Reformation Sunday: October 31, 2021

P In the name of the Father and of the Ἱωάννης Χριστός and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Kneel/Stand

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.

P 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 Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Ἱωάννης Χριστός and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

657 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 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!
Kyrie

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

Gloria in Excelsis

1 To God on high be glory And peace to all the earth; Goodwill from God in heaven Proclaimed at Jesus’ birth! We praise and bless You, Father; Your holy name, we sing— Our thanks for Your great glory, Lord God, our heav’nly King.

2 To You, O sole-begotten, The Father’s Son, we pray; O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away. Have mercy on us, Jesus; Receive our heartfelt cry, Where You in pow’r are seated At God’s right hand on high—

For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord. Forever and forever, Be worshiped and adored; You with the Holy Spirit Alone are Lord Most High, In God the Father’s glory. “Amen!” our glad reply.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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.

Amen.

First Reading

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalm 48:1a, 12–14a

Epistle

Romans 3:19–28

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.
Alleluia and Verse

C Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

After the reading

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.
The Seventh Commandment

**P** What is the 7th Commandment?

**C** You shall not steal.

**P** What does this mean?

**C** We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor’s money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income.

Sit

655 Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

1 Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word;
   Curb 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,
   For You are Lord of lords alone;
   Defend Your holy Church that we
   May sing Your praise eternally.

3 O Comforter of priceless worth,
   Send peace and unity on earth;
   Support us in our final strife
   And lead us out of death to life.

Text: Public domain

Sermon

Stand

Prayer of the Church

**P** ... Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude with

**P** Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank You that You have brought us by Your Word out of the darkness of error and into the light of Your grace. Mercifully help us to walk in that light. Guard us from error and false doctrine, and grant that we do not become ungrateful and despise Your Word, but receive it with all our heart, conduct our lives according to it and put our trust in Your grace; through the merits of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.
Preface

P  The Lord be with you.
C  And also with you.
P  Lift up your hearts.
C  We lift them to the Lord.
P  Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C  It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P  It is truly good, right, and salutary... evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

C  Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
   Heav’n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
   Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
   Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

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.

The Words of Our Lord

Pax Domini

P  The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C  Amen.

Agnus Dei

1  O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
   You take the sin of the world away;
   O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
   Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

2  O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
   You take the sin of the world away;
   And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Distribution

The Lord’s Supper is a gift from Christ, offered to those He is building together as one body. Members who have pledged themselves to each other and to the teaching at Ascension through the Rite of Confirmation are invited to receive (1 Cor. 1:10).

Those not members of Ascension but who would like to receive the Sacrament are invited to meet with Pastor after worship to discuss a period of instruction (Ephesians 4:20-24).
633 At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing

1 At the Lamb’s high feast we sing
Praise to our victorious King,
Who has washed us in the tide
Flowing from His piercèd side.
   Alleluia!

2 Praise we Him, whose love divine
Gives His sacred blood for wine,
Gives His body for the feast—
Christ the victim, Christ the priest.
   Alleluia!

3 Where the paschal blood is poured,
Death’s dread angel sheathes the sword;
Israel’s hosts triumphant go
Through the wave that drowns the foe.
   Alleluia!

4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed,
Paschal victim, paschal bread;
With sincerity and love
Eat we manna from above.
   Alleluia!

5 Mighty Victim from the sky,
Hell’s fierce pow’rs beneath You lie;
You have conquered in the fight,
You have brought us life and light.
   Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall,
Now no more the grave enthrall;
You have opened paradise,
And Your saints in You shall rise.
   Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!
This alone can sin destroy;
From sin’s pow’r, Lord, set us free,
Newborn souls in You to be.
   Alleluia!

8 Father, who the crown shall give,
Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days:
Three in One, Your name we praise.
   Alleluia!

Text: Public domain

617 O Lord, We Praise Thee

1 O Lord, we praise Thee, bless Thee, and adore Thee,
   In thanksgiving bow before Thee.
Thou with Thy body and Thy blood didst nourish
Our weak souls that they may flourish:
   O Lord, have mercy!
May Thy body, Lord, born of Mary,
That our sins and sorrows did carry,
And Thy blood for us plead
In all trial, fear, and need:
   O Lord, have mercy!

2 Thy holy body into death was given,
Life to win for us in heaven.
No greater love than this to Thee could bind us;
May this feast thereof remind us!
   O Lord, have mercy!
Lord, Thy kindness did so constrain Thee
That Thy blood should bless and sustain me.
All our debt Thou hast paid;
Peace with God once more is made:
   O Lord, have mercy!
May God bestow on us His grace and favor
That we follow Christ our Savior
And live together here in love and union
Nor despise this blest Communion!
   O Lord, have mercy!
Let not Thy good Spirit forsake us;
Grant that heav’ny-minded He make us;
Give Thy Church, Lord, to see
Days of peace and unity:
   O Lord, have mercy!

The Dismissal
   P  The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body
      and soul to life everlasting. Depart in peace.
   C  Amen.

Stand

Nunc Dimittis
   C  1 O Lord, now let Your servant
      Depart in heav’ny peace,
      For I have seen the glory
      Of Your redeeming grace:
      A light to lead the Gentiles
      Unto Your holy hill,
      The glory of Your people,
      Your chosen Israel.
   LSB 211
   2 All glory to the Father,
      All glory to the Son,
      All glory to the Spirit,
      Forever Three in One;
      For as in the beginning,
      Is now, shall ever be,
      God’s triune name resounding
      Through all eternity.

Post-Communion Collect
   A  Let us pray...
   C  Amen.

Benedicamus
   A  Let us bless the Lord.
   C  Thanks be to God.

Benediction
   P  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.
   C  Amen.
658 Preserve Your Word, O Savior

1 Preserve Your Word, O Savior,
   To us this latter day,
   And let Your kingdom flourish;
   Enlarge Your Church, we pray.
   O keep our faith from failing;
   Keep hope’s bright star aglow.
   Let nothing from truth turn us
   While living here below.

2 Preserve, O Lord, Your honor,
   The bold blasphemer smite;
   Convince, convert, enlighten
   The souls in error’s night.
   Reveal Your will, dear Savior,
   To all who dwell below,
   Great light of all the living,
   That all Your name may know.

3 Preserve, O Lord, Your Zion,
   Bought dearly with Your blood;
   Protect what You have chosen
   Against the hellish flood.
   Be always our defender
   When dangers gather round;
   When all the earth is crumbling,
   Safe may Your Church be found.

4 Preserve Your Word and
   preaching,
   The truth that makes us whole,
   The mirror of Your glory,
   The pow’r that saves the soul.
   Oh, may this living water,
   This dew of heav’nly grace,
   Sustain us while here living
   Until we see Your face.

5 Preserve in wave and tempest
   Your storm-tossed little flock;
   Assailed by wind and weather,
   May it endure each shock.
   Stand at the helm, our pilot,
   And set the course aright;
   Then we will reach the harbor
   In Your eternal light.

Acknowledgments
Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2021 Concordia Publishing House.