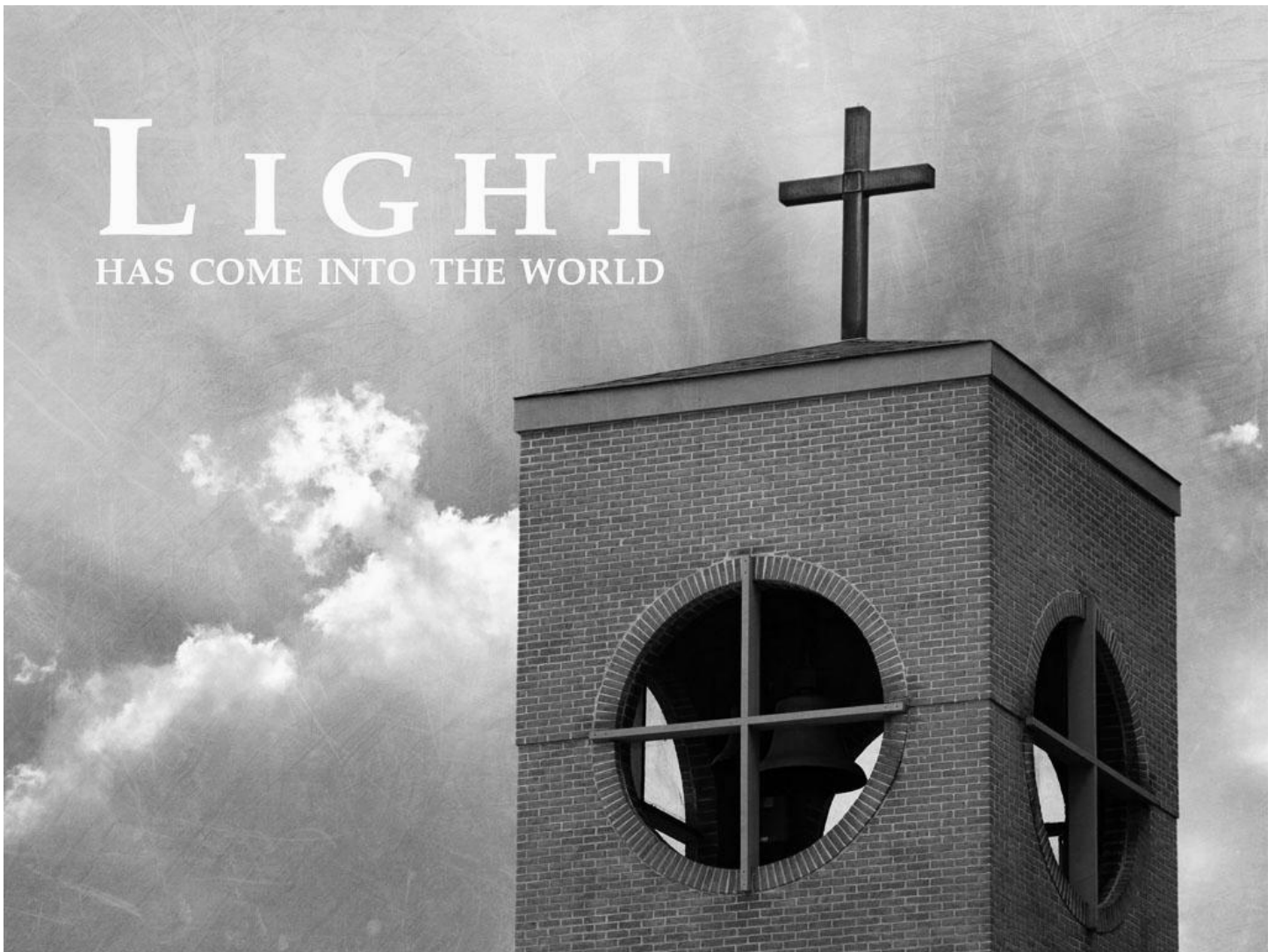


An evening setting of Holy Communion



St. David's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Saturday, October 26, 2019

5:30 pm

Holy Communion

Pentecost 20

Pastor: The Reverend Faron H. Johnson

Church: 479-4110; Fax: 479-2994

www.stdavidslutheran.org



Reformation Sunday 2019

May the grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all on this Reformation Sunday.

When Martin Luther and the other reformers began to ask questions of clarity in the 16th century church, the Holy Spirit began the work of reformation. The church in Western Europe had fallen into the error of believing that salvation was something which an individual could earn by their own will and merit. The practice of selling indulgences—pieces of paper bought by unknowing God-fearing people thinking it meant their sins were forgiven—was commonplace. You and I both know that God’s grace and forgiveness is a gift, not something we can buy or earn. When we ask for forgiveness, it is granted through the gracious love of God.

Luther’s understanding of Romans 3:28, “For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works of the law” shaped his argument to the church of his day that salvation comes from God’s work and the sacrifice of our Lord Jesus on the cross. Jesus has claimed us and called us his own in the waters of baptism and freed us from death. Our response is to turn to our Lord, cling to him and put our faith, hope and trust in him. Luther reminds us in his Small Catechism that our faith and our ability to love Jesus and come to him is a gift given to us by the Holy Spirit.

The result of the Reformation is good news because it means our salvation is not something we do alone; Christ is with us; Jesus is working in our lives and by the power of the Holy Spirit continues to shape and form us into the people we are called through our baptism to be. Jesus is Emmanuel, the God who is with us.

We celebrate the Holy Spirit’s work in Martin Luther and the other reformers of the day on Reformation Sunday. We remember that our life with God in Christ Jesus comes to us because of God’s goodness. As you gather in worship today, celebrate all that Jesus has done through the forerunners of our faith and most importantly, what Jesus has done in and through the power of the Holy Spirit to save us and make us his own. For this may we all say, “Thanks be to God!”

+Bishop Michael Rhyne

Welcome to St. David's Lutheran Church!

We are blessed by your presence and honored that you have chosen to worship with us today. Please take a moment to sign the friendship sheet that is located in the booklet at the end of each pew, near the center aisle. These sheets will be collected after the service.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion is offered to all who are baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit and who recognize the Sacrament as the true body and blood of our Lord. Baptized children are also welcome to receive the elements at the Lord's table at St. David's with the guidance and consent of their parents or guardians. Persons, who may not wish to receive the bread and wine of the communion, are still welcome to come to the table to receive a blessing. To do so please fold your hands and bow your head.

Prayer Requests may be made by placing the request in the small wooden box at the rear, near the doors through which you entered. The acolyte will collect the requests and they will be included during the prayers of the congregation.

For your comfort there is a restroom, equipped with a changing table and supplies and a water fountain located upstairs. Simply exit through the double doors back into the narthex. The restroom is straight ahead in the parlor, beside the grandfather clock, and the water fountain is to the right at the beginning of the hallway.

Devotional – The worship folder you are holding is also a weekly devotional booklet. The prayers and Scripture readings are appropriate for use at any time during the week. The liturgy itself is a Scripturally based order for daily prayer and devotion with Scriptural references noted where they apply. Even the hymns are appropriate tools for prayer and praise. Finally, there is a daily lectionary of Scripture readings for the rest of the week on the last printed page.

INTRODUCTION

On this day we celebrate the heart of our faith: the gospel of Christ—the good news—that makes us free! We pray that the Holy Spirit would continue to unite the church today in its proclamation and witness to the world. In the waters of baptism we are made one body; we pray for the day that all Christians will also be one at the Lord's table.

WELCOME

The assembly stands.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✠ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The presiding minister may lead one of the following or another prayer of preparation.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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

The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

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.

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.

Amen.

The assembly stands.

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. . . .

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

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.

The assembly is seated.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34

A reading from Jeremiah the 31st chapter.

{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.}

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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 46 (read responsively)

The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold. (Ps. 46:7)

¹God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

²**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**

³though its waters rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

⁴**There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;
God shall help it at the break of day.

⁶**The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth melts away.**

⁷The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

⁸**Come now, regard the works of the LORD,
what desolations God has brought upon the earth;**

⁹behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with
fire.

¹⁰**“Be still, then, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”**

¹¹The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

All: The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold. (Ps. 46:7)

SECOND READING: Romans 3:19-28

A reading from Romans the 3rd chapter.

{Paul's words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and 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.}

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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The assembly stands.

GOSPEL: John 8:31-36

The holy gospel according to John the 8th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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

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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

HOMILY

Together we confess our faith:

APOSTLE'S 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

Knowing the one in whom we trust, and with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

God, our refuge and strength, you make all things new. Reform your church so that our life together bears witness to your unmerited love. Free us from sin and write the law of love on our hearts. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Reform our relationships with you, with one another, and with all creation. Restore this good earth, the home you entrust to our care. Enrich soils, cleanse waters, and purify the air. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bring an end to war and to the violence that shakes the nations and worries your people. When voices of fear threaten to overwhelm us, fill the earth with your peace and strength. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Be the present help of those suffering the tumult of illness, poverty, abandonment, and uncertainty. Bring your calm and healing to those in need (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In this community, O Lord, we are all sinners and saints. In our dealings with one another and in our witness in the world, help us trust in your mercy, freely offering others what you give us. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We remember before you those who have died in Christ and now live in the fullness of salvation (*especially*). We trust your presence now even as we wait for your glory to be revealed. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Trusting and delighting in you, we commend all our lives into your loving hands. We offer these prayers in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

The minister and congregation may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Peace be with you.

Peace be with you.

Please be seated, while the table is set.

The assembly stands.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray.

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.

You are most holy,

and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world
to fulfill for us your holy will
and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,
his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension,
and the promise of his coming again,
we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,
not as we ought but as we are able;
we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,
may be formed to live as your holy people
and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

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.

LAMB OF GOD

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, grant us peace.

The assembly is seated.

The Holy Communion is distributed with these or similar words:

The body of Christ, given for you

The blood of Christ, shed for you

COMMUNION

Following the Holy Communion the congregation stands:

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of blessing,

at this table we have seen you face to face,
and in the gift of Christ's body and blood,
our hearts have been refreshed.

Send us now to shine with your goodness
and bear witness to the one we have received:
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

QUIET MEDITATION

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL MESSAGE

REFORMATION SUNDAY

Keep Moving

As we commemorate the Protestant Reformation, it is fitting that today's gospel reflects a core understanding that grew out of the wrestling of the reformers. Martin Luther's life and ministry were changed when the apostle Paul's writings came alive for him. Being saved by grace through faith and not works was a revelation and gift for Luther. In Paul's reflections, such as today's second reading (Rom. 3:19-28), Luther came to understand the true nature of Christian freedom. John's gospel locates this freedom in knowing Jesus and in the work Jesus does to make people free. The Son making us free is indeed a gift.

God's people sought comfort in their status as descendants of Abraham, forgetting the years of slavery in Egypt and the new covenants God later gave to Moses and Jeremiah. These new steps in relationship with God became part of the people's old story, and they lost sight of how much change had happened as they journeyed in God's grace.

We commemorate the Reformation as a time when the freedom found in knowing Jesus and his saving work was discovered anew. Five hundred years later it is easy for the newness of this message to be part of our old story. It is easy to look past how much has changed in our own lives and the life we share as the church. Our present experience can feel like a reflection of what has always been.

Jesus describes his word as the path to truth and encourages his disciples to "continue in my word" (John 8:31). To continue may be understood as remaining the same, but continuing in the word of Jesus means walking a path of transformation. This transformation grows out of repentance and forgiveness, life and death. It is a gift from Jesus. To continue in God's word is a call for the church to keep moving and to embrace the reform Jesus is creating in and among us each and every day.

Daily Readings for the Week October 27-November 2

Sunday:	Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22 or Sirach 35:12-17 Psalm 84:1-7 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18 Luke 18:9-14
Monday:	Psalm 84:8-12 1 Samuel 2:1-10 1 Peter 4:12-19
Tuesday:	Psalm 84:8-12 Daniel 5:1-12 1 Peter 5:1-11
Wednesday:	Psalm 84:8-12 Daniel 5:13-31 Matthew 21:28-32
Thursday:	Psalm 32:1-7 Proverbs 15:8-11, 24-33 2 Corinthians 1:1-11
Friday:	Psalm 32:1-7 Job 22:21—23:17 2 Peter 1:1-11
Saturday:	Psalm 32:1-7 Isaiah 1:1-9 John 8:39-47

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