# Lord's Day Worship

A DIVINE SERVICE OF COVENANT RENEWAL

## **REFORMATION SUNDAY**

October 31, 2021

**PRELUDE** 

#### PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Quiet our minds, O God, and gladden our hearts; that, as we come together to worship you, we may draw near to your presence and find that this place is indeed the very gate of heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SILENT PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

# GOD CALLS US

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 68:19, 32-35

†HYMN OF PRAISE

†SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF PRAISE

Pastor: We gather to worship in the Name of the Father, and of the

Son, and of the Holy Spirit!

People: Amen!

The LORD be with you!

And also with you! Ruth 2:4

Our help is in the name of the LORD,

The maker of heaven and earth! Ps. 124:8

For we have died, and our life is hidden with Christ in God.

When the Christ who is our life appears, Col we also will appear with him in glory. Alleluia! 3:3-4

Let us pray together:

Almighty God, unto 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 Christ our Lord. Amen!

# GOD CLEANSES US

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty, eternal God and Father, we confess and acknowledge that we, alas, were conceived and born in sin, and are therefore inclined to all evil and slow to all good; that we transgress your holy commandments without ceasing, and ever more corrupt ourselves. But we are sorry for the same, and beseech your grace and help.

+Silent Prayer of Confession +

Wherefore have mercy upon us, most gracious and merciful God and Father, through your Son our Lord Jesus Christ. Grant to us and increase in us your Holy Spirit, that we may recognize our sin and unrighteousness from the bottom of our hearts, attain true repentance and sorrow for them, die to them wholly, and please you entirely by a new and godly life. Amen.

## †DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Now lift up your heads, and hear these words of comfort and good news from the Scriptures...

"This is a worthy saying, and deserving of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners."

1 Timothy 1:1.

Our heavenly Father, in his great mercy, has given his only Son to die for you, and for his sake forgives you all your sins; wherefore as Christ's minister and by his authority, I declare to you that all of your sins are forgiven, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

## People: Amen!

## GOD CONVERSES WITH US

OLD TESTAMENT READING
This is the Word of the Lord.  Thanks be to God!
NEW TESTAMENT READING
This is the Word of the Lord.  Thanks be to God!
†Gospel Reading John 13:1-9
This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ!
Praise be to you, O Christ!
†HYMN OF PRAISE
"I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art" Selection 168
†We Respond by Confessing Our Faith Martin Luther's Small Catechism (1529)

†We Respond by Confessing Our Faith.... Martin Luther's Small Catechism (1529) I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that 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 also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life. He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and

live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity.

I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian church He 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. Amen!†

"Jesus, Our Unfailing, Eternal Servant-Priest"....... Pastor Josh Anderson XIX. Exposition of the Epistle to the Hebrews

# GOD COMMUNES WITH US

†COMMUNION HYMN
"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates!"..... Selection 198

†The Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord!

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise!

Pastor:

It is indeed right and good and a joyful thing, always and everywhere, to give thanks unto you, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God. Therefore, with the angels and the archangels, and with all the company of heaven, along with the whole church on earth, we laud and magnify your glorious name, ever more praising you, and saying:

All: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts; heaven and

earth are full of your glory. Glory be to you, O

Lord Most High!

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Prayer of Preparation & Faith

We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your steadfast love, which endures forever. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord, whose character is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Father, to partake of the body and blood of your son Jesus Christ, that we may grow into his likeness, and evermore abide in union with him, and he with us. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Bread

Pastor: Alleluia, Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us:

All: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

‡Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Wine

Pastor: Let us confess the mystery of our faith:

All: Christ has died, Christ is risen,

Christ will come again!

## **GOD COMMISSIONS US**

## †Prayer of Dedication

All gracious God, who of your infinite love gave your only begotten son, Jesus Christ, to die for our sins and rise again for our justification, and have made us partakers of your divine nature through the gift of the Holy Spirit; accept the fruits of our labors which we now present to you in this offering and also our very selves as we stand before you; and hear us as we pray as your Son taught us: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen!

†Hymn of Praise	
"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"	Selection 92

#### †Pastoral Benediction

Pastor: The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face

shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his

face toward you and give you peace.

People: Amen!

†Those who are able are invited to stand

Note: Our opening collect ("Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open...") is taken from the original English Book of Common Prayer in 1549 and was penned by the English Reformer Thomas Cranmer. Our prayer of confession of sin is taken directly from the Strasburg liturgy of Martin Bucer, written and used for the first time in 1539. Our confession of faith is taken from the Martin Luther's Small Catechism, a Reformation document written in Germany in 1529.

All four of our hymns this morning were also written and sung during the period of the 16th and 17th century Protestant Reformation. In particular, our second hymn, "I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art" comes out of Calvin's Geneva around 1550, and our closing hymn, "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God," was written by Martin Luther in 1529.

## Hebrews 7:20-28

[20] And it was not without an oath. For those who formerly became priests were made such without an oath, [21] but this one was made a priest with an oath by the one who said to him:

"The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind, 'You are a priest forever.'"

[22] This makes Jesus the guarantor of a better covenant.

[23] The former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office, [24] but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. [25] Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

[26] For it was indeed fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. [27] He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people, since he did this once for all when he offered up himself. [28] For the law appoints men in their weakness as high priests, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever.

## Q. 44. How doth Christ execute the office of a priest?

A. Christ executeth the office of a priest, in his once offering himself a sacrifice without spot to God, to be a reconciliation for the sins of the people; and in making continual intercession for them.

## Q. 55. How doth Christ make intercession?

A. Christ maketh intercession, by his appearing in our nature continually before the Father in heaven, in the merit of his obedience and sacrifice on earth, declaring his will to have it applied to all believers; answering all accusations against them, and procuring for them quiet of conscience, notwithstanding daily failings, access with boldness to the throne of grace, and acceptance of their persons and services.

-Westminster Larger Catechism (1647)

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Reformation Sunday

October 31, 2021