



REFORMATION SUNDAY

OCTOBER 31, 2021

SAINT PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

4660 West 94th Street, Oak Lawn, Illinois 60453

(708) 423-1040

Pastor John Moeller

www.stpauloaklawn.org

Director of Music Ruth Sievers

As We Gather

Jesus calls us to abide in His Word. To abide means to dwell or be at home. Are you at home in Jesus' Word? Is it the place where you long to be? Jesus' Word is the only place in all the world where we can find the absolute guarantee of sins forgiven, hope restored, and new life granted as children of God the Father. Today, Jesus mercifully calls us to come to Him, confess our sins, and be filled with His pardon and peace. He will renew us by His Word, strengthen us at His Table, and send us forth with His blessing to proclaim to all creation: "So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed" (John 8:36).

Prelude

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

J. Pachelbel

Opening Hymn

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

#656

Verse 1: Congregation – Verse 2: Vocalists Only – Verses 3 & 4: Congregation

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1 A mighty fortress is our God,
A trusty shield and weapon;
He helps us free from ev'ry need
That hath us now o'ertaken.
The old evil foe
Now means deadly woe;
Deep guile and great might
Are his dread arms in fight;
On earth is not his equal.</p> <p><i>2 With might of ours can naught be done,
Soon were our loss effected;
But for us fights the valiant One,
Whom God Himself elected.
Ask ye, Who is this?
Jesus Christ it is,
Of Sabaoth Lord,
And there's none other God;
He holds the field forever.</i></p> | <p>3 Though devils all the world should fill,
All eager to devour us,
We tremble not, we fear no ill;
They shall not overpow'r us.
This world's prince may still
Scowl fierce as he will,
He can harm us none.
He's judged; the deed is done;
One little word can fell him.</p> <p>4 The Word they still shall let remain
Nor any thanks have for it;
He's by our side upon the plain
With His good gifts and Spirit.
And take they our life,
Goods, fame, child, and wife,
Though these all be gone,
Our vict'ry has been won;
The Kingdom ours remaineth.</p> |
|---|---|

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Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Jesus said, "If you abide in My word,

C you are truly My disciples,

P and you will know the truth,

C and the truth will set you free."

Confession and Absolution

John 8:36

P With humble hearts, let us approach our heavenly Father's throne of grace.

We pause in silence to remember our sin and our need for the Savior...

P We confess our sins together...

C **Gracious Father, we come before You in humble repentance. We've neglected the truth of Your Word and gone our own way. By all the sinful things that we have thought and done, and by all that we have failed to do, we have broken Your commands and deserve nothing but Your anger and punishment. In Your mercy and for the sake of Your Son Jesus, forgive us and free us from the captivity of our sin. By Your Holy Spirit, enable us to live under You in Your kingdom and to serve You in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness. Amen.**

P Just as Christ is risen from the dead, He lives and reigns to all eternity! It is most certainly true that He died and rose again for the forgiveness of all who believe, to adopt you as His sons and daughters, and to set you free from sin and death. As a called and ordained servant of the Word, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P So if the Son sets you free,

C **you will be free indeed!**

✝ WORD ✝

Psalm

Psalm 46; antiphon: v. 7

C **The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

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,**

P though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

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

P God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns.

C **The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; He utters His voice, the earth melts.**

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

P Come, behold the works of the LORD, how He has brought desolations on the earth.

C **He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; 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 **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

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

Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people.

C **Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth,**

P protect and deliver us in times of temptation,

C **defend us against all enemies,**

P and, through the abiding Word of Your Son,

C **set us free from our sin that we may know Your saving peace;**

P through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

First Reading

✠ The Eternal Gospel ✠

Revelation 14:6-7

⁶Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people. ⁷And he said with a loud voice, "Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come, and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Anthem of Praise Duet

"Laudamus Te" (We Praise Thee, Lord)

N. Sleeth

Epistle

✠ The Righteousness of God Through Faith ✠

Romans 3:19-28

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin. ²¹But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: ²³for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. ²⁶It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. ²⁷Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

✠ The Truth Will Set You Free ✠

John 8:31-36

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

³¹So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." ³³They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?" ³⁴Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. ³⁶So 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.

Confession of Faith

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

The Apostles' Creed

He ascended into heaven and sits at the
right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence 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.

Sermon Hymn

“God Loved the World So That He Gave”

#571

- 1 God loved the world so that He gave
His only Son the lost to save,
That all who would in Him believe
Should everlasting life receive.
- 2 Christ Jesus is the ground of faith,
Who was made flesh and suffered death;
All then who trust in Him alone
Are built on this chief cornerstone.
- 3 God would not have the sinner die;
His Son with saving grace is nigh;

His Spirit in the Word declares
How we in Christ are heaven's heirs.

- 4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son
Forgives all sins which you have done;
And, justified by Jesus' blood,
Your Baptism grants the highest good.

- △6 Glory to God the Father, Son,
And Holy Spirit, Three in One!
To You, O blessed Trinity,
Be praise now and eternally!

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Sermon

Prayer of the Church

Offering—*may be left in the offering plates near the doors as you leave. Those worshipping at home may continue to mail or drop off offerings at the church office, and on-line giving is available to everyone on our website at www.stpauloaklawn.org. For information about regular electronic giving, please contact the church office.*

Offertory Meditation

✠ SERVICE of the SACRAMENT ✠

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.

Proper Preface
Prayer of Thanksgiving
Words of Our Lord

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father...
...So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **Our Father, who art in Heaven...**

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

✠ **DISTRIBUTION of the SACRAMENT** ✠

Hymn

“The Gospel Shows the Father's Grace”

#580

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 The Gospel shows the Father's grace,
Who sent His Son to save our race,
Proclaims how Jesus lived and died
That we might thus be justified. | 4 It is the pow'r of God to save
From sin and Satan and the grave;
It works the faith which firmly clings
To all the treasures which it brings. |
| 2 It sets the Lamb before our eyes,
Who made the atoning sacrifice,
And calls the souls with guilt oppressed
To come and find eternal rest. | 5 It bears to all the tidings glad
And bids their hearts no more be sad;
The weary, burdened souls it cheers
And banishes their guilty fears. |
| 3 It brings the Savior's righteousness
To robe our souls in royal dress;
From all our guilt it brings release
And gives the troubled conscience peace. | 6 May we in faith its message learn
Nor thanklessly its blessings spurn;
May we in faith its truth confess
And praise the Lord, our righteousness. |

Text: Public domain

Hymn

“Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word”

#655

- | | |
|---|--|
| 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. | Defend Your holy Church that we
May sing Your praise eternally. |
| 2 Lord Jesus Christ, Your pow'r make known,
For You are Lord of lords alone; | 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

Communion Blessing

P The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

Closing Prayer

Benediction

John 8:31–32, 36; Numbers 6:24–26

- P** Jesus said, “If you abide in My word,
C **you are truly My disciples,**
P and you will know the truth,
C **and the truth will set you free.**
P So if the Son sets you free,
C **you will be free indeed.”**
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.**

Closing Hymn

“Thy Strong Word”

#578

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 Thy strong word did cleave the darkness;
At Thy speaking it was done.
For created light we thank Thee,
While Thine ordered seasons run.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia without end!</p> <p>3 Thy strong Word bespeaks us righteous;
Bright with Thine own holiness,
Glorious now, we press toward glory,
And our lives our hopes confess.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia without end!</p> | <p>5 Give us lips to sing Thy glory,
Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,
Throats that shout the hope that fills us,
Mouths to speak Thy holy name.
Alleluia, alleluia!
May the light which Thou dost send
Fill our songs with alleluias,
Alleluias without end!</p> <p>△6 God the Father, light-creator,
To Thee laud and honor be.
To Thee, Light of Light begotten,
Praise be sung eternally.
Holy Spirit, light-revealer,
Glory, glory be to Thee.
Mortals, angels, now and ever
Praise the holy Trinity!</p> |
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Postlude

“Thy Strong Word” with “Prelude in F Minor”

A. Raison



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND THANKS

Vocalists: Sue Marcinkowski & Stan Wirtschoreck

Lector: Bill Leise

Altar Care: Martha Moeller

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Please pray for these members of our St. Paul family:

Ruth Diver	Cathy Gleason
Julie & Larry Gurga	Helen Bonder
Janice Przybycien	Kevin Hickey
Mary Ann Colander	Art Hornburg
Melva Smith	Laverne Abraham
Carol Small	Mike Degidio
Norma Silinski	Beverly Sellers
Lenore Curran	Betty Beegle
Delphine Cherry	Ron Klingensmith
Louis Frank	Deb Skopec
Herta Iversen	Loretta Frank
Jane & Freddie Giacobbe	Marge Rochlitz
Ron Hickey	Shirley Smulkis
Ingrid Lesko	Katherine Hice
Gloria Meyer	Jan Briede
Delores Stegemann	Connie Braun
Kurt Seehofer	The Polezoes Family
Lincoln & Parker Alex	Patricia Murdoch
Gloria Crook	Lois Kaminske
Patty Sellers	Janet Varnagis
Dawn McNicholas	Beckham Klintworth
	Carolyn Moeller

Thanks to God and prayers for continued healing for Knox Christensen, now home after 3 months in NICU.

For Sue Lilja and family on the death of her Aunt, Ada Klaviter, called from this life on Oct. 23rd.

Announcements & Notes:

- *Our congregation is invited to join the people of St. Peter Lutheran at 86th & Kedvale as they celebrate the 150th anniversary of their congregation with a Divine Service on Sunday, November 7 at 4:00 PM. NID President Rev. Dr. Allan Buss will deliver the sermon, and Dr. Steven Wentz will serve as organist.*
- *The Ladies Guild will be selling Christmas cards before and after services the first three Sundays in November.*
- *The November "Letter of Saint Paul" newsletter is available in the narthex and wings.*
- *You may still return your Stewardship pledge for 2022 if you would like to do so.*
- *Our need for Sunday School Teachers remains...*
- *All Saints' Sunday is next Sunday.*
- *Daylight savings time ends next Sunday. Remember to set your clocks back one hour!*
- *Evening worship services are held Wednesday evenings at 6PM.*

Please pray for these friends and family of our members:

Heather & Josh Turro	Carolyn Moeller
Eugene Marcinkowski	Danielle Pintozzi
Denise DeLaurentis	Dorothy Kroll
Anthony Krcelic, Jr.	Eric Kessling
Bob Hessert	Georgiana Easton
Jackie Plichta	Patricia Paulsen
Ken Kruckow	Janet Trierweiler
Alan Hecke	Kim Lamberth
Matt Favero	Sandra Wilson
Rev. Bob Mitchell	Al Silinski
Pam Palhegyi	Carol Milazzo
Rich Huscher	The Lamberth Family
Jerry Gross	Brenda Gurgel
Gloria Folsom	Autumn Kessling
Elizabeth Hoefler	Alan Iversen
Ron Lunt	Christopher Kosary
Sandy Plath	Iris McCoy
Shirley Demyres	Raquel Rameriz
Nick & Bridget DeAngelo	Henry Bonder
Kim & Shawn Skelton, Sr.	Kyle Hughes
Elaine Hoffstetter	Fred Raddatz
Selma & John Carmichael	Allyson Seehofer
Bernadette & Rich Trusk	Dana Kahn
Donald Hakanson	Carl Hoppe
Paul Noffke	Sue Sortino
Pam Brown	Lisa Sanders
Shawn Harland	Ann Herold
Barb Potter	Wayne Volk
Charley Heitz	Sharon Bryant
Doris Potts	Brad Benfield
Doreen Holford	Janice Hernandez
Donna Santi	Judy Collins
Paul Sowa	Maryann Krieg (Wilke)
Jimmy Kennedy, Jr.	Knox Christensen
Cathy Becker	Lois Kiefer
George Lilja	Al Zirbel
Donna Patri	Skip Sorensen
Joe Thomas	Patrick Pasqua Sr.
Logan Bliss	Debbie Guarascio
Phyllis Hicks	Karl Kraut
Jerry Koenig	Justin & Ashley Fasel
Nora Maculitis	Sandra Mitchell & Fam.
Beckham Klintworth	

Please let the church office know when your need for our congregational prayers is over (708) 423-1040.