

504th Celebration of the Reformation

October 31, 2021



Welcome!

+ Order of Worship +

(STAND)

Luther's Morning Prayer

C 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.

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Select verses of Psalm 46

P God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

C Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

P The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

C Come, behold the works of the Lord, how he has brought desolations on the earth.

P He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;

C he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the chariots with fire.

P “Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!”

C The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. Selah

P Gracious God,

C have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from You and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In Your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to You and uphold us by Your Spirit, so that we may live and serve You in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

(Moment of Silence)

P There is joy in heaven over every sinner who repents. Therefore it is my privilege to announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the name and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I, His called servant, announce to you the forgiveness of all your sins in the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit! Peace be with you.

C Amen.

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray: O Lord God, in Your grace You have raised up leaders for Your Church, including Martin Luther, who have labored so that the Gospel may be proclaimed in its fullness. Continue to pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your people. Grant them inspired leaders, keep them steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and comfort them in all temptations, defend them against all enemies of Your Word, and bestow on them Your abiding peace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 31:31-34

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

The Epistle Reading

Ephesians 2:4-9

[St Paul wrote] But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

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

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

(STAND)

Alleluia

P I will speak of Thy testimonies also before kings, and will not be ashamed. Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path. Alleluia. Alleluia. We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You,

C Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

John 8:31-36

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John 8th chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?"

Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon

The Apostles' Creed

P: God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and (+) the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray to the Lord, our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble, beseeching Him to have mercy and hear us. (moment of silence)

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;

C the God of Jacob is our fortress.

P 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;

C the God of Jacob is our fortress.

P 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;

C the God of Jacob is our fortress.

P 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;

C the God of Jacob is our fortress.

P Lord God, into Your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Christ our Lord, we pray.

C Amen.

The 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

Blessing and Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

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

C Amen.

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