

Sunday, October 28, 2018  
Reformation Sunday

PRELUDE

*"Built on a Rock"*

Gilbert Martin

**\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

**P** *Blessed be the † holy Trinity,  
the one who fashions us,  
the one who heals us,  
the one who reforms us again and again.*

**C** **Amen!**

**P** *Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power.  
Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

**P** *Source of all life,*

**C** **we confess that we have not allowed  
your grace to set us free.  
We fear that we are not good enough.  
We hear your word of love freely given to us,  
yet we expect others to earn it.  
We turn the church inward,  
rather than moving it outward.  
Forgive us. Stir us.  
Reform us to be a church powered by love,  
willing to speak for what is right,  
act for what is just,  
and seek the healing of your whole creation.  
Amen!**

**P** *God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us  
and to empower our lives in the world.  
Our sins are forgiven,  
† God's love is unconditional,  
and we are raised up as God's people  
who will always be made new,  
in the name of Jesus Christ.*

**C** **Amen!**

arr. John Rutter

Phil Heeler and Liza Heeler, trumpet

Sylvester Heeler, French Horn

- A1** A mighty fortress is our God,  
a bulwark never failing;  
Our helper he amid the flood  
Of mortal ills prevailing.  
For still our ancient foe  
Doth seek to work us woe!  
His craft and pow'r are great,  
and armed with cruel hate,  
On earth is not his equal.
- A1** Did we in our own strength confide,  
our striving would be losing,  
were not the right man on our side,  
the man of God's own choosing.  
Dost ask who that may be?  
Christ Jesus, it is he;  
the Lord of Hosts his name,  
from age to age the same;  
and he must win the battle.
- M** And though this world, with devils filled,  
should threaten to undo us,  
**A1** we will not fear, for God has willed  
his truth to triumph through us.
- M** The prince of darkness grim,  
we tremble not for him;  
his rage we can endure,  
for lo! his doom is sure;  
**A1** one little word shall fell him.
- A1** That Word above all earthly powers  
no thanks to them abideth;  
the Spirit and the gifts are ours  
through him who with us sideth.  
Let goods and kindred go,  
this mortal life also;  
the body they may kill:  
God's truth abideth still;  
his kingdom is forever!

**\*GREETING**

**P** *The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*

**G** **And also with you.**

**\*CANTICLE OF PRAISE**

***“This is the Feast”***

**Choir** *This is the feast of victory for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,  
whose blood set us free to be people of God.  
Power, riches, wisdom and strength,  
and honor, blessing, and glory are his.  
This is the feast of victory for our God.  
Alleluia.**

**Sing with all the people of God,  
and join in the hymn of all creation:  
Blessing, honor, glory, and might  
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God,  
for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.  
Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P** *Gracious Father,*

**G** **we pray for your holy catholic church. Fill it with all truth and peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in anything it is amiss, reform it; where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in need, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen!**

**ANTHEM**

***“To Love Our God”***  
Chancel Choir

Mark Hayes

**FIRST READING**

**Jeremiah 31:31-34**

*The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the Lord means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the Lord will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.*

<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.

### **Reflection**

*When do you think “the days are surely coming” is? (verse 31) What is coming? Has it come since the time of Jeremiah? Are we still waiting for it? What happened to the old covenant? (verse 32) What does it mean when the Lord says, “I was their husband”? (verse 32) Most of you men (at least in our congregation) do not have husbands. I’d be interested, if anyone would like to tell me, what it’s like for you who have/had/expect to have a wife to hear “I was your husband,” says the Lord. How is the new covenant different from a marriage covenant? What does it mean that we, as a community of faith, are the Lord’s people? What does it mean to “know the Lord” in our hearts, rather than being taught it? Can we learn it without being taught? How does God live in your heart?*

### **PSALM 46**

<sup>1</sup>God is our ref- | uge 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 cit- | y 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 up- | on 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.

### **Reflection**

*What this psalm stirs me to think about today is the hurricanes, the flooding, the wildfires that seem to be devouring our country. It seems as though the earth is being moved, the waters are raging and foaming... (verses 2-3, 6) What does it mean to trust in God in the midst of global*

warming, of unmitigated flooding, of glaciers melting? Is God causing this? (verses 6, 8) Will God swoop in and save us from uncontrolled greed and war and desolation? (The prophets mostly do not seem to think that God saves us from ourselves!) How do we live in this time when the psalmist calls us to “be still...and know that I am God” who is exalted among the nations and in the earth? If the earth is shaking, what is our foundation?

## SECOND READING

Romans 3:19-28

*Paul’s words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ’s death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.*

<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.

### Reflection

*What do we experience as a result of the law? (verses 19-20) What does it mean to be “justified”? Notes in the Lutheran Bible say this, “‘Justify’ is language from courts of law. The prisoner stands before the judge and is guilty. But the judge declares the prisoner innocent—or ‘justifies’ the prisoner.” We are not guilty, but justified. To whom does this apply? (verses 23-24) How do we get this not guilty verdict? (verses 21-22) How does God justify us? (verses 24-25) What does he do with the sins we are guilty of? (verses 25-26—see also the first reading from Jeremiah) According to Paul, no one has the right to boast about what they have done. Why not? (verses 27-28) I know that I am prone to boasting—of course, I don’t say this so others can hear, but to myself I think, “Look at what a good Christian I am!” or thoughts to that effect. (Am I the only one?—that is the complete sinner that I am) Thanks be to God that through my baptism I a complete saint—I recognize that God’s love and grace through Jesus is what really makes me a Christian, not anything that I do. (verse 28)*

### \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

pg. 142

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life.  
Alleluia. Alleluia.

**\*GOSPEL**

**John 8:31-36**

*Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.*

<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.”

**Reflection**

*This text starts with a reference to “the Jews who had believed in him.” (verse 31) As we read this text, it’s important that we hear Jesus saying it to us “who had believed in him.” What does it mean to continue in Jesus’ word? What does the word do for people? (verse 32) How did the people to whom he spoke react to what he said? (verse 33) In what ways do we live in slavery to sin? (verse 34) What lies do we believe that enslave us? Here are some that I find regularly in myself: I’m a good Christian—I do what is right. I’m better than those \_\_\_\_\_. There are all kinds of political lies and economic lies and social lies that I don’t even see. What lies entrap you, and us all together? What is the only way we can be set free from those lies? (verse 36) How does the truth make a person free? What does that kind of freedom look like? I think we Americans like to celebrate freedom from; perhaps Jesus offers us freedom for. What do you think?*

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

Kris Langdon

**SERMON**

**“Re-Form”**

Rev. Roger Lenander

**SONG OF THE DAY**

**“Broken Vessels”**

All these pieces  
Broken and scattered  
In mercy gathered  
Mended and whole  
Empty handed  
But not forsaken  
I've been set free  
I've been set free

Amazing grace  
How sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me  
Oh I once was lost  
But now I am found  
Was blind but now I see

Oh I can see You now  
Oh I can see the love in Your eyes  
Laying Yourself down  
Raising up the broken to life

You take our failure  
You take our weakness  
You set Your treasure  
In jars of clay  
So take this heart Lord  
I'll be Your vessel  
The world to see Your life in me

Amazing grace  
How sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me  
Oh I once was lost  
But now I am found  
Was blind but now I see  
Oh I can see You now  
Oh I can see the love in Your eyes  
Laying Yourself down  
Raising up the broken to life

**\*APOSTLES' CREED**

**☒ I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.**

**\*PRAYER SONG**

*“Cares Chorus”*

I cast all my cares upon You  
I lay all of my burdens  
Down at Your feet  
And anytime that I don't know  
What to do  
I will cast all my cares upon You

**\*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Longing for God’s will to be fulfilled among us, we pray persistently for the church, the world, and all people in need.

*A brief silence.*

Holy God, work in your church across denominational and cultural divisions to form us into a more complete expression of your holy community. Show the world your likeness through us. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

By rain, rivers, and oceans, remind us how your word flows through this world, surrounding us with grace. Keep us always in the covenant that is sealed in water and Spirit. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Free us from the lies we tell ourselves or others in order to justify our words and actions. Lead us to speak honestly and to listen humbly and reveal your truth among us. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Be a stronghold for people who are ill or hurt this day especially *Jim, Larry, Irene, David, Lisa and her baby Lara, Dorothy, Kay*, and for those we name before you aloud or silently in our hearts (pause for 10 seconds). In your righteous presence cause the evil that surrounds them to flee and make known your healing presence. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Continue making all things new. Seal your covenant with humankind and write your law on our hearts. Make repentance a regular habit for us so that forgiveness abounds. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Guide all the saints in proclaiming the good news of salvation in Christ. Bring your people eternally into Christ’s presence on the last day. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Enfold all things in your compassion, O God, and bring us into your life through the faithfulness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen!**

**\*SHARING OF THE PEACE**

**P** *The peace of Christ be with you always.*

**C** **And also with you!**

**OFFERTORY**

***“Only By Grace”***

Only by grace can we enter  
Only by grace can we stand  
Not by our human endeavor  
But by the blood of the Lamb  
Into Your presence You call us  
You call us to come  
Into Your presence You draw us  
And now by Your grace we come  
Now by Your grace we come  
  
Lord if You mark  
Our transgressions  
Who would stand  
Thanks to Your grace  
We are cleansed  
By the blood of the Lamb *(repeat)*

**\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE *(the last refrain)***

Only by grace can we enter  
Only by grace can we stand  
Not by our human endeavor  
But by the blood of the Lamb  
Into Your presence You call us  
You call us to come  
Into Your presence You draw us  
And now by Your grace we come  
Now by Your grace we come

**\*OFFERING PRAYER**

**P** *God of life,*

**C** **you give us these gifts of the earth, these resources of our life and our labor. Take them, offered in great thanksgiving, and use them to set a table that will heal the whole creation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Light. Amen!**

**\*DIALOGUE**

**P** *The Lord be with you.*

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** *Lift up your hearts.*

**C** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**P** *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

**C** **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

#### **\*PREFACE**

**P** *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 Savior 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:*

#### **\*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

**Holy, holy, holy  
Lord God of hosts.  
Heaven and earth  
are full of your glory.  
Hosanna, hosanna  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna, hosanna  
Hosanna in the highest.**

#### **\*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

**P** *Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father:  
Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign.  
You have filled all creation with light and life;  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age:  
the promise to Israel,  
the rescue from Egypt,  
the gift of the promised land,  
the words of the prophets;  
and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son,  
who proclaimed the good news in word and deed  
and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.  
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.  
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.  
For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,  
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.*

**C Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

**P** *Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup  
we remember the life our Lord offered for us.  
And, believing the witness of his resurrection,  
we await his coming in power  
to share with us the great and promised feast.*

**C Amen! Come, Lord Jesus.**

**P** *Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit,  
that we who share in Christ's body and blood  
may live to the praise of your glory  
and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.*

**C Amen! Come, Holy Spirit.**

**P** *Join our prayers with those of your servants  
of every time and every place,  
and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest  
until he comes as victorious Lord of all.  
Through him, with him, in him,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father,  
now and forever.*

**C Amen!**

#### **\*LORD'S PRAYER**

**P** *Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.*

**C** **Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.**

Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen!

**\*INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

**P** *Speak to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread, and make us one with you.*

**\*BLESSING**

**P** *The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.*

**C** **Amen!**

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**P** *Holy and compassionate God,*

**C** **in bread and wine you give us gifts that form us to be humble and courageous. May your words come to life in our serving and in our witness, that we might speak a living voice of healing and justice to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer. Amen!**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**P** *God, creator of all things, speaking reformation into being;  
Jesus Christ, savior of the world, raising the dead;  
Holy Spirit, living voice, calling and enlightening the church:  
Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.*

**C** **Amen!**

**\*SENDING SONG**

*“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”*

**ELW 858**

**Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation!  
Let all who hear now to his temple draw near,  
joining in glad adoration!**

**Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning  
and, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.  
Have you not seen all that is needful has been  
sent by his gracious ordaining?**

**Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you;  
surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.  
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do  
if with his love he befriend you.**

**Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me adore him!  
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him!  
Let the amen sound from his people again.  
Gladly forever adore him!**

**\*DISMISSAL**

**POSTLUDE**

***"Lobe den Herren"***

Setting by Lani Smith