

Reformation Day – Confirmation Day – Sunday October 31st, 2021 – 9:00 am

Music Today

Mark Gould, Luke Schwerer, Keri Bash

AS WE GATHER

Reformation Sunday is not just a special day to celebrate our history by remembering the story of Martin Luther; it is a perfect opportunity to rejoice in the freedom we have been given from sin and death through Jesus Christ alone. By gathering to receive His Word and to share in His Supper, we come to know yet again the eternal Gospel that is being proclaimed to all who dwell on earth. This good news not only sets us free from our captivity to sin and death, but it also enables us to live a life of freedom in Christ and boldly share with others how they, too, may be set free. The same Savior who speaks His Word to us says to all who will listen: "So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed" (John 8:36).


Prelude

Thine is the Glory arr M Burkhardt


Processional Song

Lift High the Cross LSB 837 vv 1-3

Refrain




Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim Till



all the world a - dore His sa - cred name.

1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our Cap - tain trod,
2 Led on their way by this tri - um - phant sign,
3 All new - born sol - diers of the Cru - ci - fied



Our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
The hosts of God in con - qu'ring ranks com - bine.
Bear on their brows the seal of Him who died.

Refrain

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Welcome & Invocation

Confirmation Anthem

Luther's Morning Prayer

Carl Schalk

Confession & Forgiveness

Pastor: With humble hearts, let us approach our Father's throne of grace.

Silence to reflect on our sin and our need for the Savior

Pastor: Together, we pray:

People: Gracious Father, because our entire lives are to be ones of repentance, we bow before You and confess our sins. We have turned away from the truth of Your Word, choosing to go our own way. By what we have thought, by what we have done, and by what we have failed to do, we have broken Your commands and are deserving of Your wrath and punishment. By the mercy of Christ, Your Son, set us free from our captivity. Enable us by Your Holy Spirit to live under You in Your kingdom and to serve You in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness. Amen.

Pastor: Just as Christ is risen from the dead, He lives and reigns to all eternity! It is most certainly true that He died and rose again for you to make you right with God, to adopt you as children of the

heavenly Father, and to set you free from sin and death. As a called and ordained servant of the Word, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: "So if the Son sets you free,

People: you will be free indeed!"

Prayer of the Day

Pastor: Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people.

People: Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth,

Pastor: protect and deliver us in times of temptation,

People: defend us against all enemies,

Pastor: and, through the abiding Word of Your Son,

People: set us free from our sin that we may know Your saving peace;

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Reader

Carolyn Wickert

First Reading

Revelation 14:6–7

(The Gospel is eternal and must be proclaimed everywhere.)

⁶Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people. ⁷And he said with a loud voice, "Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come, and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water."

Reader: This is the Word of our Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading

Romans 3:19–28

(The righteousness of God comes through faith in Jesus Christ.)

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

²¹But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: ²³for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. ²⁶It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

Reader: This is the Word of our Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel Reading

John 8:31–36

(Jesus' truth will set you free.)

³¹So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." ³³They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?"

³⁴Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. ³⁶So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."

Pastor: This is the Word of our Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Rite of Confirmation

Song of the Day

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God LSB 657



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!

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Sermon

FREEDOM!

Pastor Aaron Boerst

Creed – APOSTLE'S CREED Incorporating Psalm 46

Pastor: 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.

People: 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.

Pastor: 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;

People: 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.

Pastor: 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.

People: 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.

Prayers of the Church

Pastor: Lord Jesus, You have freed us from the captivity to sin and death, from the delusion of trying to earn and maintain our own righteousness, and from the chains of condemnation and fear. That is why we rejoice in Your Word: If the Son sets you free,

People: you will be free indeed!

Pastor: Lord Jesus, only Your mercy and grace enable us to know, find, and live in the freedom of Your eternal Gospel. Send Your Spirit upon Your Church that we continue in the truths of the Reformation, and that, to all the peoples of the world, we proclaim this truth: If the Son sets you free,

People: you will be free indeed!

Pastor: Lord Jesus, free us from self-centeredness and pride. Turn our focus toward You first in faith and then toward others in love. Bless all who serve You and others in their homes, in the church, in the workplace, and in our community to rejoice in knowing that if the Son sets you free,

People: you will be free indeed!

Pastor: Lord Jesus, You proclaim freedom for the captives and recovery for those with illnesses. Grant Your healing, in both soul and body, to those we name before You. Rejoicing in Your healing touch, grant that all who receive Your Good News boldly say: If the Son sets you free,

People: you will be free indeed!

O Lord, Hear us now on behalf of those in our congregation and all who stand in need:

Local concerns are added by congregational elder.

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

Sharing Peace

Offering Honduras Alleluia

Presentation of Gifts

Pastor: Heavenly Father, You are the giver of all good things, and Your Word makes clear that every

good and perfect gift comes from You. We ask that You accept these gifts back unto Yourself and use them to Your glory. [*Psalm 145:15, James 1:17*]

People: **Amen.**

Holy Communion

Preface

Pastor: The Lord be with you. [*2 Timothy 4:22*]

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts. [*Colossians 3:1*]

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. [*Psalm 136*]

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

The Words of Our Lord [*Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*]

Proclamation of Christ

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. [*1 Cor. 11:26*]

People: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.** [*Revelation 22:20*]

Lord's Prayer [*Matthew 6:9–13*]

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

People: **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.**

Distribution

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast In Your Word (*Koine*)

Build My Life

Worthy of ev'ry song we could ever sing
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring
Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever breathe
We live for You

Jesus the name above ev'ry other name
Jesus the only one who could ever save
Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever breathe
We live for You
We live for You

Holy there is no one like You
There is none beside You
Open up my eyes in wonder and show me who You are
And fill me with Your heart
And lead me in Your love to those around me

Holy there is no one like You
There is none beside You
Open up my eyes in wonder and show me who You are

And fill me with Your heart
And lead me in Your love to those around me

I will build my life upon Your love
It is a firm foundation
I will put my trust in You alone
And I will not be shaken

I will build my life upon Your love
It is a firm foundation
I will put my trust in You alone
And I will not be shaken

Holy there is no one like You
There is none beside You
Open up my eyes in wonder and show me who You are
And fill me with Your heart
And lead me in Your love to those around me

I will build my life upon Your love
It is a firm foundation
I will put my trust in You alone
And I will not be shaken

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Irish Blessing *by Katie Moran Bart*

Benediction [Numbers 6:24-26]

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

Announcements

Sending Song Lord, Keep Us Steadfast In Your Word LSB 655

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 wrest the king-dom from Your
Lord of lords a-lone; De-fend Your ho-ly Church that
u-ni-ty on earth; Sup-port us in our fi-nal
Son And bring to naught all He has done.
we May sing Your praise e-ter-nal-ly.
strife And lead us out of death to life.

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