

Welcome to Worship
Reformation Sunday
October 31, 2021 ♦ 9:00am



Bethlehem Lutheran Church
490 N. Fourth Street, Bayport

“In partnership with God, Each Other, and the World.”

GATHERING

PRELUDE

A Mighty Fortress settings by **Johann G. Walther**
John Pachelbel and Michael Praetorius

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING HYMN

A Mighty Fortress

ELW 504

- 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 overpow'r 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

L 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

ELW p. 138

L In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mercy.

L For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

L For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mercy.

L For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mercy.

L Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord. **C** Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

ELW p. 139

L Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

C Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L 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. **C** Amen.

WORD

YOUTH MESSAGE

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 6:1-9

L [Moses said to the people,] ¹Now this is the commandment—the statutes and the ordinances—that the LORD your God charged me to teach you to observe in the land that you are about to cross into and occupy, ²so that you and your children and your children’s children may fear the LORD your God all the days of your life, and keep all his decrees and his commandments that I am commanding you, so that your days may be long. ³Hear therefore, O Israel, and observe them diligently, so that it may go well with you, and so that you may multiply greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, as the LORD, the God of your ancestors, has promised you.

⁴Hear, O Israel: The LORD is our God, the LORD alone. ⁵You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. ⁶Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. ⁷Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. ⁸Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, ⁹and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

PSALM *(Please read responsively)*

Psalm 119:1-8

- L** ¹Happy are they whose way is blameless, who follow the teaching of the LORD!
- C** ²**Happy are they who observe your decrees and seek you with all their hearts,**
- L** ³who never do any wrong, but always walk in your ways.
- C** ⁴**You laid down your commandments, that we should fully keep them.**
- L** ⁵Oh, that my ways were made so direct that I might keep your statutes!
- C** ⁶**Then I should not be put to shame, when I regard all your commandments.**
- L** ⁷I will thank you with a true heart, when I have learned your righteous judgments.
- C** ⁸**I will keep your statutes; do not utterly forsake me.**

SECOND READING

Hebrews 9:11-14

L ¹¹When Christ came as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation), ¹²he entered once for all into the Holy Place, not with the blood of goats and calves, but with his own blood,

thus obtaining eternal redemption. ¹³For if the blood of goats and bulls, with the sprinkling of the ashes of a heifer, sanctifies those who have been defiled so that their flesh is purified, ¹⁴how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to worship the living God!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW p. 142

C Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

GOSPEL

Mark 12:28-34

L The Holy Gospel... **C** Glory to you, O Lord.

L ²⁸One of the scribes came near and heard [Jesus and the Sadducees] disputing with one another, and seeing that [Jesus] answered them well, he asked him, “Which commandment is the first of all?” ²⁹Jesus answered, “The first is, ‘Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; ³⁰you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ ³¹The second is this, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.” ³²Then the scribe said to him, “You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that ‘he is one, and besides him there is no other’; ³³and ‘to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,’ and ‘to love one’s neighbor as oneself,’—this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.” ³⁴When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” After that no one dared to ask him any question.

L The Gospel of the Lord. **C** Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Rich Larson

HYMN OF THE DAY *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* (vs 1,2,3) ELW 631

1) Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!

Fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown.

Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;

visit us with thy salvation, enter ev'ry trembling heart.

2) Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit into ev'ry troubled breast;

let us all in thee inherit; let us find thy promised rest.

Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;

end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

- 3) Come, Almighty, to deliver; let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Following each petition: **L** Hear us, O God. **C** Your mercy is great.

The prayers conclude: **L** Confident that you hear us, O God, we boldly place our prayers into your hands; through Jesus Christ, our truth and life. **C** Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

L The peace of the Lord be with you always. **C** And also with you.

OFFERING

Trumpet Tune in G (from 'Heroic Music')

G.P. Telemann

OFFERING HYMN

Create in Me

ELW 692

- 1) We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering.
Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an offering.
All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.
We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering, we are an offering.

OFFERING PRAYER

L God of abundance, you cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain from the heavens. Accept the gifts you have first given us. Unite them with the offering of our lives to nourish the world you love so dearly; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **C** Amen.

MEAL

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

ELW p. 144

L The Lord be with you. **C** And also with you.

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

L Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C** It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Sanctus

ELW p. 144

C Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of pow'r and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution

L On 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 in 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 in remembrance of me.

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Hymns during Distribution

Agnus Dei

ELW p. 146

L Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Amazing Grace

ELW 779

- 1) Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see.
- 2) 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!
- 3) Through many dangers, toils, and snares I have already come;
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
- 4) The Lord has promised good to me; his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.

- 5) When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

COMMUNION BLESSING

L Now may the body of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and his precious blood, strengthen you, and keep you in his grace. **C Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

L Lord of life, in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation. Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **C Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

L People of God, you are Christ's body, bringing new life to a suffering world. The holy Trinity, **+** one God, bless you now and forever. **C Amen**

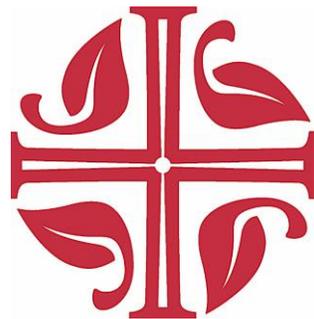
SENDING HYMN *Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word* ELW 517

- 1) Lord, keep us steadfast in your word; those who by deceit or sword
would wrest the kingdom from your Son and bring to naught all he has done.
- 2) Lord Jesus Christ, your pow'r make known, you are Lord of lords alone;
defend your holy church, that we sing your praise eternally.
- 3) O Comforter of priceless worth, peace and unity on earth;
support us in our final strife and lead us out of death to life.

DISMISSAL

L Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you. **C Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE *Toccatà in d minor* (from "Toccatà and Fugue in d minor") J.S. Bach



Acknowledgments

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490 N. Fourth Street, Bayport, MN | 651-439-3450

Worship: Sundays at 9:00am

Web: www.BethlehemStar.org | Facebook: www.facebook.com/blcstar

Richard Larson, D. Min., *Pastor*

Mary Pilquist, *Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministry*

Sharon Follingstad, D. Mus., *Director of Worship and Music*

Lori Gergen, *Office Administrator*