



St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



Reformation Sunday

October 31, 2017 10:30 Holy Communion

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.

-from Sundays and Seasons 2017

Welcome to worship today!

If you are visiting with us we invite you to sign the Guest Book in the back of the sanctuary.

Nursery care is available during the service. Please see one of the ushers if you need more information.

† GATHERING †

Prelude

Call to Worship (Adapted from Romans 8:31-37, Ephesians 2:4-8)

P: What then are we to say about these things?

If God is for us, who is against us?

**C: He who did not withhold his own Son,
but gave him up for all of us,
will he not also give us everything else?**

P: Who will bring any charge against God's people?

It is God who justifies.

Who is to condemn?

**C: It is Christ Jesus, who died,
yes, who was raised,
who is at the right hand of God,
who intercedes for us.**

P: Who will separate us from the love of Christ?

Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine or sword?

**C: No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him
who loved us.**

P: God, who is rich in mercy,
out of the great love with which he loved us,
made us alive together with Christ.

**C: By grace we have been saved.
This is not our own doing.
It is the work of God. Amen.**

Introit – *Alleluia* by W.A. Mozart, performed by the Amadeus Chorale

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, the one who fashions us, the one who heals us, the one who reforms us again and again.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

P: Source of all life,

C: we confess that we have not allowed your grace to set us free. We still fear that we are not good enough. We hear your word of love freely given to us, yet we expect others to earn it. We turn the

church inward, rather than moving it outward. Forgive us. Stir us. Reform us to be a church powered by your will, willing to speak for what is right and work for what is just. Amen.

P: God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us and to empower our lives in the world. Our sins are forgiven and God continues to work in us. God's love is unconditional, and we are raised up as God's people who will always be made new, in the name of Jesus our Lord.

C: Amen.

Opening Hymn Come, Now Is the Time to Worship
(For music turn to Hymn 8 in the Songbook binder)

Refrain

**Come, now is the time to worship;
Come, now is the time to give your heart.
Come, just as you are to worship;
Come, just as you are before your God, come.**

**1. Open up the doors to our heart and our soul,
leaving earthly cares far behind.**

**Come, unite us all to serve you now
With love and faith in our mind. *Refrain***

**2. One day every tongue will confess you are God,
one day every knee will bow;**

**still the greatest treasure remains
for those who gladly choose you now. *Refrain***

Text and Music by Brian Doerkson; copyright 1998 Vineyard Songs, admin by Mercy/Vineyard Publishing; CCLI #2430948

Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray...

Gracious God, we pray for your church throughout the world. Fill it with all truth and peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in anything it is amiss, reform it; where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in need, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

† WORD †

Special Music *Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott* by Martin Luther,
performed by the Amadeus Chorale

First Reading Jeremiah 31:31-34

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.

After the reading the reader may say: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Scripture Poetry Psalm 46 (*Read responsively*)

A: Our sure defense,
our shelter and help in trouble,
God never stands far off.

**C: So we stand unshaken
when solid earth cracks
and volcanoes slide into the sea,**

A: when breakers rage
and mountains tremble in the swell.

**C: The Lord of cosmic power,
Jacob’s God, will shield us.**

A: A river delights the city of God,
home of the Holy One Most High.

**C: With God there, the city stands;
God defends it under attack.**

A: Nations rage, empires fall.
God speaks, earth melts.

**C: The Lord of cosmic power,
Jacob’s God, will shield us.**

A: Come! See the wonders
God does across the earth;

**C: everywhere stopping wars,
smashing, crushing, burning
all the weapons of war.**

A: An end to your fighting!
Acknowledge me as God,
high over nations, high over earth.

**C: The Lord of cosmic power,
Jacob's God, will shield us.**

Second Reading Ephesians 2:4-10

God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us ⁵even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— ⁶and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— ⁹not the result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

After the reading the reader may say: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (John 8:31-32)

**C: Alleluia. If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples,
and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.
Alleluia.**

Gospel Reading John 8:31-36

The gospel is announced:

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

C: Glory to you O Lord.

³¹Then Jesus 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.

After the reading:

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you O Christ.

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day A Mighty Fortress Is Our God
(For music turn to Hymn 504 in the Red Hymnal)

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 overpower 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 him-self 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!**

Text and music: Martin Luther, 1483-1546

Apostles' Creed

A: We confirm our faith with the Apostles' Creed

**C: 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 the Church

P: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

The pastor will begin the prayer with a petition and then invites the congregation to add additional petitions and thanksgivings. Please conclude your petition with: Lord in your mercy,

*The congregation will respond: **Hear our prayer.***

The pastor concludes the prayer:

P: Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

P: We share that peace with one another.

The congregation may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

† MEAL †

Offering & Special Music *Medieval Gloria* by Vijay Singh, performed by the Amadeus Chorale

Hymn of Thanksgiving Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful Lord

For music turn to page 35 in the Blue Hymnal

**Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.**

**Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.**

**Gather the hopes and dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer now.**

**Grace our table with your presence, Lord,
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

Offering Prayer

A: Let us pray: God of life,

C: you give us these gifts of the earth, these resources of our life and our labor. Take them, offered in great thanksgiving, and use them to set a table that will heal the whole creation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

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 our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus of Nazareth; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with church of yesterday, today and tomorrow; and the church here in this place and all churches throughout the world, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

(Isaiah 6:3, spoken)

**C: Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

P: In the night in which he was handed over our Lord Jesus took bread, 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."

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.**

Invitation to Communion

P: Speak to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread, and make us one with you.

Communion Distribution

Welcome to the Lord's Supper! All who are baptized are invited to receive communion. You will receive bread from the communion assistant. You may receive wine from either the common cup or in an individual glass. If you would like to receive in a glass please pick one up from the tray as you approach the altar rail. White grape juice is available in the individual glasses for those who do not wish to take wine. As we commune together everyone is invited to sing the following hymns:

Lamb of God (Page 39 of the Blue Hymnal)

611 *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say (Red Hymnal)*

461 *All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly (Red Hymnal)*

Communion Blessing *After all have communed the pastor will say:*

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

C: Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

A: Let us pray.

Holy and compassionate God, in bread and wine you give us gifts that form us to be both humble and courageous. May your word come to life in our serving and in our witness, that we might speak a living voice of healing and justice to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer.

C: Amen.

† SENDING †

Sending Hymn Praise to the Lord, the Almighty
(For music turn to Hymn 858 in the Red Hymnal)

- 1. Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation!
Let all who hear
Now to his temple draw near,
Joining in glad adoration!**
- 2. Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning.
And, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.
Have you not seen**

**All that is needful has been
Sent by his gracious ordaining?**

**3. Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you.
Surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.**

Ponder anew

What the Almighty can do

If with his love he befriend you.

4. Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me adore him!

All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him!

Let the amen

Sound from his people again.

Gladly forever adore him!

Text – Joachim Neander, 1650-1680; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829-1878; Tune Erneuerthen Gesangbuch, Stralsund, 1665; arr. Heidi Griffith

Blessing

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

C: Amen.

Choral Benediction *Blessing* by Katie Moran Bart, performed by the Amadeus Chorale

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: God's Work. Our Hands.

Freed
& RENEWED
in Christ
500 YEARS OF GOD'S
GRACE IN ACTION

Worship assistants TODAY:

Greeters and Ushers	Paul and Babette Huber
Acolyte	Mary Ehrlinger
Altar Care	Gary Boisseau
Communion Assistants	Bruce and Diane Boncke
Nursery Care	Lynne Minkel
Counters	Tom Kurilovitch
Coffee Hour	German Lunch

Worship assistants for next Sunday, November 5

Greeters and Ushers	Don and Sally Manfield
Acolyte	Sabastian Plouffe
Altar Care	Beth Perdan
Communion Assistants	Cindy Swigart and Beth Bright
Nursery Care	Laura Stroup
Counters	Sue Kaufmann and Linda Flood
Coffee Hour	Wendy Sackett and Linn Griffo

Scripture readings from the *New Revised Standard Version Bible* copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States. Psalm from *The Psalter* copyright 1994, Liturgical Training Publications. Variable worship texts from *Sundays and Seasons 2017* copyright 2016 Augsburg Fortress.

A special thank you to the Amadeus Chorale for celebrating with us today!

Director: The Reverend Darla Gaioma Bair

Singers in the Victor Branch:

Kenzie Albrect	Riley Hill	Paige Rider
Elaina Belec	Margot Hilyard	Faith-Anne Smith
Elise Berthin	Lily Jensen	Samuel Smith
Jocelyn Berthin	Shane Jones	Kathleen Soysa
Emily Colletti	Hannah LeMay	Chase Watkins
Jadon Colletti	Anna Marchetti	Evelyn Watkins
Ray Hagen	Lillian O'Donnell	Jack Watkins
Eric Higgins	Serena Petrovic	Phoebe Watkins
Morgan Hill		

St. John's Lutheran Church

888 County Road 9, Victor, NY 14564

stjohnsvictor.com (585) 924-5192

The Rev. Jonathan Deibler, Pastor

Heidi Griffith, Music Director