

# REFORMATION DAY

October 31, 2017

Observed: October 29, 2017

**HYMN OF INVOCATION 566** “By Grace I’m Saved”

**INVOCATION** *The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

*Confession, Small Catechism; Romans 3:22b–24*

Pastor: Confession has two parts.

**People: 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.**

Pastor: Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

**People: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have placed other gods before You. We have failed to fear, love, and trust in You above all things. We humbly ask that for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Pastor: For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by His grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of the Word, I announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

# SERVICE OF THE WORD

**INTROIT** *Psalm 34:1–2, 11, 22; antiphon: Psalm 119:46*

Pastor: I will speak of Your testimonies before kings, [O Lord,]

**People: and shall not be put to shame.**

Pastor: I will bless the Lord at all times;

**People: His praise shall continually be in my mouth.**

Pastor: My soul makes its boast in the Lord;

**People: let the humble hear and be glad.**

Pastor: Come, O children, listen to me;

**People: I will teach you the fear of the Lord.**

Pastor: The Lord redeems the life of His servants;

**People: none of those who take refuge in Him will be condemned.**

Pastor: Glory be to the Father and to the Son

**People: and to the Holy Spirit;**

Pastor: as it was in the beginning,

**People: is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Pastor: I will speak of Your testimonies before kings, [O Lord,]

**People: and shall not be put to shame.**

## SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people. Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and deliver us in times of temptation, defend us against all enemies, and grant to Your Church Your saving peace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **People: Amen.**

**FIRST READING** *Rev. 14:6–7* (Fear God and give Him glory.)

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE** *Romans 3:19–28* (A man is justified by faith.)

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## **ALLELUIA and VERSE** *Luke 12:32*

Pastor: Alleluia. Fear not, little flock,

**People: for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Alleluia.**

## **HOLY GOSPEL** *John 8:31–36* (The truth will set you free.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 8<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**People: Glory to You, O Lord.**

(The Gospel is read.)

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to You, O Christ.**

## **REFORMATION PROGRAM QUESTIONS**

*Questions are read by St. Peter's Confirmation class, and come from the 1945 Reformation Program which were also read by students of Moltke.*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY 656** "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

## **SERMON**

**CREED** Apostles' Creed (*as found on hymnal cover*)

## **OFFERING**

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Pastor: Let us pray to the Lord, our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble, beseeching Him to have mercy and hear us. Lord God, while we travel as pilgrims here on earth, give us comfort in the knowledge that You have called us to be Your disciples through water and the Word. In the midst of difficult times, when waters roar and foam and mountains tremble, give us confidence in knowing that we have been set free by the Son, and so we are free indeed! The Lord of hosts is with us;

**People: the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

Pastor: Lord God, as Your children, we are called to love You, our neighbor, and even our enemy. Give us willing hearts to love our neighbor as ourselves because You first loved us. The Lord of hosts is with us;

**People: the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

Pastor: Lord God, You are greater than the one who is in the world, prowling and seeking to devour us. Deliver us from the old evil foe, knowing that he cannot harm us because he has been defeated by Your Son's death and resurrection. Give us strength to resist Satan, and keep us firm in the faith You have given us. The Lord of hosts is with us;

**People: the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

Pastor: Lord God, Your Son bought us with His lifeblood as the price. In Him, we are set free from sin, death, and the power of the devil. By Your Holy Spirit working through Your Word, preserve us in the one true faith, that we might abide in You until You bring us to the place You have prepared for us in Your house. The Lord of hosts is with us;

**People: the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

Pastor: Lord God, into Your hands we commend all for whom we pray, confident that for the sake of Jesus, You hear and answer. Lord, have mercy!

**People: Amen.**

**LORD'S PRAYER** (*Matthew 6:9–13*) (*as found on hymnal cover*)

## **PRAYER**

Pastor: Let us pray Luther's Morning Prayer.

**People: I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.**

**BENEDICTION** *Numbers 6:24–26*

Pastor: 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.

**People: Amen.**

**HYMN 655** "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word"