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**Dennis J. Lauritsen, Pastor**  
**David B. Richards, Parish Musician**  
**Karen Rouleau, Administrative Assistant**



## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*During the Prayers of Intercession, you are invited to add your own prayer(s) either in speech or in silence as indicated by the line: "Other intercessions may be added here." You may wish to use this insert to write down your prayer(s) which you may then offer aloud during that time. If you wish to have your prayers added to the Prayer of the Church during the coming weeks, please remove and place this card in the offering plate.*

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REFORMATION SUNDAY  
October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020 ✚ 10:15 a.m.

*Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.*

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**HOLY COMMUNION**  
*EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP*

**GATHERING**

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*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

**PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**  
and **PRELUDE**

**\*ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *Silence is observed for reflection and self-examination.*

Most merciful God, we confess that we are in bondage 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**

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

\*GATHERING HYMN

*Amazing Grace*  
(Sung by leader.)

- 1     Amazing grace! how sweet the sound  
      that saved a wretch like me!  
      I once was lost, but now am found;  
      was blind, but now I see.
  
- 2     'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
      and grace my fears relieved;  
      how precious did that grace appear  
      the hour I first believed!
  
- 3     Through many dangers, toils, and snares  
      I have already come;  
      'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,  
      and grace will lead me home.
  
- 4     The Lord has promised good to me;  
      his word my hope secures;  
      he will my shield and portion be  
      as long as life endures.
  
- 5     When we've been there ten thousand years,  
      bright shining as the sun,  
      we've no less days to sing God's praise  
      than when we'd first begun.

Text: John Newton, 1725-1807, alt., sts. 1-4; anonymous, st. 5

\*GREETING

The grace that is Christ's gift to us, the love of God, and the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace be with you all.

**And also with you.**

\*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Gracious Father, 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.**

## WORD

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*God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

### 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.*

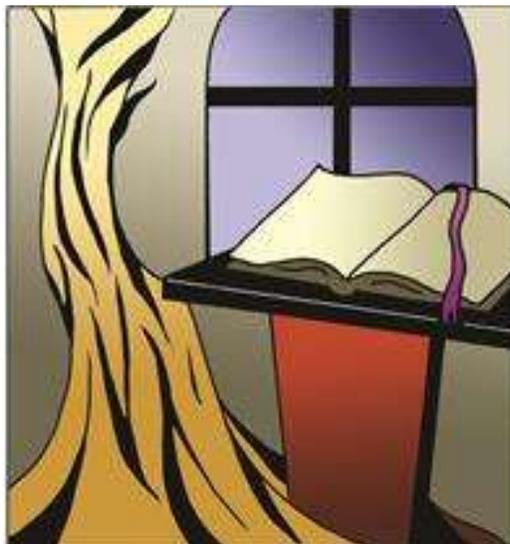
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### 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.*

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**



The Holy Gospel according to St. John...  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

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

The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

\*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

With confidence in God's grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need. *A brief silence is observed.*

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 earth as a holy habitation for all living things. Sustain all peoples and lands recovering from natural disasters of any kind. 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. Grant healing touch to those who are ill, especially... Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In this family of faith we give thanks for courageous voices that have remained firm in their commitment to the One who frees us from sin and death. Centered in your grace, unify us in the hope of the gospel. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered in silence or spoken softly.*

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, and all whom we name before you, especially... 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.**

**\*PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

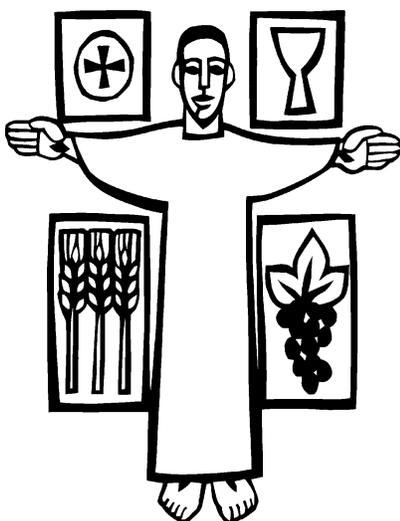
**MEAL**

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*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray. Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever. **Amen.**



## \*DIALOGUE

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 him 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 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 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.**



## \*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,  
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,  
who preached good news to the poor,  
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,  
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,  
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,  
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be all honor and glory, now and forever.

**Amen.**



**\*LORD'S PRAYER**

*Spoken softly by the congregation.*

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

**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**

**\*INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Friends of Jesus, come to the table. Receive nourishment for your journey.

**DISTRIBUTION**

**\*BLESSING**

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

**\*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Let us pray. God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## SENDING

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*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

### \*BLESSING

May God, whose power working in us  
can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine,  
grant you the gifts of faith and hope.  
Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever. **Amen**



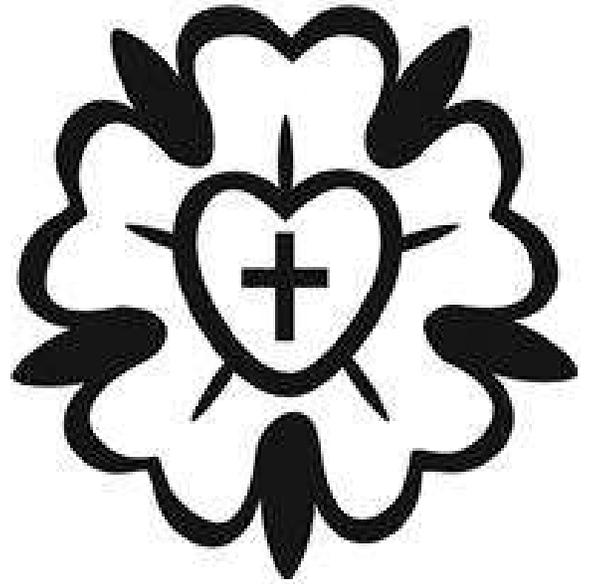
### \*SENDING HYMN

*Mighty Fortress Is Our God*  
(Sung by leader.)

- 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!



**\*DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve.  
**Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

*Zigeunerbaron*

J. Strauss

**SERVING IN THE LITURGY**

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PREACHING AND PRESIDING MINISTER

Dennis Lauritsen, pastor

ASSISTING MINISTER

Vicki Michaels

MUSIC MINISTER

David Richards

SERVICE LEADER

Jane Lauritsen

LECTOR

Matt Decosola

GREETERS

Fred Kuzel and Charles Matthies

USHER

Fred Kuzel

ALTAR CARE AND SACRISTAN

Janice Hapgodd

## PRAYER LIST

### *Members of the Congregation:*

Anne Gavac, Helen Gaydusek, Elaine Haase, Shirley Kostelny, Robert Melnyk, Dot Myers, Steve Podzamsky, Mary Sasuta, Bob Skudrna and Olga Zavodny

### *Friends and Relatives of the Congregation:*

Kelly Alvey, Paul Bakke, Wally Bisping, Mary Costello, Les Cudzik, Ramona Daus, Eric Dennison, Sue Doyle, Fernando Freire, Denise Fricano, Jacob Kavicky, Nicole Kisiel, Rev. James Kuemmerle, Daryle Lauritsen, Delores Linden, Darlene Loughlin, Michele Mason, Donald Neal, Danny Orozco, Pat Pileggi, Alice Puglise, John Racek, Dr. Craig Reckard, Dale Renville, Sandy Rossella, David Richards, Rev. Dave Stefanson, Jim Sward, Harvey Swenson, Jacob Swenson, Gertrude Tarbox, Janie Tarbox, Ralph Thompson, Mark Van Scharrel, Kyle Schardt, and Taz Zajac.

## MEMORIAL FLOWERS

The flowers at the Lord's Table today are given in memory of mother and grandmother **+Betty Zittman+** on the 34<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her passing by remembering children and grandchildren; and in loving memory of dear husband **+Edward Meksto+** on the 66<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our marriage on October 23<sup>rd</sup> by remembering wife Esther.

## UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Simon and Jude, Apostles

Wednesday, October 28<sup>th</sup>

*We know little about these apostles. Simon is listed as "the zealot" or Cananean in New Testament lists. Jude, also called Thaddeus, asked Jesus at the last supper why he had revealed himself to the disciples but not to the world.*

Reformation Day

Saturday, October 31<sup>st</sup>

*By the end of the seventeenth century, many Lutheran churches celebrated a festival commemorating Martin Luther's posting of the Ninety-five Theses, a summary of abuses in the church of his time. At the heart of the reform movement was the gospel, the good news that it is by grace through faith that we are justified and set free.*