

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost - Reformation Sunday

October 26, 2025

PRELUDE

Becky Retherford

Gathering

CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
our maker, our helper, and our keeper. **Amen.**

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin
in the presence of God and of one another.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

Merciful and loving God,
we are your stiff-necked people.
We trample on the needy.
We grumble about your grace to others.
We turn away from the poor.
Have mercy on us and forgive our sins.
Rejoice over us as ones who were lost
and have been found. Amen.

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful.
Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.
You who were lost have been found.
In the name of † Jesus, your sins are forgiven! **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

ELW #504

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

- 1 A mighty fortress is our God,
a sword and shield victorious;
he breaks the cruel oppressor's rod
and wins salvation glorious.
The old satanic foe
has sworn to work us woe!
With craft and dreadful might
he arms himself to fight.
On earth he has no equal.
- 2 No strength of ours can match his might!
We would be lost, rejected.
But now a champion comes to fight,

whom God himself elected.
 You ask who this may be?
 The Lord of hosts is he!
 Christ Jesus, mighty Lord,
 God's only Son, adored.
 He holds the field victorious.

- 3 Though hordes of devils fill the land
 all threat'ning to devour us,
 we tremble not, unmoved we stand;
 they cannot overpower us.
 Let this world's tyrant rage;
 in battle we'll engage!
 His might is doomed to fail;
 God's judgment must prevail!
 One little word subdues him.
- 4 God's Word forever shall abide,
 no thanks to foes, who fear it;
 for God himself fights by our side
 with weapons of the Spirit.
 Were they to take our house,
 goods, honor, child, or spouse,
 though life be wrenched away,
 they cannot win the day.
 The kingdom's ours forever!

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

Let us pray. 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, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Word

BIBLE READING

Romans 3:19-28

BOLT Kids Sing

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ELW #801 "Change My Heart, O God"

Change my heart, O God; make it ever true.
 Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.
 You are the potter; I am the clay.
 Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.
 Change my heart, O God; make it ever true.
 Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.

GOSPEL John 8:31-36

SERMON Pastor Gary MacManus

HYMN OF DAY ELW #665 "Rise, Shine, You People!"

- 1 Rise, shine, you people! Christ the Lord has entered
 our human story; God in him is centered.
 He comes to us, by death and sin surrounded,
 with grace unbounded.
- 2 See how he sends the pow'rs of evil reeling;
 he brings us freedom, light and life and healing.
 All men and women, who by guilt are driven,
 now are forgiven.
- 3 Come, celebrate; your banners high unfurling,
 your songs and prayers against the darkness hurling.
 To all the world go out and tell the story
 of Jesus' glory.
- 4 Tell how the Father sent the Son to save us.
 Tell of the Son, who life and freedom gave us.
 Tell how the Spirit calls from ev'ry nation
 God's new creation.

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 INTERCESSION

Renewed in God's everlasting grace, let us pray for the church, the world, and all creation.

Responses: God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We offer our prayers, O God, trusting in your everlasting grace and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING & HYMN

ELW #679

“For the Fruit of All Creation”

- 1 For the fruit of all creation,
 thanks be to God.
 For these gifts to ev'ry nation,
 thanks be to God.
 For the plowing, sowing, reaping,
 silent growth while we are sleeping,
 future needs in earth's safekeeping,
 thanks be to God.
- 2 In the just reward of labor,
 God's will is done.
 In the help we give our neighbor,
 God's will is done.
 In our worldwide task of caring
 for the hungry and despairing,
 in the harvests we are sharing,
 God's will is done.
- 3 For the harvests of the Spirit,
 thanks be to God.
 For the good we all inherit,
 thanks be to God.
 For the wonders that astound us,
 for the truths that still confound us,
 most of all, that love has found us,
 thanks be to God.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Lord of the harvest, **we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

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

**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.**

Sending

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed,
who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free,
✠ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

ELW #654, vs. 1-3, 5 "The Church's One Foundation"

- 1 The church's one foundation
is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
she is his new creation
by water and the word.
From heav'n he came and sought her
to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her,
and for her life he died.
- 2 Elect from ev'ry nation,
yet one o'er all the earth,
her charter of salvation
one Lord, one faith, one birth:
one holy name she blesses,
partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses,
with ev'ry grace endued.

3 Though with a scornful wonder
this world sees her oppressed,
by schisms rent asunder,
by heresies distressed,
yet saints their watch are keeping;
their cry goes up: "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping
shall be the morn of song.

5 Yet she on earth has union
with God, the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion
with those whose rest is won.
Oh, blessed heav'nly chorus!
Lord, save us by your grace,
that we, like saints before us,
may see you face to face.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do not lose heart. **Thanks be to God.**