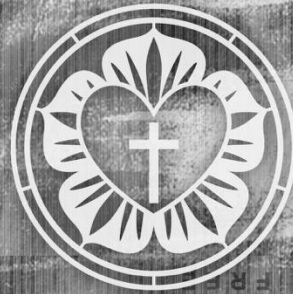


IF YOU HOLD TO MY TEACHING, YOU
ARE REALLY MY DISCIPLES. THEN
YOU WILL KNOW THE TRUTH,
AND THE TRUTH WILL SET
YOU FREE.

THE FESTIVAL
of the
Reformation



Morrison Zion Lutheran Church

November 2 & 5, 2023



MORRISON ZION LUTHERAN

Wisconsin Evangelical
Lutheran Synod

Our mission is to
Glorify God
as we
Gather
around the Gospel
to help people
Grow
in the Gospel
and
Go
with the Gospel

Welcome! We thank
God that you have
joined us at worship
today.

Restrooms are
located in the
basement. Hearing
loop headphones and
Large Print Hymnals
are available from an
usher.

If your children
need to leave worship,
please take them to
the basement. A TV
broadcasts the service
in the basement.

Today we gather
together in the
presence of God. He is
present among us in a
special way through
his Word and
Sacrament. We
acknowledge our sin
and rejoice in the
good news of
forgiveness through
the life and death of
Christ. This is the
focus of our worship.

End Time 1: Reformation

November 2 and 5, 2023

The Season The focus of the season is fulfillment of Christ's promises and encouragement for the Church of the End Times. We live in the last age of this earth, and in this season, Jesus wants us to remember his promise, "Behold, I am coming soon!" The Prayer of the Day for each Sunday in End Times sets the theme for the day. On each Sunday, the Church prays that God would bestow on her a characteristic necessary for the End Times Church.

The Sunday Lord, keep us faithful to your Word! The Festival of the Lutheran Reformation of the Church emphasizes the true Church's unflinching reliance on the Word of God and unflinching testimony to it in the face of persecution.

Gathering Rite on the Word, Service of the Word

God's people long to gather together for strength from God and mutual encouragement. This alternate beginning reminds God's people of the blessings of his Word.

Stand

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Introduction to the hymn.



Bless - ed Je - sus, at your Word We are gath - ered all to
Let our hearts and souls be stirred Now to seek and love and



hear you,
fear you, By your teach - ings, sweet and ho - ly,



Drawn from earth to love you sole - ly.

M: Oh, how I love your law!

C: I meditate on it all day long.

M: Your commands make me wiser than my enemies,

C: for they are ever with me.

M: I have more insight than all my teachers,

C: for I meditate on your statutes.

M: How sweet are your words to my taste,

C: sweeter than honey to my mouth! (*Psalms 119:97-99,103*)



All our knowl - edge, sense, and sight Lie in deep - est dark - ness
Till your Spir - it breaks our night With the beams of truth un -



shroud - ed
cloud - ed. You a - lone to God can win us;



You must work all good with - in us.

M: All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,

C: so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

(2 Timothy 3:16,17)

M: Yet so often we have despised God's Word and failed to gladly hear and learn it. For this and all our sins, we bow before God and humbly ask his forgiveness.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.



Gra - cious Sav - ior, good and kind, Light from Light, from God pro -
O - pen now our heart and mind; Help us by your Spir - it's



ceed - ing,
plead - ing. Hear the cry your peo - ple rais - es;



Hear and bless our prayers and prais - es.

M: God gave his Word so “that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name” (*John 20:31*). The Scriptures testify about Jesus, who lived a perfect life for you, died on the cross to pay for all your sins, and rose again to assure you of your salvation. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

Gracious Lord, our refuge and strength, pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your Word, protect and comfort them in all temptations, defend them against all their enemies, and bestow on the Church your saving peace; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

Be Seated

Choir (*Sunday only*)

1 Your Word alone is solid ground,
the mighty rock on which we build.
In ev'ry line the truth is found,
and ev'ry page with glory filled. (v. 2)

2 Thro' faith alone we come to you;
we have no merit we can claim.
Sure that your promises are true,
we place our hope in Jesus' name. (Refrain)

*Ref Gloria, gloria, glory to God alone.
Gloria, gloria, glory to God alone.*

Reformation Song CW²¹ 877

3 In Christ alone we're justified;
his righteousness is all our plea.
Your law's demands are satisfied;
his perfect work has set us free. (Refrain)

4 By grace alone we have been saved;
all that we are has come from you.
Hearts that were once by sin enslaved
now by your pow'r have been made new.
(Refrain)

5 And on this Reformation Day
we join with saints of old to sing;
we lift our hearts as one in praise;
glory to Christ our gracious King.
(Refrain)

Text: Bob Kauffman, b. 1955; Tim Chester, b. 1967

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THE WORD

First Lesson

They didn't persecute Daniel because of theses nailed to a church door; they didn't accuse him because of stirring words spoken over a pile of condemned books. They persecuted Daniel because he

Daniel 6:10-12,16-23

prayed in his home. Daniel made a bold confession and faithful witness with his knees. No godless king or immutable law would change the homage due to God. No threats, no pain, not even death would change Daniel's loyalty to the Word of God that called on him to worship the LORD his God only. So Daniel went home and prayed, just as he had done before. He was faithful, even in the face of certain persecution. For the Christian, most persecution doesn't come from public writings like Luther, but from private acts like Daniel. We live our faith and are persecuted because of it. We don't face a den of lions, but persecution abounds when we're faithful to the Word. We lose relationships because of moral purity; we lose promotions because of worship priorities; we lose friendships because we won't join in sinful talking or walking. Faithfulness to God's Word in the face of persecution requires trust. God shut the lions' mouths to answer the king's question: Is your God able to rescue you? Yes, he is. God shut the lions' mouths to show his Church of all the ages that God is able to guard and keep his own. You can trust him and be faithful to his Word in the face of any persecution.

¹⁰ Now when Daniel learned that the decree had been published, he went home to his upstairs room where the windows opened toward Jerusalem. Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God, just as he had done before. ¹¹ Then these men went as a group and found Daniel praying and asking God for help. ¹² So they went to the king and spoke to him about his royal decree: "Did you not publish a decree that during the next thirty days anyone who prays to any god or human being except to you, Your Majesty, would be thrown into the lions' den?"

The king answered, "The decree stands—in accordance with the law of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be repealed."

¹⁶ So the king gave the order, and they brought Daniel and threw him into the lions' den. The king said to Daniel, "May your God, whom you serve continually, rescue you!"

¹⁷ A stone was brought and placed over the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet ring and with the rings of his nobles, so that Daniel's situation might not be changed. ¹⁸ Then the king returned to his palace and spent the night without eating and without any entertainment being brought to him. And he could not sleep.

¹⁹ At the first light of dawn, the king got up and hurried to the lions' den. ²⁰ When he came near the den, he called to Daniel in an anguished voice, "Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to rescue you from the lions?"

²¹ Daniel answered, "May the king live forever! ²² My God sent his angel, and he shut the mouths of the lions. They have not hurt me, because I was found innocent in his sight. Nor have I ever done any wrong before you, Your Majesty."

²³ The king was overjoyed and gave orders to lift Daniel out of the den. And when Daniel was lifted from the den, no wound was found on him, because he had trusted in his God. (NIV)

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 46

(Thursday) The Congregation sings the refrain and verses.

(Sunday only) The choir sings the verses. The Congregation and choir sing the refrain.

Refrain



The might-y Lord is with us; the God of Ja-cob is our for-tress.

Psalm tone



God is our refuge and strength,*
an ever-present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way*
and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,

though its waters roar and foam*
and the mountains quake with their surging.

Refrain

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,*
the holy place where the Most High dwells.

God is within her, she will not fall;*
God will help her at break of day.

“Be still, and know that I am God;*
I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.”

**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.**

Refrain

Refrain Tune: Dale Wood. From *Seasonal Psalms*. © 1978 Augsburg Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress.

Second Lesson

2 Timothy 4:9-18

Paul learned firsthand that faithfulness to the Word of God brought persecution. His former brothers had abandoned him; his enemies had not stopped hounding him. Though he was by himself, Paul was never alone. Jesus stayed by his side and in Paul fulfilled the promises of both the First Lesson and the Gospel. Consider Paul's confidence that God will rescue him from every evil attack—the point is not a rescue from danger, but rather a rescue through danger to the heavenly kingdom. Paul knew that even if he died for Christ, God would rescue him from that evil attack and bring him to heaven.

⁹ Do your best to come to me quickly, ¹⁰ for Demas, because he loved this world, has deserted me and has gone to Thessalonica. Crescens has gone to Galatia, and Titus to Dalmatia. ¹¹ Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, because he is helpful to me in my ministry. ¹² I sent Tychicus to Ephesus. ¹³ When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, and my scrolls, especially the parchments.

¹⁴ Alexander the metalworker did me a great deal of harm. The Lord will repay him for what he has done. ¹⁵ You too should be on your guard against him, because he strongly opposed our message.

¹⁶ At my first defense, no one came to my support, but everyone deserted me. May it not be held against them. ¹⁷ But the Lord stood at my side and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. And I was delivered from the lion's mouth. ¹⁸ The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen. (NIV)

Verse of the Day

M: Alleluia. If you continue in my Word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free. Alleluia. (John 8:31,32)

Stand

Gospel

Matthew 10:16-23

Throughout the history of the Church, the story of faithfulness to the Word of God has always been the story of persecution. And rightly so, because Jesus promised it! Who would send defenseless sheep into a world of ravenous wolves? It makes no sense, yet that is precisely the plan that Jesus describes for his Church. It makes no sense—unless you are the Good Shepherd who wants his sheep to utterly depend on him. Our trust in Jesus doesn't guarantee an absence of persecution, but faithfulness in spite of it. We will witness to the Word of God before brothers, fathers, children, governors and princes. Jesus promised, "All men will hate you because of me, but he who stands firm to the end will be saved." What comfort that must have been for Martin Luther, whose faithful witness caused him to be expelled from his order, excommunicated from his church, and outlawed from his empire. Before the kings and princes of Europe, Luther gave faithful witness at Worms: "Here I stand. I can do no other. God help me. Amen."

¹⁶ "I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves. ¹⁷ Be on your guard; you will be handed over to the local councils and be flogged in the synagogues. ¹⁸ On my account you will be brought before governors and kings as witnesses to them and to the Gentiles. ¹⁹ But when they arrest you, do not worry about what to say or how to say it. At that time you will be given what to say, ²⁰ for it will not be you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.

²¹ "Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child; children will rebel against their parents and have them put to death. ²² You will be hated by everyone because of me, but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved. ²³ When you are persecuted in one place, flee to another. Truly I tell you, you will not finish going through the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes. (NIV)

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be Seated

Hymn of the Day

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God Hymn 200



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, A trust - y shield
 2 With might of ours can naught be done; Soon were our loss
 3 Though dev - ils all the world should fill, All ea - ger to
 4 The Word they still shall let re - main, Nor an - y thanks



and weap - on; He helps us free from ev - 'ry need
 ef - fect - ed. But for us fights the val - iant one
 de - vour us, We trem - ble not, we fear no ill;
 have for it; He's by our side up - on the plain



That has us now o'er - tak - en. The old
 Whom God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask,
 They shall not o - ver - pow'r us. This world's
 With his good gifts and Spir - it. And do



e - vil foe Now means dead - ly woe;
 "Who is this?" Je - sus Christ it is,
 prince may still Scowl fierce as he will,
 what they will— Hate, steal, hurt, or kill—



Deep guile and great might Are his dread arms in fight;
 The al - might - y Lord. And there's no oth - er God;
 He can harm us none. He's judged; the deed is done!
 Though all may be gone, Our vic - to - ry is won;



On earth is not his e - qual.
 He holds the field for - ev - er.
 One lit - tle word can fell him.
 The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. composite.
 Tune: EIN FESTE BURG (87 87 55 56 7) Martin Luther, 1483–1546.

Stand

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there 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 everlasting. Amen.**

Be Seated

Please sign the friendship register located in your pew.

Offering

Stand

Guests please don't feel a necessity to give an offering today. *"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver"* (2 Corinthians 9:7).

Prayer (*using Luther's explanations of the Lord's Prayer*)

M: I invite you to lift up your hearts to God and pray with me the Lord's Prayer as Christ our Lord taught us.

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

M: Here we pray that God our Father in heaven would look with mercy on all his children on earth. We ask him to give us grace that we might proclaim his Word faithfully and live our lives according to his will, for then we show that his name is precious to us. We also pray that he would keep us from any teaching and living which would dishonor his name.

C: Your kingdom come.

M: We pray that his kingdom and the rule of his grace might come to us and grow in us each day; that all who are still captives in Satan's kingdom might be brought to know Jesus Christ, his Son, so that the Christian Church might grow and prosper.

C: Your will be done on earth as in heaven.

M: We pray that the Holy Spirit would strengthen us to do and accept God's will in life and death, in good times and in bad, and that we might have power to put down our own sinful will and its desires.

C: Give us today our daily bread.

M: We pray that our Father would also give us our daily bread, preserve us from greed and selfish desires, and help us to trust that he will provide for all our needs.

C: Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

M: We ask that God would forgive our sins as we forgive those who sin against us so that our hearts may rest and rejoice in a good conscience before him, and that no sin may ever frighten or alarm us.

C: Lead us not into temptation.

M: We pray here that God would protect us from all temptations and help us by his Spirit to put down our sinful flesh, to despise the world and its vices, and to overcome the devil and all his trickery.

C: But deliver us from evil.

M: And finally, we pray that God would deliver us from all evils of body and soul now and forever.

C: For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

M: All those who sincerely desire these things will say from their hearts "Amen," trusting without doubt that their prayers are answered in heaven, as Christ has promised: "Whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you will receive it, and it will be yours."

M: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

Benediction

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen

Be Seated

Hymn

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word Hymn 203



1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in your Word; Curb those who
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, your pow'r make known, For you are
3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, Send peace and



by de - ceit or sword Would seek to o - ver - throw your
Lord of lords a - lone; De - fend your Chris - ten - dom that
u - ni - ty on earth. Sup - port us in our fi - nal



Son And to de - stroy what he has done.
we May sing your praise e - ter - nal - ly.
strife, And lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. composite.

Tune: ERHALT UNS, HERR (LM) Klug, *Geistliche Lieder zu Wittenberg*, Wittenberg, 1543, alt.