

Celebration of the Reformation  
Sunday, October 25, 2020  
Living Faith Lutheran Church, Davis Bay, BC

Preservice Music/Welcome/Announcements

Order for 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,  
who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation. **Amen.**  
Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Faithful God, **have mercy on us.**

**We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.**

**We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways.**

**We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves.**

**We place our own needs before those of our neighbours.**

**We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves.**

**Make us humble, cast away our transgressions, and turn us again to life in you  
through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen.**

God hears the cries of all who call out in need,  
and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own.

Therefore, hear and take heart from the truth that God proclaims:

Your sins are forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ.

Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness to do God's work in the world. **Amen.**

**GATHERING**

Gathering Song      #505      "A Mighty Fortress is our God"      *A more contemporary translation*

- 1 A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;  
our helper frees us from the flood of mortal ills prevailing.  
For still our ancient foe, forsworn to work us woe,  
with guile and dreadful might is armed to wage the fight: on earth there is no equal.
- 2 If we in our own strength confide, our striving turns to losing;  
the righteous one fights by our side, the one of God's own choosing.  
You ask who this may be: Christ Jesus, it is he, the Lord of hosts by name.  
No other God we claim! None else can win the battle.

- 3 Though all the world with devils fill and threaten to devour us,  
we tremble not, we trust God's will: they cannot overpower us.  
Though Satan rant and rage, in fiercest war engage, this tyrant's doomed to fail;  
God's judgement must prevail! One little word shall triumph.
- 4 God's Word shall stand above the powers, shall end all their thanksgiving.  
The Spirit and the gifts are ours, for God with us is living.  
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;  
though all of these be gone, they yet have nothing won. The kingdom's our forever!

#### Apostolic Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the companionship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. **And also with you.**

#### Prayer of the Day

Gracious God, we pray for your holy catholic church. Fill it with all truth and peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in anything it is amiss, reform it; where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in need, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

### WORD

*The response to "The Word of the Lord" is "Thanks be to God"*

#### First Lesson                      Jeremiah 31:31-34

<sup>31</sup>The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>32</sup>It 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. <sup>33</sup>But 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. <sup>34</sup>No 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.                      *The Word of the Lord*

#### Second Lesson                      Romans 3:19-28

<sup>19</sup>Now 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. <sup>20</sup>For "no human being will be justified in God's sight" by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin. <sup>21</sup>But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, <sup>22</sup>the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, <sup>23</sup>since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; <sup>24</sup>they are now justified by God's grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup>whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith.

God did this to show God's righteousness, because in divine forbearance God had passed over the sins previously committed; <sup>26</sup>it was to prove at the present time that God is righteous and justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

<sup>27</sup>Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. <sup>28</sup>For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law. *The Word of the Lord*

Holy Gospel                      Matthew 22:34-40

*The response to announcement of the Gospel is "Glory to you, O Lord"*

*The response at the end of the reading is "Praise to you, O Christ"*

<sup>34</sup>When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, <sup>35</sup>and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. <sup>36</sup>Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest? <sup>37</sup>He said to him, " 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' <sup>38</sup>This is the greatest and first commandment. <sup>39</sup>And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' <sup>40</sup>On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

Sermon

Hymn of the Day        #666    "What Wondrous Love Is This"

Nicene Creed *This confession of faith dates from the 4<sup>th</sup> century hence its archaic but cosmic language.*

*It is also distinct by its phrase "WE BELIEVE" which denotes a corporate confession rather than the "I BELIEVE" of the Apostles' Creed which is more of an individual/baptismal confession of faith*

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession      *Also known as "Prayers of the Faithful" or "Prayers of the Community"*

With confidence in God's grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need, saying "In your mercy" and responding "**hear our prayer**". *A brief silence.*

In your love, you speak to your church. Give courage and the bond of love to all who gather in your name, that this love turn toward our neighbors. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In your love, you create our earth filled with living things of every kind. Sustain the intricate connections among plants, insects, animals, and organisms we don't even know or recognize. Bless the work of scientists who help us extend neighbor love to the natural world. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In your love, you guide with justice. Inspire leaders for truthful conversations and wise policies, that decisions are made for the good of all. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In your love, you tenderly care for your children and nurse them to health. Bring relief to all those who need healing, hope, or restoration this day (*especially* Evelyn, Bud, Erika, Dorothy, Merv and Marlene, Sharon, Ingrid, Pam, Steinar, Nicholas, Linda, and those we name before you now the silence of our hearts. . .). In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In your love, you accompany us in life's transitions. We pray for new parents, those grieving a loss, those who are retiring, and those embarking on new ventures. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In your love, we remember those who were dear to us and now rest in you whose memories and lives we bring before you now with whispered names. . . . We give thanks for Martin Luther and all who seek to reform and renew your church. Give us courage to live out your gospel, revealing your love until our days on earth have ended. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Listen as we call on you, O God, and enfold in your loving arms all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ our Life. **Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace

Offering Prayer

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.

You have set before us these gifts of your good creation.

Prepare us for your heavenly banquet, nourish us with this rich food and drink, and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world, through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.**

## MEAL

*In this holy meal of oneness (Communion), we are made one with the Christ whose life and presence we share; we are made one with all believers everywhere who are one in Christ; and we are made one with all creation and all creatures who “live and move and have their being” in Christ. For this astonishing gift of grace—grace given to us through the simple gifts of bread and wine—we give thanks to God.*

Opening Dialogue

May God be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift your hearts to heaven. **We lift them up to God.**

Let us give thanks and praise to God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Table Prayer for the Commemoration of the Reformation

We praise you, all-holy God, our maker, our lover, our keeper,  
our Covenant Lord, our Redeemer, the Strength of Truth,

for the universe beyond our knowing, for seas and forests and fields,  
for the waters of Wittenberg and for flowers around this place,

for creatures seen and unseen, for animals both wild and tame,  
for our ancestors and godparents from around the globe,

and for the places we humans call home, for cities and churches and schools,  
for seminaries and missions and fellowship halls.

We praise you for your covenant people, for Moses and Miriam and Aaron,  
for the prophets and the psalmists,

and for centuries of faithful Christians, for Mary Magdalene, Peter and Paul,  
for Luther, Melancthon, Calvin and Zwingli and other reformers,  
for Katie Luther and Cranach, Bach and Nicolai,  
Kierkegaard, Bonhoeffer and Hammarskjöld, for artists, musicians  
and for all servants of the Reformation.

We praise you, O God, for Jesus Christ, who saves us from sin and from evil,  
embodying forgiveness, granting us grace, setting us free,

who on the night before he died, took bread, and gave thanks; broke it,  
and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

And so we remember your Word, his life, death, and his glorious resurrection,  
his presence in this meal around the world.

We pray, O God, for your Spirit, your breath, your fire, your wisdom,  
your law, your grace, your freedom.

Bless this meal and all those who share it; inspire your people for service;  
continue the reformation of your churches;  
and renew the world with your mercy, with your healing,  
your justice, and your peace, with the joy of life in your household.

We praise you, all-holy God, the Father, the Son, the Holy Spirit,  
mighty Fortress, victorious Champion, powerful Shield,  
today, tomorrow, and forever. **Amen!**

Lord's Prayer *With believers of every age and time and place, we pray as Jesus taught us*

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

Fraction (Breaking of the bread)

The gifts of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Invitation to the meal

Come to the banquet table where Christ gives himself as food.

Song during distribution #496 "One Bread, One Body"

*Refrain*

One bread, one body, one Lord of all; one cup of blessing which we bless,

and we, though many throughout the earth, we are one body in this one Lord.

- 1 Gentile or Jew, servant or free, woman or man, no more. *Refrain*
- 2 Many the gifts, many the works, one in the Lord of all. *Refrain*
- 3 Grain for the fields, scattered and grown, gathered to one for all. *Refrain*

*All are invited to this table and this meal. Wafers (only) are placed into the upraised palms of the communicants. Those wishing to receive a blessing rather than a wafer are asked to cross their arms in front of them so the presider may speak a blessing upon them. Please come and go from the table respecting the need for appropriate distance between people seated and/or standing.*

#### Prayer after the Meal

We give you thanks, gracious God, that you have once again fed us with food beyond compare, the body and blood of Christ. Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven, into your beloved vineyard to wipe away the tears of all who hunger and thirst, guided by the example of the same Jesus Christ and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

#### **SENDING**

#### Blessing

May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad! The blessing of God, Sovereign, ✝ Savior, and Spirit, be with you today and always. **Amen.**

Sending Song            #546    "To Be Your Presence"

## To Be Your Presence



1 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion here, to show com -  
2 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion bold, to feed the  
3 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion blest, to speak for  
4 We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice, to serve your



pas - sion's face and lis - t'ning ear, to be your heart of mer - cy  
poor and shel - ter home - less cold, to be your hands of jus - tice,  
all the bro - ken and op - pressed, to be your voice of hope, your  
peo - ple is our call and choice, and in this mis - sion we, the



ev - er near,  
right up - hold, al - le - lu - ia!  
love ex - pressed,  
church, re - jice,

Text: Delores Dufner, osb, b. 1939

Music: ENGELBERG, Charles V. Stanford, 1852-1924

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### Dismissal

Beloved children of God, go in peace and be Christ to all and see Christ in all.

### Postlude