



First Lutheran Church

2808 South Avenue West

Reformation Sunday
October 26, 2025

First Lutheran Church

Missoula, MT

Reformation Sunday

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WE ARE PEOPLE OF GOD...

...who worship together, grow together, work together and together serve God and one another in Christian love.

...who gather around Word and Sacrament for spiritual nourishment.

...who take seriously Christ's command to make disciples of all nations.

Prelude

Welcome

Hymn LSB 657

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, A sword and shield vic -
2 No strength of ours can match his might. We would be lost, re -
3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land All threat'ning to de -
4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, No thanks to foes, who



to - rious; He breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod And wins sal -
ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, Whom God Him -
your us, We trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; They can - not
fear it; For God Him - self fights by our side With weap - ons



va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe Has sworn to
self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be? The Lord of
o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage; In bat - tle
of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house, Goods, hon - or,



work us woe. With craft and dread - ful might He
hosts is He, Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord, God's
we'll en - gage. His might is doomed to fail; God's
child, or spouse, Though life be wrenched a - way, They



arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
can - not win the day. The King - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Text: tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978

Text and tune: Martin Luther, 1483-1546

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Tune: Public domain

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Confession of Sins

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

Prayer for Forgiveness

P Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Absolution

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

GraceNotes

All Creatures of our God and King

Introit

P When I am afraid,

C **I put my trust in you.**

P In God, whose word I praise,

C **in the LORD, whose word I praise,**

P in God I trust; I shall not be afraid.

C **What can man do to me?**

P I must perform my vows to you, O God;

C **I will render thank offerings to you.**

P For you have delivered my soul from death, yes, my feet from falling,

C **that I may walk before God in the light of life.**

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.

P When I am afraid,

C **I put my trust in you.**

Collect

P Almighty and everlasting God, You are always more ready to hear than we to pray and always ready to give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour down on us the abundance of Your mercy; forgive us those things of which our conscience is afraid; and give us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask except by the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Men's Chorus

Built on the Rock

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 4:1-15

Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, "I have gotten a man with the help of the LORD." And again, she bore his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a worker of the ground. In the course of time Cain brought to the LORD an offering of the fruit of the ground, and Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat portions. And the LORD had regard for Abel and his offering, but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his face fell. The LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry, and why has your face fallen? If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is for you, but you must rule over it."

Cain spoke to Abel his brother. And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel and killed him. Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is Abel your brother?" He said, "I do not know; am I my brother's keeper?" And the LORD said, "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood is crying to me from the ground. And now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. When you work the ground, it shall no longer yield to you its strength. You shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth." Cain said to the LORD, "My punishment is

greater than I can bear. Behold, you have driven me today away from the ground, and from your face I shall be hidden. I shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me.” Then the LORD said to him, “Not so! If anyone kills Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold.” And the LORD put a mark on Cain, lest any who found him should attack him.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing. . . .

At my first defense no one came to stand by me, but all deserted me. May it not be charged against them! But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion’s mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

Luke 18:9-17

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the eighteenth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

[Jesus] also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt: “Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.’ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”

Now they were bringing even infants to him that he might touch them. And when the disciples saw it, they rebuked them. But Jesus called them to him, saying, “Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

Hymn LSB 565 (Sung to tune 912)

Thy Works, Not Mine, O Christ



1 Thy works, not mine, O Christ, Speak glad - ness to this heart;
2 Thy wounds, not mine, O Christ, Can heal my bruis - ed soul;
3 Thy cross, not mine, O Christ, Has borne the crush - ing load
4 Thy death, not mine, O Christ, Has paid the ran - som due;
5 Thy righ - teous - ness, O Christ, A - lone can cov - er me;



They tell me all is done, They bid my fear de - part.
Thy stripes, not mine, con - tain The balm that makes me whole.
Of sins that none could bear But the in - car - nate God.
Ten thou - sand deaths like mine Would have been all too few.
No righ - teous - ness a - vails Save that which is of Thee.

Refrain



To whom save Thee, Who canst a-lone For sin a-tone, Lord, shall I flee?

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808-89, alt.
Tune: The Parish Choir, 1850, London
Text and tune: Public domain

Hymn LSB 567

Not What These Hands Have Done



1 Not what these hands have done Can save this guilt - y soul;
 2 Not what I feel or do Can give me peace with God;
 3 Thy work a - lone, O Christ, Can ease this weight of sin;
 4 Thy love to me, O God, Not mine, O Lord, to Thee,



Not what this toil - ing flesh has borne Can make my spir - it whole.
 Not all my prayers and sighs and tears Can bear my aw - ful load.
 Thy blood a - lone, O Lamb of God, Can give me peace with - in.
 Can rid me of this dark un - rest And set my spir - it free.

Thy grace alone, O God,
 To me can pardon speak;
 Thy pow'r alone, O Son of God,
 Can this sore bondage break.

I bless the Christ of God,
 I rest on love divine,
 And with unfalt'ring lip and heart
 I call this Savior mine.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808-89
 Tune: William H. Monk, 1823-89
 Text and tune: Public domain

T T T **Our offerings are received at the Altar** T T T

Prayer of the Church

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P That our self-righteousness and contempt of others would be thwarted and we would be taught to pray, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner!"; and for our eyes and hearts to be turned to Jesus who has justified us by His work on the cross, that we may rejoice in His everlasting Gospel, which is the forgiveness of sins, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For Christ's undershepherds, that they may faithfully preach Christ before the world and keep the faith in all adversity; and that God's people would persevere in confessing the Gospel throughout their lives, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For all parents, that they would be strengthened to guide their children according to the Word; for all children, that they may reflect the love of Christ through lives of obedience to their parents and love toward the neighbor; and for all children of God, that by the Holy Spirit we may grow in righteousness and faith and dwell together in peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P That the leaders of the nations may abhor wickedness and boastfulness, fulfill their duties with diligence and humility, and govern in accordance with God's will, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For those who suffer, [*including _____*], that in their afflictions they may take refuge in the Lord and sing for joy because of His steadfast love, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P God of mercy, into Your hands we poor sinners humbly place our lives, confident of Your care because of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

C **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.**

Benedicamus

P Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and T give you peace.

C **Amen.**

Closing Hymn LSB 660

Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus



1 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus, Ye sol - diers of the cross.
 2 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus; The trum - pet call o - bey;
 3 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus; Stand in His strength a - lone.
 4 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus; The strife will not be long;



Lift high His roy - al ban - ner; It must not suf - fer loss.
 Stand forth in might - y con - flict In this His glo - rious day.
 The arm of flesh will fail you, Ye dare not trust your own.
 This day the din of bat - tle, The next the vic - tor's song.



From vic - t'ry un - to vic - t'ry His ar - my He shall lead
 Let all His faith - ful serve Him A - gainst un - num - bered foes;
 Put on the Gos - pel ar - mor; Each piece put on with prayer.
 The sol - diers, o - ver - com - ing, Their crown of life shall see



Till ev - 'ry foe is van - quished, And Christ is Lord in - deed.
 Let cour - age rise with dan - ger And strength to strength op - pose.
 Where du - ty calls or dan - ger, Be nev - er want - ing there.
 And with the King of Glo - ry Shall reign e - ter - nal - ly.

Text: George Duffield, Jr., 1818-88, alt.
 Tune: George J. Webb, 1803-87
 Text and tune: Public domain

Announcements

Please complete the "Friendship Pads" found at the inside aisle holder in each pew and pass it to the others in your row. We especially ask our visitors and guests to share their information with us, so we can stay in touch!

Dismissal

P Go in peace! Serve the Lord!
 C **Thanks be to God.**

Acknowledgments

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On the Cover



The symbol on the cover incorporates the Latin phrase,

“Verbum Domini Manet in Aeternum”

“The Word of the Lord endures forever!”

A reformation rallying cry which eventually became the symbol of nobles and laymen alike. It is comprised of a heart resting on the cross surrounded by the letters VDMA. It stood as a symbol of unity among early Lutherans who found themselves targets of persecution for their faith. It is founded on Isaiah 40:6-8, also quoted in I Peter 1:24-25.