

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH (LC-MS)

Pekin, Illinois

THE FESTIVAL OF THE REFORMATION (OBSERVED)

October 25, 2020

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

HYMN #262 "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

OPENING VERSES

O Lord, open Thou my lips.

And my mouth shall show forth Thy praise.

Make haste, O God, to deliver me.

Make haste to help me, O Lord.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Hallelujah.

PSALM 46

GOD is our refuge and strength, A very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, Even though the earth be removed, And though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea;

Though its waters roar and be troubled, Though the mountains shake with its swelling.

There is a river whose streams shall make glad the city of God. The holy place of the tabernacle of the Most High.

God is in the midst of her, she shall not be moved; God shall help her, just at the break of dawn.

The nations raged, the kingdoms were moved; He uttered His voice, the earth melted.

The LORD of hosts is with us; The God of Jacob is our refuge.

Come, behold the works of the LORD, Who has made desolations in the earth.

He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; He breaks the bow and cuts the spear in two; He burns the chariot in the fire.

Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!

The LORD of hosts is with us; The God of Jacob is our refuge.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Hallelujah.

+ The Catechism Review – Confession

What is Confession?

Confession has two parts.

First, that we confess our sins, and second, that we receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven.

What sins should we confess? **Before God we should plead guilty of all sins, even those we are not aware of, as we do in the Lord's Prayer; but before the pastor we should confess only those sins which we know and feel in our hearts.**

Which are these? **Consider your place in life according to the Ten Commandments: Are you a father, mother, son, daughter, husband, wife, or worker? Have you been disobedient, unfaithful, or lazy? Have you been hot-tempered, rude, or quarrelsome? Have you hurt someone by your words or deeds? Have you stolen, been negligent, wasted anything, or done any harm?**

FIRST READING: Revelation 14:6–7

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."

EPISTLE: Romans 3:19–28

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.

HOLY GOSPEL: John 8:31–36

³¹So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in 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 commits 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.

But Thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us.

Thanks be to Thee, O Lord!

SERMON HYMN #266 “Oh God, Our Lord, Thy Holy Word”

SERMON: “Relax! The Lord Is God!” Psalm 46:10

- I. God is our Justifier.
- II. God is our Protector.

CREED HYMN #252 “We All Believe in One True God”

PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING

THE KYRIE

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

THE 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.

THE SALUTATION

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

SPECIAL PETITIONS

COLLECT FOR REFORMATION DAY

Amen.

COLLECT FOR GRACE (*a.m.*)

Amen.

COLLECT FOR PEACE (*p.m.*)

Amen.

THE BENEDICAMUS

Bless we the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE BENEDICTION

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

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN #261 "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Thy Word"