



**October 25, 2020**  
Reformation Sunday  
Peace Lutheran Church of Plymouth

## GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

## PRELUDE

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CHURCH CHALLENGE

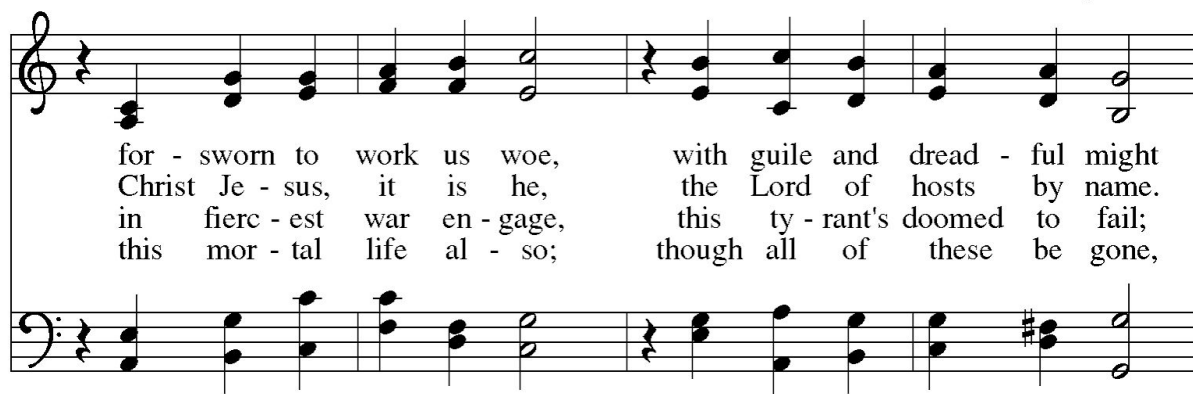
*This week the kids learned about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Luther felt strongly that we are saved by faith and not by our good deeds. Where do you see the word 'faith' in this service?*



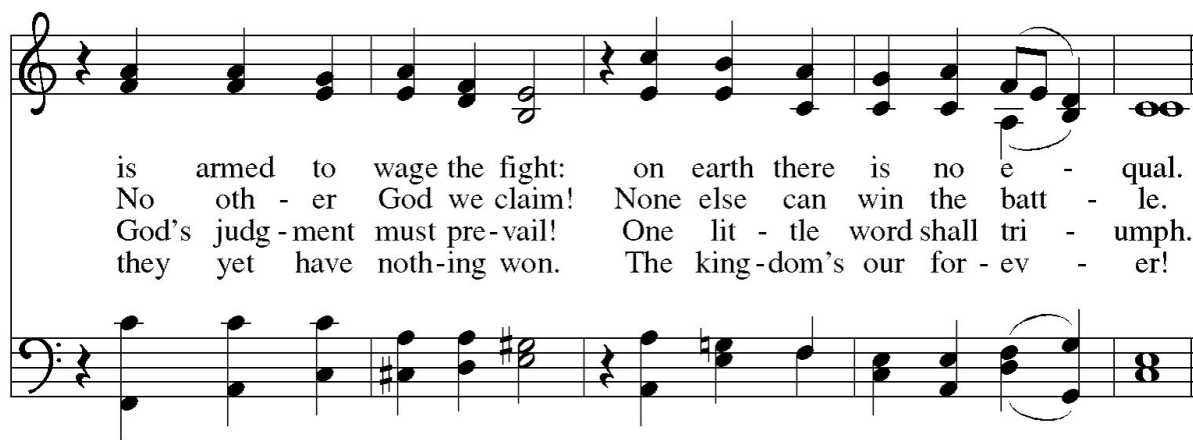
1 A migh - ty for - tress is our God, a bul - wark nev - er  
 2 If we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing turns to  
 3 Though all the world with dev - ils fill and threat - en to de -  
 4 God's Word shall stand a - bove the pow'rs, shall end all their thanks-

fail - ing; our help - er frees us from the flood of  
 los - ing; the righ - teous one fights by our side, the  
 your us, we trem - ble not, we trust God's will: they  
 giv - ing. The Spir - it and the gifts are ours, for

mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For still our an - cient foe,  
 one of God's own choos - ing. You ask who this may be:  
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Though Sa - tan rant and rage,  
 God with us is liv - ing. Let goods and kin - dred go,



for - sworn to work us woe, with guile and dread - ful might  
 Christ Je - sus, it is he, the Lord of hosts by name.  
 in fierc - est war en - gage, this ty - rant's doomed to fail;  
 this mor - tal life al - so; though all of these be gone,



is armed to wage the fight: on earth there is no e - qual.  
 No oth - er God we claim! None else can win the batt - le.  
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word shall tri - umph.  
 they yet have noth - ing won. The king - dom's our for - ev - er!

#### +GREETING

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

**MANY: And also with you.**

#### CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

ONE: When we are honest with ourselves we know our lives contain elements of messiness, brokenness, suffering, and confusion. There are specific events where we have been hurt and where we have hurt others, by actions we have done and left undone. We feel guilt and shame. There are times when we don't feel called and there are times when we don't feel equipped for our callings in family, community, congregation, work, and school.

Let us pause to open our hearts and lay our messy stories before God.

*Silence for reflection...*

ONE: We are not climbing a spiritual ladder. We don't continually improve until we are so spiritual we no longer need God. We die in our sin and are made new. The movement in our relationship to God is always from God to us. God is always coming nearer to us. God loves you, cares for you, and is always with you. We are claimed by God's grace alone and called to lives of service for the well-being of our neighbor and the world God loves. AMEN!

**MANY (refrain):**

Lead me, guide me, a - long the way,  
 For if you lead me, I can - not stray.  
 Lord, let me walk each day with thee.  
 Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

## Verses / Estrofas

1. I am weak and I need thy strength and  
 2. Help me tread in the paths of right - eous -  
 3. I am lost if you take your hand from  
 pow'r To help me o - ver my weak - est  
 ness. Be my aid when Sa - tan and sin op -  
 me, I am blind with - out thy Light to

hour. Help me through the dark - ness thy face to  
 press. I am put - ting all my trust in  
 see. Lord, just al - ways let me thy ser - vant

see. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.  
 thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.  
 be. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

D.C.

#### +PRAYER OF THE DAY

ONE: Gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Spirit on your faithful people, keep us steadfast in your word, comfort us in times of trial, and bestow on your church a hunger for justice and joy. In Jesus Christ we pray,

**MANY: AMEN**

#### WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

#### SCRIPTURE

Ephesians 2:8-9

8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— 9 not the result of works, so that no one may boast.

ONE: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

**MANY: Thanks be to God!**

#### SCRIPTURE

Acts 9:1-19

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?” He asked, “Who are you, Lord?” The reply came, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.” The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, “Ananias.” He answered, “Here I am, Lord.” The Lord said to him, “Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on

him so that he might regain his sight.” But Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.” But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.”

So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

ONE: Word of God, Word of Life.

**MANY: Thanks be to God!**

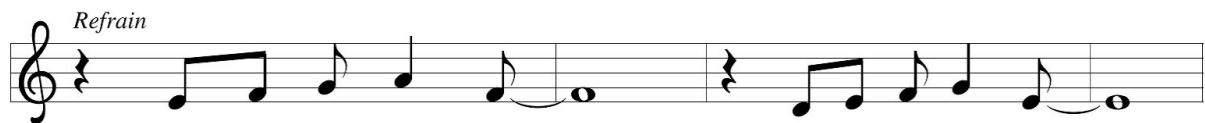
SERMON

Rev. Kjell M. Ferris

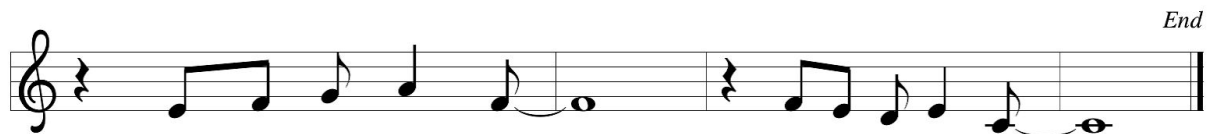
+SONG OF THE DAY

*Change My Heart, O God*

ELW 801



Change my heart, O God; make it ev - er true.



*End*

Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.



You are the pot - ter; I am the clay.



*Refrain*

Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

BLESSING OF THE BIBLES

+APOSTLES' CREED

ONE: With the whole church, let us confess our faith in the Triune God.

**MANY:**       **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 Jesus rose again;  
                  he ascended into heaven,  
                  is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
                  and 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

*Take, Oh Take Me As I Am*

ELW 814

**MANY:**

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of two staves each. The lyrics are: 'Take, oh, take me as I am; sum-mon out what I shall be; set your seal up - on my heart and live in me.' The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final cadence on the last line.

Take, oh, take me as I am;       sum-mon out what I shall be;

set your seal up - on my heart and live in me.

ONE: Merciful God, you love all creation more than we can ever understand and you accept all the human family just as we are. Empower us to move beyond bias and prejudice to love like you. Where there is racism and conflict, bring reconciliation and joy. Lord, we ask you,

**MANY:** *(sung, as above)*

ONE: Blessed Trinity, we come to you, asking for leadership and guidance. As our nation moves to elect leaders, may the results echo Jesus' mission, "to bring good news to the poor." Send us out to be the hands and feet of your gospel. Make us instruments of your peace and justice as we go about our daily lives. Lord, we ask you,

**MANY:** *(sung, as above)*

ONE: God of all times and places, our world knows pain and suffering. Extend your loving hand upon all who seek relief in mind, body, and spirit. Aloud and in the silence of our hearts, we name those people and places in need of your care... Ron Mielke, Priscilla Sampson...

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, so that all people might walk in newness of life through Jesus Christ.

**MANY: AMEN**

+SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

ONE: The peace of Christ be with you all.

**MANY: And also with you.**

ONE: Let us share a sign of God's peace with one another.

MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

OFFERING

*Here I am, Lord*

Daniel L. Schutte  
arr. Jack Schrader

+PRAYER JESUS TAUGHT US

ONE: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us,

**MANY: 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**

SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

+BENEDICTION

ONE: Let us pray together the Prayer of Good Courage.

**MANY: O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN**

+SENDING HYMN

*Fear Not for Tomorrow*

LS 161



1 Fear not for to - mor - row and what it may bring, but  
2 Fear not for to - mor - row and what lies a - head, though  
3 Fear not for to - mor - row, but lift up your voice in



trust in the Lord and o - bey. In joy or in sor - row, in  
fu - ture e - vents be un - known; but wel - come the morn - ing with  
an - thems of glo - ri - ous praise. Give thanks for your bless - ings and



ev - 'ry good thing, the Lord will not lead you a - stray.  
cour - age in - stead, for you will not face it a - lone.  
tru - ly re - joice, for God will be with you al - ways.

*Refrain*



God will take care of you, go ev - 'ry - where with you, al - ways be



there with you day by day. God will pro - vide for you,



be as a guide to you, lov - ing - ly show you the way.

+DISMISSAL

ONE: Go in Peace, serve the Lord.

**MANY: Thanks be to God!**

**Acknowledgements:**

The Confession and Prayers contain elements borrowed from the Vocation Reader, with permission from Westwood Lutheran Church, St. Louis Park, Minnesota.

*ELW 505 A Mighty Fortress is Our God*

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*ELW 768 Lead Me, Guide Me*

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*ELW 801 Change My Heart, O God*

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*Preacher*

*Organist & Pianist*

*Lectors*

*Vocalists*

*Zoom & Livestream Coordinators*

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Anne Phillips

Nora Bonow, Iris Ferris, Sonja Leppa,

Daniel Lukis, Bob Samuelson, Anne Stern

Angela Akhigbe, Stefanie Fiser Kleven

Stefanie Fiser Kleven, Scott Rusten,

Bob Samuelson & Jason Tofteland



**PEACE**  
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