

## SPIRIT OF GRACE

Reformation Day with Celebration of Holy Communion

October 31, 2021

The congregation's parts are in **bold**.

### PRELUDE

**You Are My All in All**

### WELCOME

### OPENING ACCLAMATION

By the waters of Babylon, there we wept when we remembered.

**By the waters of the kitchen sink, there we wept.**

**And on the living room couch, and in the empty school  
room and beside the makeshift dining room table office.**

How could we sing God's song in a strange land?

**How could we sing God's song over Zoom?**

By the waters of Babylon,

**There we wept when we remembered.**

We remembered that ancient rhythm of separation and homecoming,

**Exile and return, going out and coming in.**

You who are by the waters of Babylon: Come!

**From kitchens and home offices, sidewalks and parking lots, we come!**

You who remember and you who do not: Come!

**Sometimes remembering clearly, sometimes confused by nostalgia we**

**come! By car and by computer, we come!**

God goes with every exile;

**God rejoices with every return.**

In Babylon and Jerusalem,  
in strange lands and familiar rooms

**In sanctuaries and on screens,**

**in pews or chairs, couches or recliners**

**LET US WORSHIP 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.

2 No strength of ours can match his might!  
We would be lost, rejected.  
But now a champion comes to fight,  
whom God himself elected.  
You ask who this may be?  
The Lord of hosts is he!  
Christ Jesus, mighty Lord,  
God's only Son, adored.  
He holds the field victorious.

3 Though hordes of devils fill the land  
all threat'ning to devour us,  
we tremble not, unmoved we stand;  
they cannot overpow'r us.  
Let this world's tyrant rage;  
in battle we'll engage!  
His might is doomed to fail;  
God's judgment must prevail!  
One little word subdues him.

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!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*  
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## **THE GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY**

God be with you!

**And also with you!**

Let us pray.

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.**

## **THE FIRST READING**

### **Jeremiah 31:31-34**

<sup>31</sup>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. <sup>32</sup>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. <sup>33</sup>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. <sup>34</sup>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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM 46**

<sup>1</sup>God is our refuge and strength,  
a very present help in trouble.

<sup>2</sup>**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,  
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**

<sup>3</sup>though its waters rage and foam,  
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

<sup>4</sup>**There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

<sup>5</sup>God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;

God shall help it at the break of day.

**<sup>6</sup>The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;  
God speaks, and the earth melts away.**

<sup>7</sup>The LORD of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

**<sup>8</sup>Come now, regard the works of the LORD,  
what desolations God has brought upon the earth;**

<sup>9</sup>behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;  
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

**<sup>10</sup>“Be still, then, and know that I am God;  
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”**

**<sup>11</sup>The LORD of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.**

## **THE SECOND READING**

### **Romans 3:19-28**

<sup>9</sup>Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. <sup>20</sup>For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

<sup>21</sup>But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, <sup>22</sup>the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, <sup>23</sup>since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; <sup>24</sup>they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup>whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; <sup>26</sup>it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

<sup>27</sup>Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. <sup>28</sup>For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

**Thanks be to God.**

## THE GOSPEL

Open your hearts and your minds to the Good News as it is recorded in **John 8:31-36**  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>31</sup>Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; <sup>32</sup>and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." <sup>33</sup>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'?" <sup>34</sup>Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. <sup>35</sup>The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. <sup>36</sup>So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## THE MESSAGE      DIALOGUE BETWEEN KATIE & MARTIN LUTHER

Katharina (Katie) von Bora Luther: Judy Woughter

Dr. Martin Luther: Rick Orban

## THE HYMN OF THE DAY

## LISTEN, GOD IS CALLING

ELW 513

*(Listen,) listen, God is calling, through the Word inviting,  
offering forgiveness, comfort and joy.*

*(Listen,) listen, God is calling, through the Word inviting,  
offering forgiveness, comfort and joy.*

1 Jesus gave his mandate:  
share the good news  
that he came to save us  
and set us free.

2 Let none be forgotten  
throughout the world.  
In the triune name of God  
go and baptize.

3 Help us to be faithful,  
standing steadfast,  
walking in your precepts,  
led by your Word.

## **AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**from the Iona Community**

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

### **We believe in God:**

**whose love is the source of all life and the desire of our lives, whose love was given a human face in Jesus of Nazareth, whose love was crucified by the evil that wants to enslave us all and whose love, defeating even death, is our glorious promise of freedom.**

**Therefore, though we are sometimes fearful and doubting, we trust in God; And in the Name of Jesus Christ, we commit ourselves, in the service of others, to seek justice and to live in peace, to care for the earth and to share the common wealth of God's goodness, to live in the freedom of forgiveness and the power of the Spirit of love; And in the company of the faithful, to be the Church, for the glory of God. Amen.**

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

*A brief silence.*

God of love, we pray for your church: For Michael our Presiding Episcopal Bishop; Bonnie our Diocese bishop, Elizabeth Presiding ELCA Bishop and Donald our Synod Bishop; for all lay and ordained ministers in our Diocese and our Synod; and for all who seek you in the community of the faithful. Equip us with compassion and love, to carry out your work of reconciliation in the world. God of love,

**Hear our prayers for the church.**

*Silence - All are invited to add prayers silently.*

God of freedom, we pray for our nation, and all the nations of the world: For peace and unity across barriers; for elected and appointed leaders, that they would serve the common good. Inspire all people with courage to speak

out against hatred, to actively resist evil. Unite the human family in bonds of love. God of freedom,

**Hear our prayers for the world.**

*Silence - All are invited to add prayers silently.*

God of justice, we pray for the earth, your creation entrusted to our care: For the animals and birds, the mountains and oceans, and all parts of your creation that have no voice of their own. Stir up in us a thirst for justice that protects the earth and all its resources, that we may leave to our children's children the legacy of beauty and abundance that you have given us. God of justice,

**Hear our prayers for the earth.**

*Silence - All are invited to add prayers silently.*

God of peace, we pray for our communities: For our local leaders; for our schools and markets; for our neighborhoods and workplaces. Kindle in every heart a desire for equality, respect, and opportunity for all. Give us courage to strive for justice and peace among all people, beginning here at home. God of peace,

**Hear our prayers for our communities.**

*Silence - All are invited to add prayers silently.*

God of mercy, we pray for all in any kind of need or trouble: For those whose lives are closely linked with ours, and those connected to us as part of the human family. For refugees and prisoners; for the sick and suffering, the lonely and despairing; for those facing violence; for all held down by prejudice or injustice. Awaken in us compassion and humility of spirit, as we seek and serve Christ in all persons. God of mercy,

**Hear our prayers for all who are in need.**

*Silence - All are invited to add prayers silently.*

God of grace, we pray for those who have died: especially Pastor Carey Mack and Wanda Timmons. For the faithful in every generation who have worked for justice; for prophets who called us to reconciliation; for martyrs who died because of hatred; and for all the communion of saints. Make us faithful to your call to proclaim your Good News, by word and example, and bring us at last into the glorious company of the saints in light. God of grace,

**Hear our prayers for those who have died.**

*The presiding minister continues with the following collect.*

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### **THE CONFESSION**

Let us confess our sins against God and one another.

**Most merciful God,**

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.**

**We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.**

**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,  
so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

### **THE ABSOLUTION**

#### **THE PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

#### **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

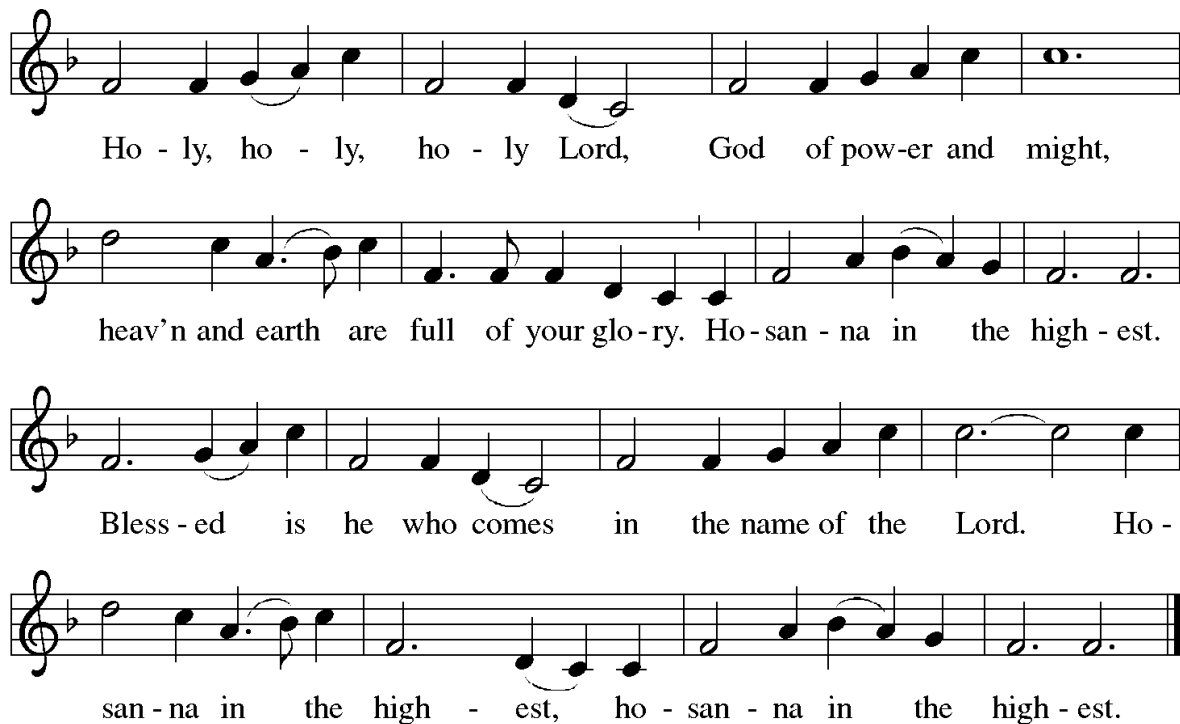
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**



It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth. For in the multitude of your saints you have surrounded us with a great cloud of witnesses, that we might rejoice in their fellowship, and run with endurance the race that is set before us; and, together with them, receive the crown of glory that never fades away.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



The image shows a musical score for a hymn, consisting of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,". The second staff continues: "heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est." The third staff continues: "Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -". The fourth staff concludes: "san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est." The music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, with some phrases being repeated or extended.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant,

which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O God,

**We remember his death,**

**We proclaim his resurrection,**

**We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Mary, the God-bearer, Joseph, Paul, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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, for ever and ever.**

**Amen.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

These are the Gifts of God.

**And we are the people of God.**

And in union and solidarity with your faithful people who are not able to be present at this table, we pray together

**Strengthen and sustain us with your grace, Lord Christ, and let us never be separated from you.**

Come spiritually into all of our hearts, Lord Christ.

**May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen**

*All are welcome at the table. It is God's Table and He gifts you with the finest He has. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers. Our communion elements are prepackaged grape juice and wafer packets for your safety. Please enjoy the communion music during this time and wear a mask if you choose to sing along.*

## COMMUNION SONGS THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IN EVERY AGE ELW 729



1 The church of Christ, in ev - 'ry age be - set by  
2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the vic - tims  
3 Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a car - ing  
4 For he a - lone, whose blood was shed, can cure the  
5 We have no mis - sion but to serve in full o -



change, but Spir - it - led, must claim and test its  
of in - jus - tice cry for shel - ter and for  
church that longs to be a part - ner in Christ's  
fe - ver in our blood, and teach us how to  
be - dience to our Lord; to care for all, with -



her - i - tage and keep on ris - ing from the dead.  
bread to eat, and nev - er live be - fore they die.  
sac - ri - fice, and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.  
share our bread and feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.  
out re - serve, and spread his lib - er - at - ing word.

## GRACE ALONE

Ev'ry promise we can make  
Ev'ry prayer and step of faith  
Ev'ry diff'rence we will make  
Is only by His grace  
Ev'ry mountain we will climb  
Ev'ry ray of hope we shine  
Ev'ry blessing left behind  
Is only by His grace

*Grace alone which God supplies  
Strength unknown He will provide  
Christ in us our Cornerstone  
We will go forth in grace alone*

Ev'ry soul we long to reach  
Ev'ry heart we hope to teach  
Ev'rywhere we share His peace  
Is only by His grace  
Ev'ry loving word we say  
Ev'ry tear we wipe away  
Ev'ry sorrow turned to praise  
Is only by His grace

CCLI Song # 2335524

Jeff Nelson | Scott Wesley Brown

© 1998 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing (Admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.)

For use solely with the SongSelect® [Terms of Use](#). All rights reserved. [www.ccli.com](http://www.ccli.com)

CCLI License # 204771

## THE POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

**Amen.**

## THE OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together.

**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**

## **THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER**

**Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior.**

**Amen.**

## **THE BLESSING AND BENEDICTION**

You are the body of Christ.

May you have the heart of Christ, tender for mercy.

May you have the eyes of Christ to see a world in need.

May you have the feet of Christ to bring good news.

And may the blessing of the one who made you,

+Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer be with you today and always.

**Amen.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **SENDING SONG**

### **THE CHURCH'S ONE FOUNDATION**

**ELW 654**

The church's one foundation  
is Jesus Christ, her Lord;  
she is his new creation  
by water and the word.

From heav'n he came and sought her  
to be his holy bride;  
with his own blood he bought her,  
and for her life he died.

Elect from ev'ry nation,  
yet one o'er all the earth,  
her charter of salvation  
one Lord, one faith, one birth:  
one holy name she blesses,  
partakes one holy food,  
and to one hope she presses,  
with ev'ry grace endued.

Through toil and tribulation  
and tumult of her war,  
she waits the consummation  
of peace forevermore;  
till with the vision glorious  
her longing eyes are blest,  
and the great church victorious  
shall be the church at rest.

Yet she on earth has union  
with God, the Three in One,  
and mystic sweet communion  
with those whose rest is won.  
Oh, blessed heav'nly chorus!  
Lord, save us by your grace,  
that we, like saints before us,  
may see you face to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

**Shout to the Lord**

Copyright Acknowledgements

Copyright © 2021 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

This document may be reproduced for use in your congregation as long as the copyright notice appears on each copy.

Permission is granted to reproduce this material for local, non-sale use only.

From [sundaysandseasons.com](http://sundaysandseasons.com).

copyright © 2021 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved