

**St. Olaf Lutheran Church  
Sunday, October 31, 2021  
Reformation Day  
9 am Traditional Service  
Lectionary 31, Year B**

**Prelude**

*“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” - Arr: Gilbert Martin*  
St. Olaf Sanctuary Choir

**\*Introduction**

Jesus states the core of God’s law: love God with all you are and have, and love your neighbor as yourself. The scribe agrees that Jesus has rightly identified the most important commandments, much more important than sacrifices. It’s easy for us to say with the writer of the letter to the Hebrews that sacrifices aren’t needed anymore, but harder to acknowledge that all our worship, all our community service, all our social action, all our family caregiving is worthless if it is done without love.

**\*Confession and Forgiveness**

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
whose teaching is life,  
whose presence is sure,  
and whose love is endless.  
**Amen.**

Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God our comforter:  
**like lost sheep, we have gone astray.**  
**We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity.**  
**We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression.**  
**We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed.**  
**Free us from our sin, gracious God.**  
**Listen when we call out to you for help.**  
**Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves.**  
**Amen.**

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.  
By the gift of grace in † Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous.  
Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.  
**Amen.**

**\*HYMN**                    *“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”*

**ELW 504**  
**Vs. 1&4**

**STATEMENT OF FAITH**

*Braxtyn Dencklau*  
*Jade Flatgard*  
*Landen Grandors*

**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**

**p. 203**

**\*Canticle of Praise** (Glory be to God...)

**p. 204**

**\*Prayer of the Day**

**P:**     Let us pray.

**C:**     **Almighty God, you have taught us in your Son that love fulfills the law. Inspire us to love you with all our heart, our soul, our mind, and our strength, and teach us how to love our neighbor as ourselves, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**  
**Amen.**

*(Please be seated.)*

**STATEMENT OF FAITH**

*Mason Liska*  
*Brayden Reimers*  
*Ellie Schiek*

**\*Gospel Acclamation**

**p. 205**

Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.

Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.

Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

## **\*Gospel: Mark 12:28-34**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 12<sup>th</sup> chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>28</sup>One of the scribes came near and heard [Jesus and the Sadducees] disputing with one another, and seeing that [Jesus] answered them well, he asked him, “Which commandment is the first of all?” <sup>29</sup>Jesus answered, “The first is, ‘Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; <sup>30</sup>you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ <sup>31</sup>The second is this, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.” <sup>32</sup>Then the scribe said to him, “You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that ‘he is one, and besides him there is no other’; <sup>33</sup>and ‘to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,’ and ‘to love one’s neighbor as oneself,’—this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.” <sup>34</sup>When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” After that no one dared to ask him any question.

P: The gospel of our Lord.

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

*(Please be seated.)*

**SERMON**

*Pastor Emily Sauer*

**HYMN of the Day**

*“Be Thou My Vision”*

**ELW 793**  
**Vs. 1&2**

**STATEMENT OF FAITH**

*Ava Sortedahl*  
*Drake Wertz*

**\*AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM**

**p. 235**

**Prayers of Intercession**

P: Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

P; Confident that you hear us, O God, we boldly place our prayers into your hands; through Jesus Christ, our truth and life.

C: **Amen.**

## **\*Peace**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you. (feel free to do an 'air' high five or a peace sign).**

## **Offering**

*Thank you for joining us in worship. At this time we will receive the offering for the mission and ministry at St. Olaf Lutheran Church. Our congregation relies on the generosity of God's people to sustain the work of our Lord. You can give by mailing a check to the church or on our Paypal link [paypal.me/stolaffd](https://paypal.me/stolaffd)*

## **\* Offering Prayer**

God of abundance,  
you cause streams to break forth in the desert  
and manna to rain from the heavens.  
Accept the gifts you have first given us.  
Unite them with the offering of our lives  
to nourish the world you love so dearly;  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

## **\*Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

## **\*Blessing**

People of God,  
you are Christ's body,  
bringing new life to a suffering world.  
The holy Trinity, † one God,  
bless you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

**HYMN**

***“Amazing Grace”***

**ELW 779**

**Vs. 1&2**

**\*Dismissal**

**P:** Go in peace. The living Word dwells within you.

**C:** **Thanks be to God.**

**Assisting in Worship**

Presider:	Pastor Emily Sauer
Fellowship Hosts:	Austin & Rebecca Read
Organist:	Jason Swedlund
Greeters & Ushers:	The Stickrod Family
Van Driver:	Dennis Gross
Sound Tech(s):	Marc Matthes
	Mark Oester
	Robert Younie



**CONGRATULATIONS  
CONFIRMATION CLASS of 2021**

**Braxtyn Parker Dencklau**

Daughter of Luke & Angela Dencklau

Life Verse – Psalm 28:7

The LORD is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts;  
so I am helped, and my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him.

**Jade Lynnee Flatgard**

Daughter of Jeremy & Shana Flatgard

Life Verse – 1 John 4:19

We love because he first loved us.

**Landen Joe Grandors**

Son of Joe & Jodie Grandors

Life Verse – Psalm 143:8

Let me hear of your steadfast love in the morning, for in you I put my trust.

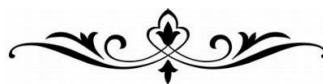
Teach me the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul.

**Mason Thomas Liska**

Son of Shane & Heather Liska

Life Verse – Psalm 37:3

Trust in the LORD, and do good; so you will live in the land, and enjoy security.





**Brayden Michael Reimers**

Son of Jacob Reimers & Ashley Kuker

Life Verse – Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight.

In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

**Ellie Jean Schiek**

Daughter of Michael & Laura Schiek

Life Verse – Psalm 37:5

Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him, and he will act.

**Ava Marie Sortedahl**

Daughter of Clint & Lisa Sortedahl

Life Verse – Romans 10:9

Because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

**Drake Allen Wertz**

Son of Mark & Andrea Wertz

Life Verse – Joshua 1:9

I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

