



RESURRECTION LUTHERAN CHURCH, LCMC

NEW LIFE + FOR NOW + FOREVER   

1735 E Main Street - Mankato, MN 56001 | 507-345-4455

REFORMATION SUNDAY | Sunday, October 29, 2023

PRELUDE

WELCOME *and* ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE INVOCATION *and* GATHERING PRAYER

P: We gather under the sign of the cross, and in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray...

C: O Lord God, heavenly Father, pour out your Holy Spirit upon your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your grace and truth, protect and comfort them in all temptation, defend them against all enemies of your Word, and bestow upon the Church your saving peace; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: A Mighty Fortress Is Our God.....RECLAIM No. 169

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS OF SIN

P: The proof of God's amazing love is this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Because we have faith in him, we dare to approach God with confidence, drawing near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find help in times of need. Christ, the light of the world, has come to dispel the darkness of our hearts. Let us confess our sins.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination

P: Gracious God,

C: We confess the many ways we have failed to live as your disciples. We have not finished what we began. We have feasted with friends but ignored strangers. We have been captivated by our possessions. Lift our burdens, gracious God. Refresh our hearts and

forgive our sin. Raise us to the new life you have chosen for us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: There is rejoicing in heaven when sinners repent. Put your trust in these promises: God will never leave you or forsake you. You, who were lost, are found. Hear the good news of the Gospel: in accordance to the command of our Lord Jesus, and by his authority alone, I forgive you the entirety of all your sins.

C: Amen.

THE HYMN OF THANKSGIVING

The musical score is written in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of five systems of music. The first system is for Soprano (S) and Alto (A) voices, with the lyrics: "Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, Lord God of". The second system continues the vocal line with: "hosts. Heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -". The third system is for piano accompaniment, marked "div." and "unis.", with the lyrics: "san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes". The fourth system continues the piano accompaniment with: "in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the". The fifth system concludes the piece with: "high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est." The piano part features a steady accompaniment with chords and moving lines.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING: Revelation 14:6-7

St. John received a vision from God of the Lamb standing on Mount Zion with saints and angels surrounding him. An angel flew over his head with a message of eternity for every tribe and nation: "Fear God and give him glory," as the time of judgment was upon the people.

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.”

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 46

God was Israel’s help in times of trouble, fully present, creating a fortress around the house of Jacob. Though kingdoms would rise and fall, nothing would keep the Lord of Hosts away from his people.

R: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

C: **Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,**

R: though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

C: **There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.**

R: God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns.

C: **The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts.**

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

C: **Come, behold the works of the Lord, how he has brought desolations on the earth.**

R: 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: **“Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!”**

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

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

SECOND READING: Romans 3:19-28

Paul explained that there is no justification through works of the law. It is solely by faith in Christ that all who believe are made right with God. There is no distinction, as all have fallen short of His glory. The good news of the Gospel is that his gift of forgiveness comes to all who believe.

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.

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -
 - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -
 lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

GOSPEL READING: John 8:31-36

P: The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the 8th Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

³¹So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed 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 practices 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.

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord!

C: Praise to you, O Christ!

SERMON: "Take Off That Mask!"

HYMN OF THE DAY: In Christ Alone.....RECLAIM No. 215

OFFERING PRESENTATION

As the usher brings forward the offering, please stand to sing:



Ac - cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to place up - on your ta - ble.
Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares we lift in prayer be - fore you.



We do not wor - ship as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble.
Lord, by your grace now come to us, as hum - bly we a - dore you.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

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.

P: God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in this peace and in community with one another, let us confess our faith:

I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

CHOIR ANTHEM: All Good Gifts Around Us (arr: Becki Slagle Mayo)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Each petition ends with the words "Lord, in your mercy." Respond by saying, "Hear our prayer."

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

SENDING HYMN: Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word.....RECLAIM No. 71

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace, loving and serving in the name of our crucified and risen Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

THOSE SERVING TODAY

Pastor: Rev. Aaron L. Deutsch

Keyboardist: Nikki Basel

Reader: Pat McGregor

Ushers: Ron and Sue Brooks

Greeters: Bob and Meridel Kellogg

THIS WEEK AT RESURRECTION LUTHERAN

Sunday	October 29	9:30am	Worship
		10:30am	Annual Meeting
Monday	October 30	10:00am	Morning Prayer
Wednesday	November 1	Noon	Lectionary Lunch
		1:00pm	Women's Bible Study
		2:30pm	Worship Committee
		5:30pm	Choir Rehearsal
		6:30pm	Adult Forum
Thursday	November 2	8:00am	Men's Bible Study
Sunday	November 5	9:30am	Worship
		10:30am	Fellowship
		7:30pm	"The Table" Young Adults Group

CONTACT OUR PASTOR

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to Worship! Resurrection Lutheran Church is a Christ-centered and cross-focused member congregation of Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ. To learn more about our association of churches please visit www.lcmc.net. Members and visitors are encouraged to sign the **friendship pad** at the end of your pew before the service begins or during announcements.

Gene and Vivian Ziegler invite you to join them for a **60th Anniversary Open House** this afternoon from 2-5pm at the Rapidan Heritage Hall (55209 190th Street – Mankato). Come, help them celebrate God’s goodness in their lives. No gifts, please.

“The Table” Kicking Off: A new Young Adults Group ministry called “The Table” will launch soon. College aged students as well as young adults (in their 20s and 30s) are invited to join Pastor Aaron for a free meal, good conversation and intentional fellowship. Our first meeting will be next Sunday, November 5th at Jake’s Stadium Pizza (330 Stadium Road - Mankato) at 7:30pm. Spread the word, tell your grandkids, and join us!

The **Annual Meeting** of Resurrection Lutheran Church will be held following worship this morning. Refreshments will be served in the narthex between the end of worship and the start of the meeting. There will not be formal coffee fellowship downstairs after the Annual Meeting is completed.

All Saints Sunday worship is coming up next November 5, 2023. During worship we will remember those near and dear to us who have died in the past year and now rest from their labors in the blessed peace of heaven. If you would like to add a name to the All Saints Sunday litany for November 5th please call, text or email Pastor Aaron.

Gentle Shepherd Ministries invites you to their **2023 Fall Banquet** to be held Tuesday, November 14th from 6:30-8:00pm at Grace Baptist Church in Mankato. A light meal of soup, salad and breadsticks, along with dessert will be served. You’ll hear an update on GSM’s senior and jail ministries, testimonies on how God is at work, and special music. Come, learn more about how to make a difference! RSVP to this free event before November 10th by emailing gsm@infaith.org or calling 507-327-1480.

Birthdays this week: Marlene Kunard (Today)

Anniversaries this week: Dave and Helen Schauer (November 3rd)



The Luther Seal: A Summary of the Gospel

The most enduring symbol of the Lutheran Reformation is the seal that Luther himself designed to represent his theology. By the early 1520s, this seal begins to appear on the title page of Luther's works.

Here is how Luther himself explained its meaning:

"First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10).

It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).

The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).

This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.

Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal."

(Letter from Martin Luther to Lazarus Spengler, July 8, 1530 [WA Br 5:445]; tr. P. T. McCain)