

HOLY COMMUNION
Reformation Sunday

October 31, 2021

8:00 am and 10:30 am

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

SILENT PRAYER

PRELUDE: *Fanfare on "Ein Feste Burg"*

Lehenbauer

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING (ENTRANCE RITE)

Stand

HYMN: *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

Printed on the next page.

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat -'ning to de -
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who

to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
 ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
 your us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
 fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with

wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
 God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
 weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,

has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
 in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
 goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,

he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
 God's judg-ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
 they can - not win the day. The king-dom's ours for - ev - er!

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CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (ABSOLUTION)

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.

P In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Almighty God,
 to whom all hearts are open,
 all desires known,
 and from whom no secrets are hid:
 cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
 by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
 that we may perfectly love you
 and worthily magnify your holy name,
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

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

Kneel/Stand

P Most merciful God,
C we confess that we are captive to sin
and cannot free ourselves.
We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us.
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name.
Amen.

P In the mercy of almighty God,
Jesus Christ was given to die for us,
and for his sake God forgives us all our sins.
As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ,
and by his authority,
I therefore declare to you
the entire forgiveness of all your sins,
in the name of the Father,
and of the ✝ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Stand

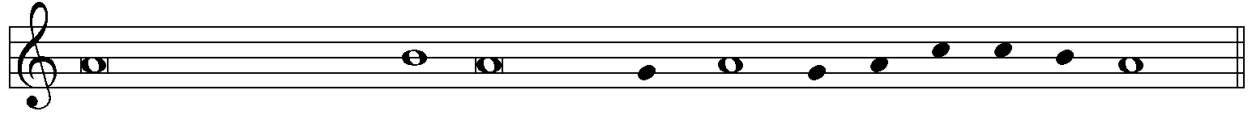
GREETING

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.

KYRIE



A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



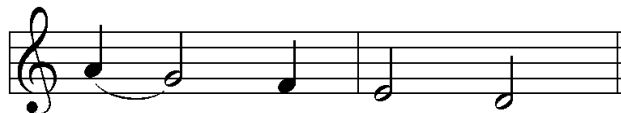
C Lord, have mer - cy.



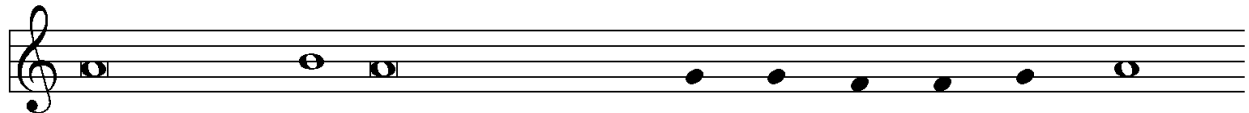
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord. **C** A - men

CANTICLE OF PRAISE (GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO)



A Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



B Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa-ther:



We wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, gracious Lord, pour out your Holy Spirit upon your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your Word, protect and comfort them in all temptations, defend them against all their enemies, and bestow on 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.

C Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Sit

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 31:31-34

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the Lord means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the Lord will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.

A A reading from Jeremiah.

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

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Later service only:

PSALM 46 (*The congregation's verses are printed in bold font.*)

- ¹ God is our ref- | uge and strength,*
a very present | help in trouble.
- ² **Therefore we will not fear, though the | earth be moved,***
and though the mountains be toppled into the depths | of the sea;
- ³ though its waters | rage and foam,*
and though the mountains tremble | at its tumult.
- ⁴ **The Lord of | hosts is with us;***
the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.
- ⁵ There is a river whose streams make glad the cit- | y of God,*
the holy habitation of | the Most High.
- ⁶ **God is in the midst of her; she shall not be | overthrown;***
God shall help her at the | break of day.
- ⁷ The nations make much ado, and the king- | doms are shaken;*
God has spoken, and the earth shall | melt away.
- ⁸ **The Lord of | hosts is with us;***
the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.
- ⁹ Come now and look upon the works | of the Lord,*
what awesome things he has | done on earth.
- ¹⁰ **It is he who makes war to cease in | all the world;***
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear,
and burns the | shields with fire.
- ¹¹ “Be still, then, and know that | I am God;*
I will be exalted among the nations;
I will be exalted | in the earth.”
- ¹² **The Lord of | hosts is with us;***
the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.

SECOND READING

Romans 3:19-28

Paul's words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and the other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ's death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

A A reading from Romans.

¹⁹Now 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. ²⁰For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds

prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The congregation sings the Acclamation.

C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The choir sings the Verse.

If you continue in my word, you are truly | my disciples,
and you will know the truth, and the truth will | make you free.

The congregation repeats the Acclamation.

C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL

John 8:31-36

*Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word.
He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.*

P The holy gospel according to John.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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

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

P The gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sit

SERMON

Pastor Weleck

Stand

Later service only:

HYMN OF THE DAY: *By Grace I'm Saved*

Printed on the next page.

1 By grace I'm saved, grace free and bound-less; My soul, be-lieve and
 2 By grace! None dare lay claim to mer - it; Our works and con - duct
 3 By grace God's Son, our on - ly Sav - ior, Came down to earth to
 4 By grace! This ground of faith is cer - tain; As long as God is

doubt it not. Why stag - ger at this word of prom - ise?
 have no worth. God in His love sent our Re - deem - er,
 bear our sin. Was it be - cause of your own mer - it
 true, it stands. What saints have penned by in - spi - ra - tion,

Has Scrip-ture ev - er false-hood taught? No! Then this word must
 Christ Je - sus, to this sin - ful earth; His death did for our
 That Je - sus died your soul to win? No, it was grace, and
 What in His Word our God com-mands, Our faith in what our

true re - main: By grace you too will life ob - tain.
 sins a - tone, And we are saved by grace a - lone.
 grace a - lone, That brought Him from His heav'n - ly throne.
 God has done De - pends on grace— grace through His Son.

5. By grace to timid hearts that tremble,
In tribulation's furnace tried,
By grace, in spite of fear and trouble,
The Father's heart is open wide.
Where could I help and strength secure
If grace were not my anchor sure?

6. By grace! On this I'll rest when dying;
In Jesus' promise I rejoice;
For though I know my heart's condition,
I also know my Savior's voice.
My heart is glad, all grief has flown
Since I am saved by grace alone.

Stand

The Nicene Creed or the Apostles' Creed may be spoken. The Nicene Creed is appropriate during Advent, Christmas, Easter, and on festival days.

NICENE CREED

P With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

C **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

- A** With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus,
let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.
- A** We pray for the church, for its pastors and other ministers, for the newly
baptized, for all the faithful, for this congregation here gathered, and for our
growth in grace.
Lord, in your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**
- A** We pray for all nations, for all rulers, legislators, and judges, for an increase
of justice in our lands, and for all who work for peace among nations and
among peoples.
Lord, in your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**
- A** We pray for all in any need, for the hungry and the homeless, for victims of
war and injustice, for prisoners, for all who suffer in mind, body, or spirit,
for the sick and infirm, for all with incurable illness, and for all who this day
will die. We pray especially for those we name in the silence of our hearts...
Lord, in your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

- A** We pray for the members of our armed forces wherever they serve, and especially when they serve in harm's way, that they might speedily complete their mission and be safely reunited with their loved ones.
Lord, in your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
- C** **Amen.**

LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR

The Offering will be collected in the Narthex as you leave the church.

OFFERTORY

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your
pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -

store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,

and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks:

P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.

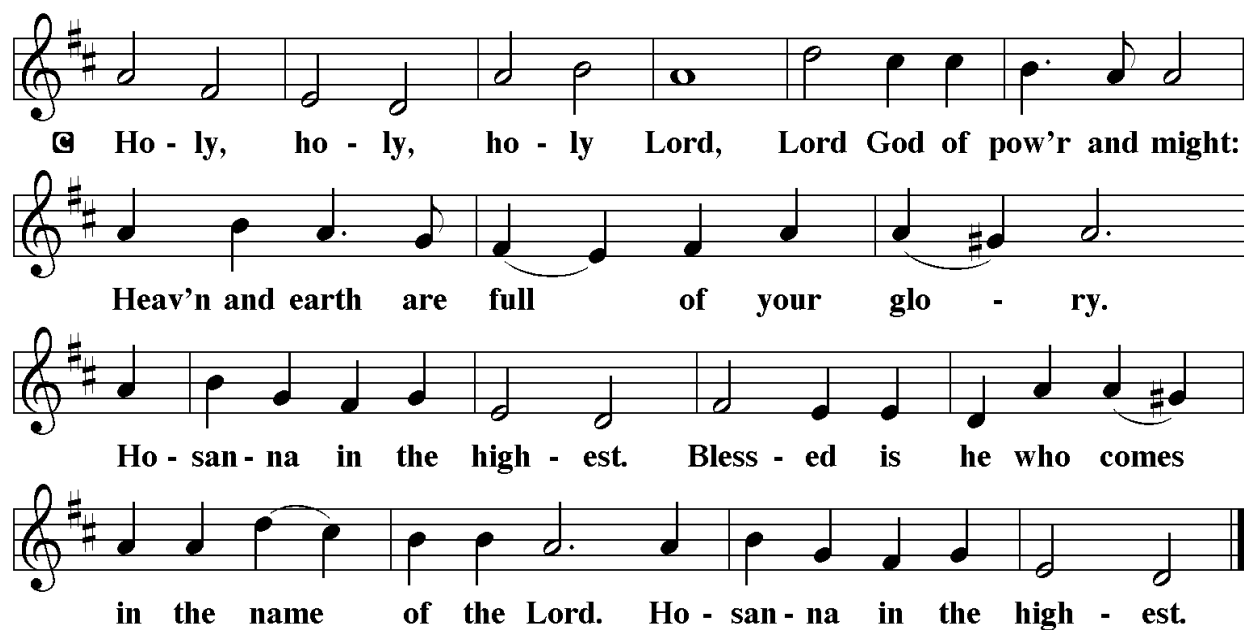
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The minister continues with the PROPER PREFACE:

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... *Here the minister continues with the preface for the day, concluding:* ...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

The assembly sings the SANCTUS:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
 Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
 in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The WORDS OF INSTITUTION are sung to the music Blessed Martin Luther himself composed specifically for this purpose.

[P] IN THE NIGHT IN WHICH HE WAS BETRAYED,
 OUR LORD JESUS 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.

LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray.

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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Behold the Lamb of God,
behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

C **Lord, I am not worthy
that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word
and my soul shall be healed.**

Sit

COMMUNION

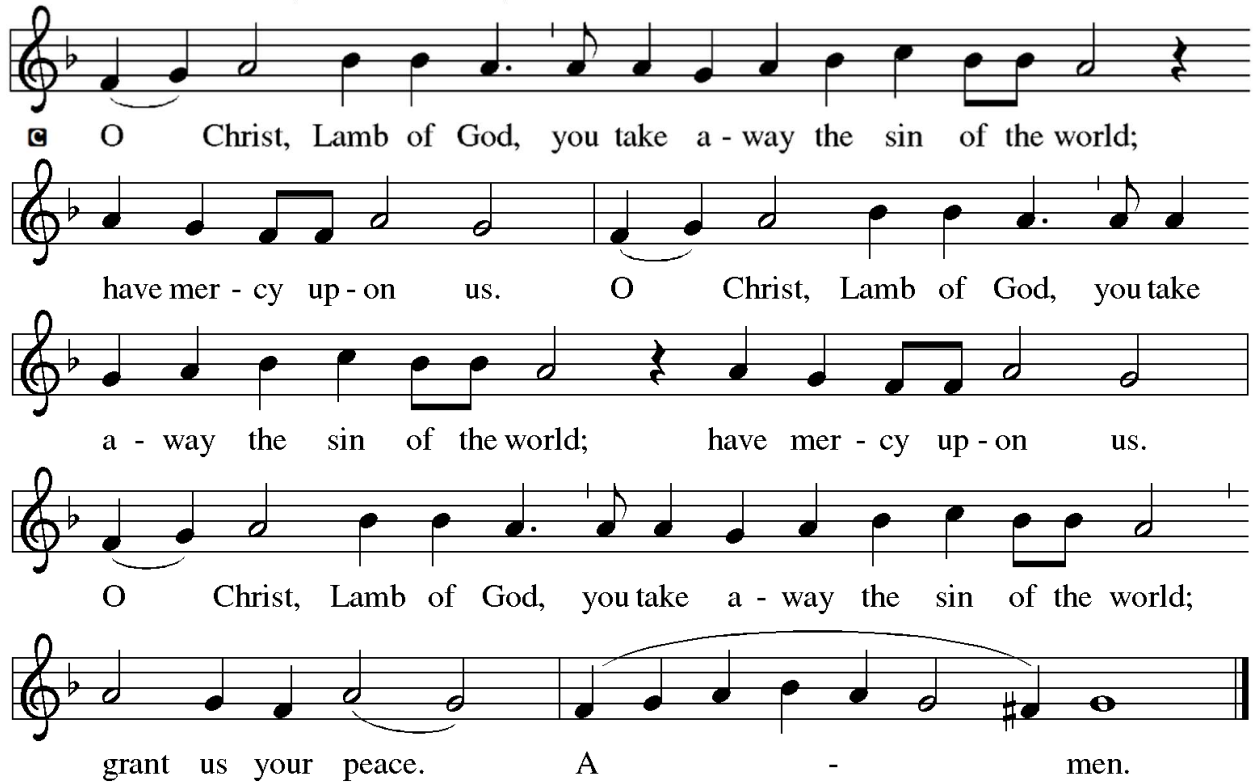
*When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say
The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.
and each person may respond*

R Amen.

We Lutherans believe that the Body and Blood of Christ are “truly and substantially” present “in, with, and under” the forms of bread and wine. We invite to the communion all who are baptized and communing in this or another Christian denomination. We welcome children and others who are not communing to come forward for a blessing.

Music during Communion:

LAMB OF GOD (AGNUS DEI)



O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take
a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy up - on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. A - - - men.

ANTHEM: *God's Son Has Made Me Free*

Grieg

Stand

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

- P** The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C** Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- A** Let us pray.
We give you thanks, almighty God,
that you have refreshed us
through the healing power of this gift of life.
In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift,
in faith toward you
and in fervent love toward one another;
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING (BENEDICTION)



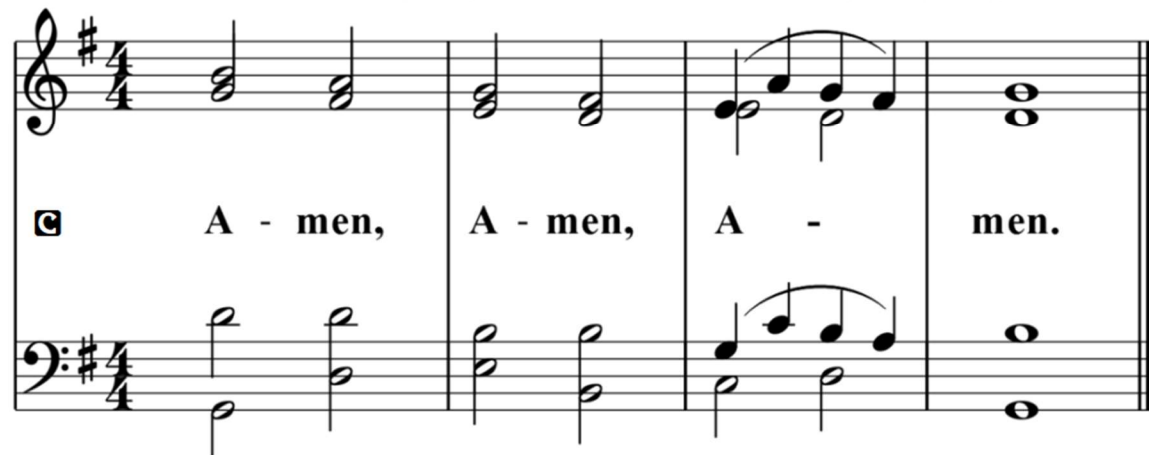
P The Lord bless you and keep you.



The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.



The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.



C A - men, A - men, A - men.

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HYMN: *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less*

Printed on the next page.

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

1 My hope is built on nothing less than
2 When darkness veils his lovely face, I
3 His oath, his covenant, his blood sus -
4 When he shall come with trumpet sound, oh,

Je - sus' blood and right - teous - ness; no mer - it of my
rest on his un - chang - ing grace; in ev - 'ry high and
tain me in the rag - ing flood; when all sup - ports are
may I then in him be found, clothed in his right - teous -

own I claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
storm - y gale my an - chor holds with - in the veil.
washed a - way, he then is all my hope and stay.
ness a - lone, re - deemed to stand be - fore the throne!

Refrain

On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

OFFERING

The offering will be collected as you leave the Church.

POSTLUDE: *Ein Feste Burg*

Groom te Velde



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The liturgical color red is symbolic of both the fire of the Holy Spirit (used on The Day of Pentecost) and the blood of the martyrs (used on Reformation Day and commemorations of saints who died for the faith).



Vestry Members	Special Area	E-mail Address or Phone
Pastor Weleck		pastor@augustustrappe.org
Gary Wessner	<i>President</i>	gtwess@comcast.net
Dick Allebach	<i>Vice President</i>	610-948-3488
Sherry Jessee	<i>Secretary</i>	dsajessee@hotmail.com
Debra Augustine	<i>Mutual Ministry</i>	anniedwebb@verizon.net
Frank DePaul	<i>Property</i>	Fvdp52@gmail.com
Shane Elison	<i>Christian Education</i>	scrabbie1@aol.com
Cathy Engel-Menendez	<i>Trust Fund Treasurer</i>	Cengel70@yahoo.com
Jeannie Funk	<i>General Treasurer</i>	Jeanniefunk@gmail.com
Chilly Lyaro	<i>Christian Education</i>	chillylyaro@yahoo.com
Brian O'Hara	<i>Outreach</i>	Brian.ohara24@gmail.com
Lois Robinson	<i>Worship and Music</i>	Drloisdrobinson1@gmail.com
Janet Stokes	<i>Parish Life/Stewardship</i>	sjastokes@aol.com

Worship Assistants

Vestry Greeters: Janet Stokes, Sherry Jessee and Shane Elison

Ushers: Dick Allebach, Scott Halteman, and Frank DePaul

Lectors: 8:00 am: Laurie Mueller 10:30 am: Sonya Sowards

Altar Guild: Linda Romano and Sally Sweeney

Offering Tabulation: Janet Stokes, Sherry Jessee and Shane Elison

Video Production: Jim Lien, Jeannie Funk, or Jonathan Mueller.

The Flowers that Adorn the Altar in the Brick Church Nave are given to the glory of God in loving memory of Dennis L. Johnson on the anniversary of his birthday by LaVonne Johnson.

The Sanctuary Candle is given to the glory of God in honor of Deb Scholl and all of the Altar Guild volunteers at Augustus. Thank you all.

The Worship Bulletins are given to the glory of God by Mr. and Mrs. David Halteman and family in thanks for the blessing of in-person Sunday school classes.

Altar Guild Help Wanted: Altar Guild members attend to the altar on Sundays. They change the paraments, prepare Holy Communion, place the flowers, and a host of other small jobs that are so important to our weekly worship. No experience required! We'll train you! Contact Deb Scholl at Schollde@aol.com.

Prayer Chain Volunteers Needed: Did you know Augustus's WELCA has a prayer group? People are invited to call the leader of the group, Carol Oelschlager, or the church office with prayer requests and a group of folks will say special prayers based on these requests. This group is now seeking additional people to pray for our congregants and friends. Men and women who are interested in participating in this most important ministry, please call Carol Oelschlager at 610-489-3109.



Dear Friends of the Spring Turkey Dinner,

Miracles do happen with the help from all of you. For this second year of living with the challenges of the global pandemic our "Prayer and Pledge Drive", in lieu of the annual Augustus Lutheran Church Spring Turkey Dinner / Craft & Vendor Fair, is once again initiated for Dr. Stephen and Jodi Swanson and their family whom we have supported for several years as missionaries in the healthcare profession in Tanzania. We want to continue to help support them in their wonderful work to train Tanzanian health professionals, develop a neonatal care unit, and establish a feeding program for malnourished children. Through their tireless efforts they have successfully increased the infant survival rate to 93%, making it the highest in the underdeveloped areas of Africa. Another cause for rejoicing is that Dr. Evelyne Mushi, who has worked with Dr. Swanson for the past three years, received the ELCA International Leaders Program scholarship to study Pediatrics in South Africa for 4 years. The Swansons are not only working to save lives but also to nurture leadership which will ensure their legacy and the future of Tanzanians for many generations to come.

Because of the ongoing pandemic, we need to look to members and friends of our congregation and the community to support the ministry of our pediatric missionaries. Would you prayerfully consider being a part of a global Christian community with a financial contribution, a faithful prayer, or both? No contribution is too small, even praying goes a long way! **ALL DONATIONS RECEIVED BY 10/31/2021 WILL BE MATCHED** by two generous gifts: a generous gift from **Pastor Kochenderfer** (up to \$1,000), and a generous gift from **Pastor Martha and Pastor Howard Kriebel** (up to \$1,500). So, every dollar you contribute will be increased two and a half -fold!

On behalf of the Swansons, the Augustus Women of the ELCA, and the Christian community at Augustus Lutheran Church, we would like to thank you in advance for your support. For your convenience, you can make your contribution by one of the following two ways:

1. Donating online at <www.augustrappe.org>. Just follow the "DONATE" prompts under the "GIVING" tab. Don't forget to add "WELCA-Turkey Dinner" and your phone number in the comments box.
2. By mailing-in your financial commitment. Checks and money orders can be made out to 'Augustus Women of the ELCA'. Additionally, please write "Turkey Dinner" on the memo line. Send your donation to the following address to ensure your donation is delivered to the applicable location:

Augustus Lutheran Church
 c/o Women of the ELCA
 717 West Main Street, Trappe, Pa, 19426

Thanks again for your support of the Augustus Women of the ELCA prayer and pledge drive, and for helping to ensure the long-term sustainable future of the children in Tanzania.

*Our work today bears the legacy of my parents' life in Asia
 In reading Paul the Apostle, I remember them:
 I have FOUGHT the GOOD FIGHT,
 I have FINISHED the RACE,
 I have KEPT the FAITH. [2 Timothy 4:8]
 May we also aspire to finish the race, and keep the faith.
 -Steve*



Proceeds Benefit:
Dr. Stephen and Jodi Lynn Swanson, Missionaries in Tanzania

717 W. MAIN STREET WWW.AUGUSTUSTRAPPE.ORG 610-489-9625
AUGUSTUS LUTHERAN CHURCH
 Sunday Services: 8:00 AM Communion * 9:00 AM Sunday School * 10:30 AM Worship

Augustus' Women of the ELCA Thankoffering/Quilt & Afghan Sunday

will be held on Sunday November 7, 2021. Bishop Patricia Ann Curtis Davenport, Fifth Bishop of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, will be our guest preacher at both the 8:00am & 10:30am church worship services. A reception and fellowship will follow the 10:30am worship service. Please mark your calendars & plan to attend. You won't want to miss this special day. All of the quilts and afghans made over the past year by the Women of the Church will be on display. The quilts will be sent to Lutheran World Relief and the afghans will be sent to Laurel House, a shelter in Norristown for abused women and children. All are welcome! Bring a friend!!



The Rev. Patricia Ann Curtis Davenport assumed office as bishop of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) on August 1, 2018.

Overwhelmingly elected by the Synod Assembly on May 5, 2018, she is the first African-American woman to be elected a bishop in the 3.8-million-member ELCA. She currently serves as Vice-Chair of the ELCA Conference of Bishops

"Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod is already a great Synod, and our mantra is we can do more together than we can alone," Bishop Davenport says. "I believe I was elected because I lifted up: *We can do more, and we can do it together.* How do we move from the mentality of 'the church is declining, the church is declining,' to building up the kingdom of God? That's what we're called to do."

Bishop Davenport is leading SEPA Synod in making disciples through information, education and inspiration that leads to transformation. She believes this is the way the Synod makes a difference in the five-county area she is called to serve.

At the time of her election, Bishop Davenport served the Synod as Director for Evangelical Mission and Assistant to the Bishop, with responsibilities for new and redeveloping congregations, congregational vitality, and urban ministries.

Bishop Davenport is a member of Spirit and Truth Worship Center, Yeadon, which she served as its founding pastor/developer. She received the master of divinity degree from the former Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia, now United Lutheran Seminary. She received a Certificate in Black Church Concentration from the seminary's Urban Theological Institute and is a certified ELCA Level One Coach.

She has served the national church in a variety of capacities, including co-chair of the ELCA's Guiding Coalition, member of the Congregational Vitality and African Descent Strategy teams, and secretary of the board of Lutheran Services in America. She is a lifetime member of the Philadelphia chapter of the African Descent Lutheran Association and is active with the Black Clergy of Philadelphia, Metropolitan Christian Council, the Religious Leaders Council of Greater Philadelphia and Vicinity, and Christians United Against Addictions.

She is the widow of Joel Davenport, with three adult children: Joel, Shanena and Jamar; and seven grandchildren, Joel III, Dominic, Chance, Cristian, Kayden, Justice and Kaleb, who are her heart's delight.

In honor of Thankoffering, envelopes will be distributed for your donation in support of the life-changing ministries of Women of the ELCA, including programs, resources, leadership training, and operational expenses. All the money collected will be sent directly to the churchwide organization of the Women of the ELCA. Make checks payable to "Augustus Women of the ELCA". Please be generous! Thankofferings show gratitude for God's blessings and hope for all that is to come. They give us an important and tangible way to express that gratitude and hope. When significant or ordinary moments happen, it is our way of saying "thank you" to God!



2021 Gift Wish List

Toys

- Large and medium-sized stuffed animals
- Games – Checkers, Chess, Mancala, Connect 4, UNO Attack, Monopoly, Scrabble, Simon, and Bop-It are favorites
- LEGO sets
- Pokémon cards and toys
- Minecraft toys
- Superhero action figures
- Barbie dolls, L.O.L. Surprise, OMG dolls, and Rainbow High dolls
- Our Generation and Journey Girls dolls
- Remote controlled vehicles and robots
- Tech Deck miniature skateboard toys
- Beyblades and Beyblades arenas
- Playing cards and card games – UNO and Phase 10 are favorites
- Light-up bouncy balls
- Rubik's cubes
- Fidget toys – silicone push pops, spinners, tangles, and cubes
- Dream Lites or other soft night lights
- Books for children and teens
- Wireless headphones/earbuds
- Small Bluetooth speakers
- Crossbody bags, wallets, wristlets, and fanny packs
- Hairbrushes and combs
- Nail polish, press on nails, lip gloss, lip balm, and makeup
- toiletry gift sets with body wash, shampoo, conditioner, & deodorant. Dove, AXL, and Bath and Body Works are favorites. Plastic bottles only, please.
- Plastic water bottles – Contigo and Camelback brands are favorites
- Winter coats – youth & adult sizes
- Twin sized fleece blankets

Arts & Crafts

- Craft kits
- Crayola art kits
- Gel pen sets
- Crayons, markers, and colored pencils
- Fuzzy posters to color
- Coloring books and large coloring pages
- Sketch books and drawing paper – non-spiral bound, please.
- Journals – no locks, non-spiral bound, please.
- Origami kits and origami paper

Clothing & Personal Care

- Pajama sets for boys and girls – youth sizes M-XL and adult sizes S-XL
- Hooded sweatshirts for girls and boys – youth sizes 12-18 and adult sizes S-XXL. Nike, Adidas, and Champion are favorite brands
- Slide style sandals – youth and adult sizes
- Adjustable baseball hats – Nike and Philly sports teams are favorites
- Socks for boys and girls – adult sizes 6-11

Sports

- Footballs, basketballs, soccer balls, and kickballs/playground balls
- Football gloves – youth and adult sizes
- Basketball shooting sleeves – youth and adult sizes
- Football, basketball, and baseball cards and binders/books for collecting cards
- Basketball tights – youth and adult sizes

WELCA will accept donations of Christmas gifts for GEMMA services October 24th through November 21st. Look for a donation box in the Muhlenberg Center.