**St Olaf Lutheran Church**

**Sunday, October 30, 2022**

**Reformation Sunday**

*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.*

**Welcome & Announcements**

**\*Confession & Forgiveness**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,

who is eager to forgive

and who loves us beyond our days.

**Amen.**

Dear friends, together let us acknowledge

our failure to love this world as Jesus does.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of mercy and forgiveness,

**we confess that sin still has a hold on us.**

**We have harmed your good creation.**

**We have failed to do justice,**

**love kindness,**

**and walk humbly with you.**

**Turn us in a new direction.**

**Show us the path that leads to life.**

**Be our refuge and strength on the journey,**

**through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.**

**Amen.**

Beloved of God:

your sins are forgiven ☩ and you are made whole.

God points the way to new life in Christ,

who meets us on the road.

Journey now in God’s abiding love

through the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

**\*Hymn** *A Mighty Fortress is Our God* **ELW 504**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

**\*Kyrie pg** **138**

**\*Prayer of the Day**

**Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

*Please be seated*

**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.*

31The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. 32It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. 33But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 34No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

L: Word of God. Word of Life

**C: Thanks be to God**

**Psalm: Psalm 46**

*The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold. (Ps. 46:7)*

1God is our ref- **|** uge and strength,  
  a very present **|** help in trouble.  
 2**Therefore we will not fear, though the | earth be moved,**  
  **and though the mountains shake in the depths | of the sea;**  
 3though its waters **|** rage and foam,  
  and though the mountains tremble **|** with its tumult.  
 4**There is a river whose streams make glad the cit- | y of God,**  
  **the holy habitation of | the Most High.**  
 5God is in the midst of the city; it shall **|** not be shaken;  
  God shall help it at the **|** break of day.  
 6**The nations rage, and the | kingdoms shake;**  
  **God speaks, and the earth | melts away.**  
 7The Lord of **|** hosts is with us;  
  the God of Jacob **|** is our stronghold.  
 8**Come now, regard the works | of the Lord,**  
  **what desolations God has brought up- | on the earth;**  
 9behold the one who makes war to cease in **|** all the world;  
  who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the **|** shields with fire.  
 10**“Be still, then, and know that | I am God;**  
  **I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted | in the earth.”**  
 11The Lord of **|** hosts is with us;  
  the God of Jacob **|** is our stronghold.

**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.*

19Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. 20For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.  
  
 21But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, 22the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, 23since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; 24they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; 26it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.  
 27Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. 28For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

L: Word of God. Word of Life

**C: Thanks be to God**

**\*Gospel Acclamation** (Alleluia) **pg 142**

**\*Gospel: John 8:31-36**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 8th chapter

**C: 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.*

31Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; 32and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” 33They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free’?”  
 34Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. 35The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. 36So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

P: The gospel of our Lord

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon Pastor Emily**

**\*Hymn** *Lord Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word*  **ELW 790**

**Baptism: *Fallon Leila Potratz* P 227**

**Parents:** Matthew and Kelsey Potratz

**Godparents:** Brad and Angela Maher

**\* Prayers of Intercession**

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

**\*Peace**

**Offering***: Please consider giving an offering for the mission and ministry of St. Olaf. We can continue to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ with your support and generosity. God bless you.*

**\*Offering prayer**

Gracious God,

in your great love you richly provide for our needs.

Make of these gifts a banquet of blessing,

and make us ready to share with all in need;

through Jesus Christ, who sets a table for all.

**Amen.**

**\*Lord’s Prayer**

**\*Blessing**

God, who gives life to all things

and frees us from despair,

bless you with truth and peace.

And may the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,

guide you always in faith, hope, and love.

**Amen.**

**\*Hymn** *Earth and All Stars*  **ELW 731 vs 1-4**

**\*Dismissal**

Go in peace, with Christ beside you.

**Thanks be to God**

**Assisting in Worship**

Presider: Pastor Emily Sauer

Organist/Pianist: Jason Swedlund

Reader: Emmaly Durschmidt

Ushers: Viv Nore, Karla Berg, Doug Kinseth

### Prayers of Intercession

In gratitude and humility, let us join together in prayer on behalf of all of God’s creation.

*A brief silence.*

God our fortress, we pray for the church. Write your law of love on the hearts of your people, that we remain steadfast in our witness to your grace. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God our liberator, we pray for your earth. Bring new life to overused land and contaminated rivers. Reform and reorient our relationship with the environment, that we faithfully care for all of your creation. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God, our refuge and strength, we pray for the nations. Where they are in an uproar, bring wise leadership and comfort for those in distress. Make wars to cease and peace to enter every land. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God, our very present help in trouble, we pray for those in need. Show mercy to refugees and all fleeing from danger. Shelter any without homes. Calm all who are facing illness, surgery, or a new diagnosis. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God our redeemer, we pray for our congregation. Bless all who are preparing for baptism or affirmation of baptism. Open their hearts to your Holy Spirit, teach them your word, and give them courage to proclaim their faith. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God our stronghold, we give thanks for those who have gone before us in faith, especially Martin Luther and all reformers. Renew and reform us as we strive to continue in your word. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

With grateful hearts we commend our spoken and silent prayers to you, O God; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.**