get back to your seat.

During this time, you're asked to refrain from speaking or singing out-loud—you may whisper silently or hum along of so moved – but generally we ask that we all follow this health protocol.

The Assisting Minister, today Keith Myra, thank you, will speak out loud the responses.

Note, we are planning to have a special congregational meeting following the worship service on Sunday November 8, and Sunday November the 15, for the specific purpose of entertaining a motion brought forward by the Church Council, to discuss, provide background to, and consider this motion. No vote will happen at these meetings—that will be conducted by a “mail-in” ballot. You'll be receiving in your email or paper information about this. So just plan to attend one or two of these meetings. They will be identical in nature, offering more opportunity for as many people as possible to attend. So mark your calendars.

Kyrie (Lord have mercy):

p. 98 (Evangelical Lutheran Worship Book)
Sung Responsively between Soloists

(on screen)

Prayer of the Day

(on screen)

Let us pray...

Almighty and gracious God, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on us, and all your faithful people. Keep us steadfast in your word, protect and comfort us in times of trial, and give to your church health, and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Scripture Reading

A reading of Psalm 46, verses 1-11. We are reminded that “The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.”

(At conclusion): Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.** (on screen)

The Holy Gospel

The Holy Gospel, about how the truth of God’s abiding grace and love sets us free from all captivities, in the Gospel of John, chapter 8, verses 31-36.

Glory to you, O Lord.

(At conclusion): The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.** (on screen)

SermonHymn

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“A Mighty Fortress is our God”

(on screen)

Prayers of Intercession and Congregational Response

(congregational response on screen)

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

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, **hear our prayer.**

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 wildfires on the west coast, hurricanes in the south, and flooding along waterways.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Guide areas of the world divided or traumatized by conflict, especially in our own land. Free all from slavery and human trafficking, and protect all in harm’s way.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Release those living in bondage to debts, chronic pain, or addiction. Bring your healing touch to those who are ill, especially those we now name silently in our hearts

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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, **hear our prayer.**

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.

Amen.

Sharing of the Peace – The Peace of Christ, be with you always. **And also with you.**

Thanksgiving at the Table

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

(on screen)

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.

Preface - It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places, give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Saviour Jesus Christ, who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection, opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus - Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Eucharistic Prayer --

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath. We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future. We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now. We thank you, O God.

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.

