



**Reformation Sunday**

**October 27, 2024 + 9am**

**Zion-Public WiFi password: Zion54484**  
**Congregational responses are in BOLD.**

All are welcome to receive Jesus' unconditional gift of God's grace through the sacrament of Holy Communion. Regardless of your church membership or affiliation, all are encouraged to participate in communion or to come forward for a blessing.

*\*The communion bread is homemade by congregation members and contains gluten and honey. For those with allergies or sensitivities, an alternative will be provided upon request.\**

Children of all ages are encouraged to worship with the whole community in Christ. Children's worship bags are available in the back of the sanctuary.

Page numbers that are listed are found in the front of the cranberry-colored hymnal at the bottom of the page. Hymn numbers are listed in bold, large print on the top of the page.

If you would like home communion, a hospital visit, or a conversation with the pastor, please contact the church office at 715.687.4110 or at [office@zionstratford.org](mailto:office@zionstratford.org) or Pastor Amy Heinz at 608.498.5772 or [pastoramy@zionstratford.org](mailto:pastoramy@zionstratford.org).

**Ministers:** All the People of God through the love of Jesus and the power and gifts of the Holy Spirit

**Pastor:** Rev. Amy Heinz

**Administrative Assistant:** Kathy Busche

**Organists:** Judy Polege, Marge Redetzke, Ryan Huther

**Custodian:** Maryel Schoenfuss

**Missionaries:** Steven & Bethany Friberg, Tanzania

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## PRELUDE

### CENTERING AND BELLS' CALL TO WORSHIP

### WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS / MISSION MOMENT

### We Gather in Grace

#### OPENING LITANY

Almighty God, we pray for your blessing on the church in this place.

Here may the faithful find salvation  
**and the careless be awakened.**

Here may the doubting find faith,  
**and the anxious be encouraged.**

Here may the tempted find help,  
**and the sorrowful find comfort.**

Here may the weary find rest,  
**and the strong be renewed.**

Here may the aged find consolation,  
**and the young be inspired.**

We pray in Jesus' name.

**Amen\*\***

**HYMN**

*"A Mighty Fortress is Our God"*

**ELW 505**

#### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

We begin in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

**Amen.\***

## **GREETING**

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

**And also with you.**

## **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, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

## **We Hear the Word of God**

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

## **FIRST READING**

**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.

## PSALM

## Psalm 46

- <sup>1</sup>God is our refuge and strength,  
a very present help in trouble.
- <sup>2</sup>Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,  
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea,  
<sup>3</sup>though its waters roar and foam,  
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.
- <sup>4</sup>There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
the holy habitation of the Most High.
- <sup>5</sup>God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;  
God will help it when the morning dawns.
- <sup>6</sup>The nations are in an uproar; the kingdoms totter;  
he utters his voice; the earth melts.
- <sup>7</sup>The LORD of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our refuge.
- <sup>8</sup>Come, behold the works of the LORD;  
see what desolations he has brought on the earth.
- <sup>9</sup>He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;  
he breaks the bow and shatters the spear;  
he burns the shields with fire.

<sup>10</sup> “Be still, and know that I am God!  
I am exalted among the nations;  
I am exalted in the earth.”

<sup>11</sup> The LORD of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our refuge.

## **SECOND READING**

**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 will be justified before him by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

<sup>21</sup> But now, apart from the 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 the faith of 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 his 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. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; <sup>26</sup> it was to demonstrate at the present time his own righteousness, so that he is righteous and he justifies the one who has the faith of Jesus.

<sup>27</sup> Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law? That of works? No, rather through the law of faith. <sup>28</sup> For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

## **GOSPEL**

**John 8:31-36**

<sup>31</sup> Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, <sup>32</sup> and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” <sup>33</sup> They

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’?”

<sup>34</sup> Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. <sup>35</sup> The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. <sup>36</sup> So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

**Now and Not Yet**

Rev. Amy Heinz

**HYMN**

*“On Jordan’s Stormy Bank I Stand”*

**ELW 437 v1,3,4**

**APOSTLES’ CREED**

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,**

**he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Almighty God, in the presence of your bounty keep us humble, and in the presence of all people's needs make us compassionate and caring.

*A brief silence.*

We pray for all unhappy lives, those who are bitter and resentful, those who are sensitive to criticism and quick to take offense, those who desire their own way, whatever the inconvenience or cost to others.

May your judgment and mercy be for their healing.

**Hear our fervent prayer.**

We pray for those who are lonely, who are shy and self-conscious, who find it hard to make friends, who ever feel themselves strangers in a world they can scarcely understand.

May your presence inspire confidence and ensure companionship.

**Hear our fervent prayer.**

We pray for those who live with bitter regrets, for loving relationships brought to ruin, for opportunities freely given and woefully abused, for the bitterness of defeat or betrayal at another's hand, or for failure in personal integrity.

May your grace give new hope to find victory at the very scene of failure.

**Hear our fervent prayer.**

We pray for all in illness and pain, weary of the day and fearful of the night. Grant strength to those who suffer and to those who provide care. We pause now to speak their names either aloud or silently in our hearts.

*A brief silence.*

May your touch, embodied in our care, bring healing and wholeness.

**Hear our fervent prayer.**

Bless the company of Christ's body, the church in every land. Make her eager in worship, fearless in the proclamation of the gospel, and passionate for caring.

May your Holy Spirit pour out on all people a living faith in you.



**Hear our fervent prayer.**

Bless our country with compassion for others. Bless our leaders with wisdom and patience. Bless our children with passion for service.

May your loving example bring an end to unhappy divisions and inspire us to live for others.

**Hear our fervent prayer.**

Bless each of us in the communion of the saints, and keep us ever mindful of the great cloud of witnesses who have gone before us and who will come after us. Make our imperfect faith perfect so that we may, at the last, receive the fulfillment promised to your people.

We pray in the great name of Jesus Christ.

**Amen.\*\***

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**We Share the Meal**

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY**

*"We Are an Offering"*

**ELW 692**

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**Ever-present God,  
with this offering we present also ourselves:**

**all that we have been,  
all that we are,  
all that we shall become,  
and our resolve to walk in your way.**

**Accept us and our offering, and nourish us at your table for  
service in Jesus' name.**

**Amen.\*\***

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Almighty and everlasting God, we bless you for your continual love and care for every creature. We praise you for forming us in your image and calling us to be your people. We thank you that you have not abandoned us in our rebellion against your love, but sent prophets and teachers to lead us into the way of salvation. Above all, we thank you for sending Jesus, your Son, to deliver us from the way of sin and death by the obedience of his life, by his suffering upon the cross, and by his resurrection from the dead. We thank you for the Holy Spirit, who leads us into truth, defends us in adversity, and out of every people unites us into one holy church.

Therefore with the whole company of saints in heaven and on earth we worship and glorify you, God most holy, and we sing with joy:\*\*

**SANCTUS**

*“Holy, Holy, Holy”*

**ELW 191**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

## DISTRIBUTION SONGS

*“Lamb of God”*

**ELW p. 146**

*“Break Now the Bread of Life”*

**ELW 515**

*“As We Gather at Your Table”*

**ELW 522**

## BLESSING AND PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

### We Serve the World in God's Name

#### BENEDICTION

May the grace of Christ, which daily renews us, and the love of God, which enables us to love all, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, which unites us in one body, make us eager to obey the will of God until we meet again, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.**

#### CLOSING SONG

*"We All Are One in Mission"*

**ELW 576**

#### DISMISSAL

We go in peace to love and serve our neighbors,  
**with open doors, open hearts, and open hands.**  
**Thanks be to God!**

#### POSTLUDE

## Notes, Prayers, and Thoughts

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## **Zion Lutheran Church**

***Open Doors, Open Hearts, Open Hands***

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