

REFORMATION SUNDAY

October 25, 2020

9:00 a.m.

PRELUDE “A Mighty Fortress” arr. Rich Hefler Luis Ramirez, Violin
Carla Barrows, Organ

WELCOME Pastor Michael P. Dorn, Senior Pastor

OPENING HYMN “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” LSB 657

ALL: 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.

SOLO: *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.*

ENSEMBLE: Though hordes of devils fill the land All threat’ning to devour us,
We tremble not, unmoved we stand; They cannot overpower 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.

Interlude

ALL: 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!

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

P God is our refuge and strength;
C therefore we will not fear.

P All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,
C and are justified by His grace as a gift.

P If you abide in My word, you are truly My disciples,
C and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Lord of hosts,

C hear our confession of sins and grant us Your mercy and forgiveness. We have not trusted in Your promised protection and strength but have looked elsewhere for help and refuge. You alone have provided the remedy for that which truly causes our separation, troubles, and death. For the sake of Christ, Your Son, our Redeemer, grant us forgiveness and deliverance from all that would keep us from Your present help. We ask it in the name of Jesus.

P There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. Because that river of grace and power has flowed over us in our Baptism into the death and resurrection of Christ, in spite of our fear, the LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

By grace God has created each of us and everything that exists, and in the person of His Son entered our history and paid for our every sin and sin itself. In Christ's resurrection, God's promises have been made sure. 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 ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen. The LORD of hosts is with us! The God of Jacob is our fortress!

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people. Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and deliver us in times of temptation, defend us against all enemies, and grant to Your Church Your saving peace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

EPISTLE READING Galatians 2:15-21; 3:10-14

R The Epistle Reading is from the 2nd and 3rd Chapters of Galatians.

R ¹⁵ We ourselves are Jews by birth and not Gentile sinners; ¹⁶ yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified.

¹⁷ But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we too were found to be sinners, is Christ then a servant of sin? Certainly not! ¹⁸ For if I rebuild what I tore down, I prove myself to be a transgressor. ¹⁹ For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God. ²⁰ I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. ²¹ I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness were through the law, then Christ died for no purpose.

¹⁰ For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, "Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them." ¹¹ Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law, for "The righteous shall live by faith." ¹² But the law

is not of faith, rather “The one who does them shall live by them.”¹³ Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree”—¹⁴ so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith. (ESV)

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY Psalm 46

R The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

P God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

C The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

R There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns. The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; He utters His voice, the earth melts.

C The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

R Come, behold the works of the Lord, how He has brought desolations on the earth. He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; He burns the chariots with fire. “Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!”

C The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

ALLELUIA AND VERSE LSB 156

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

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 11:12-19

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 11th Chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹² From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. ¹³ For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, ¹⁴ and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. ¹⁵ He who has ears to hear, let him hear.

¹⁶ “But to what shall I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to their playmates, ¹⁷ “‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we sang a dirge, and you did not mourn.’”

¹⁸ For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon.’ ¹⁹ The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look at Him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is justified by her deeds.” (ESV)

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

- P** Our faith is in God the Father, the almighty Creator of all that exists. God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way.
- C** **I believe in God, the Father almighty, who has made me and all creatures. He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them. He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil.**
- P** Our faith is in God the Son, whose sacrifice on the cross opens to us eternal life in God's eternal presence. There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;
- C** **I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death. He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity.**
- P** Our faith is in God the Holy Spirit, whose gift of faith gives us eternal peace with God. He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; He burns the chariots with fire.
- C** **I believe in the Holy Spirit, who in the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers. On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Haley Davisson

MESSAGE Pastor Michael P. Dorn

OFFERING ANNOUNCEMENT

(Offerings may be submitted online to www.trinitydt.org, by mail to Trinity Downtown, 800 Houston Ave., Houston, TX 77007 or dropped off at the office, M-F, 8:30 - 2:30.)

MUSICAL OFFERING "God of Grace" Ensemble
by Getty and Rea, arr. Larson

*God of grace, amazing wonder, irresistible and free.
O the miracle of mercy, Jesus reaches down to me.
God of grace, I stand in wonder as my God restores my soul;
His own blood has paid my ransom, awesome cost to make me whole.*

*God of grace who loved and knew me long before the world began.
Sent my Savior down from heaven, perfect God and perfect man.
God of grace, I trust in Jesus, I'm accepted as His own;
Ev'ry day new grace sustains me as I lean on Him alone.*

*God of grace, I stand astounded, cleansed, forgiven and secure.
All my fears are now confounded and my hope is ever sure.
God of grace, now crowned in glory where one day I'll see Your face;
And forever I'll adore You in your everlasting grace.*

And forever I'll adore You, in Your everlasting grace.

PRAYERS

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.

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 ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN. "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word" LSB 655

ALL: Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word;
Curb those who by deceit or sword
Would wrest the kingdom from Your Son
And bring to naught all He has done.

ENSEMBLE: *Lord Jesus Christ, Your pow'r make known,
For You are Lord of lords alone;
Defend Your holy Church that we
May sing Your praise eternally.*

ALL: O Comforter of priceless worth,
Send peace and unity on earth;
Support us in our final strife
And lead us out of death to life.

POSTLUDE. "Erhalt uns, Herr" by Michael Burkhardt Carla Barrows, Organ

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