



St. Luke Lutheran Church • Pastor Eric Hanson
9:30AM • October 31, 2021

Prelude *Pianist, Debbi St. John*

Welcome and Announcements

Greeting *(please stand as you are able)*

P: The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God **C:** Come Holy Spirit, Come!

Confession and Forgiveness:

P: We confess our sins together, in the name of the Father, and of the Son +, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Reforming God, you promise to make all things new. Trouble us when our vision & work does not match your vision for our lives. Trouble us with the greatness of your command to make disciples of all nations. Trouble us with your great love for sinners and our own slowness to love those who wound us. Trouble us with the brevity of our lives and time, talent, & treasures not invested in eternity. Comfort us by drawing us to yourself with the cords of unfailing mercy. Comfort us with the assurance of salvation when we suffer and are afflicted. Renew in us a desire to right what is wrong and make whole what is broken, in ourselves and in our world. Amen.

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. May almighty God strengthen you through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. Amen.

Gathering Hymn: *“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” #504*

Vs 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.

Vs. 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.

Vs 3: Though hordes of devils fill the land all threat’ning to devour us, we tremble not, unmoved we stand; they cannot over pow’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.

Vs 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!

Prayer of the Day: **P:** Let us pray.

C: Gracious Father, we pray for your Church in all the earth. 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. Amen.

Choir Anthem: *“Create In Me”*

First Reading - Romans 3:19-28 ¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God. ²⁰Therefore no one will be declared righteous in God’s sight by the works of the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of our sin. ²¹But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. ²²This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, ²³for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. ²⁵God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood – to be

received by faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished – ²⁶ he did it to demonstrate his righteousness at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus. ²⁷ Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded. Because of what law? The law that requires works? No, because of the law that requires faith. ²⁸ For we maintain that a person is justified by faith apart from the works of the law.

Gospel Acclamation: *“Celtic Alleluia” (Stand as you are able)* Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. 2X

Gospel Reading: John 8:31-36 ³¹ To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. ³² Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” ³³ They answered him, “We are Abraham’s descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?” ³⁴ Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. ³⁵ Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. ³⁶ So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

P: This is the Word of our Lord, C: **Thanks be to God.**

Children’s Message: *2nd-6th graders sing*

Sermon: *Pastor Eric Hanson*

Hymn of the Day: *“Lord Keep Us Steadfast In Your Word” #517*

Verse 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.

Verse 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.

Verse 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.

Apostles’ 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, & 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, & he will come to judge the living & 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, & the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers: *(call and response)*

Set free from sin and death and nourished by the word of truth, we join in prayer for all of God’s creation. *A brief silence.* We pray for all who long for a word of truth and for the radical grace that flows from the cross. Inspire congregations to freely and boldly proclaim your love for all people with persistence and hope. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for your creation, for mountains, rivers, streams, cities, homesteads, and neighborhoods. Write in our hearts a new love and care for creation. Give us the will to curb wasteful habits and to hold accountable those who neglect the vulnerable. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for all who aspire to public office and for all who will vote on Tuesday at local polling places. Pour wisdom and understanding upon all who govern so that communities of justice and peace may thrive. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for all who long for healing in mind, body, or spirit especially; Keith Brown, Dolly Mensink, Dean Kirkland, Finley Budensiek, Sara Nolte, Mark Jacobson, Deb Huneke, Jill Louise Plank, Eric Ryan, Gabriel Ryan, Roger Kurtti, Dr. Shauna Burslem, Ben Haenel (husband of Greg Nixon’s niece), and the family of Adalie Hase, Megan & Kyle Roschen. Strengthen hospitals, clinics, counseling centers, nursing homes, and recovery centers to be holy spaces of renewal that all might live the abundant life you intend. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for all who seek to grow in faith and love of you. Guide teaching and learning in confirmation, small groups, Sunday school, youth groups, schools, seminaries, and universities. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We give thanks for all the saints and reformers who have gone before us who dwell in your holy habitation. Give us courage through their example to challenge unjust systems and work toward life-giving reformation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Confident that you hear us, O God, we boldly place our prayers into your hands; through Jesus Christ, our truth and life. **Amen.**

Sharing the Peace: L: The peace of Christ be with you always. C: **And also with you.**

Ushers bring offering forward.

Offertory Prayer: P: Let us pray,

C: Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior & Lord. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving: L: The Lord be with you C: And also with you L: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord. L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. C: It is right to give Him thanks & praise.

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer: 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 Meal & Hymns: *"What a Friend We Have In Jesus"* #742

Vs 1: What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear! What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer! O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear, all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer!

Vs 2: Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere? We should never be discouraged; take it to the Lord in prayer! Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share? Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to the Lord in prayer!

Vs 3: Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care? Precious Savior, still our refuge - take it to the Lord in prayer! Do your friends despise, forsake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer! In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a solace there.

"Taste and See" #493

Refrain: Taste and see, taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

Oh, taste and see, taste and see the goodness of the Lord, of the Lord.

Vs 1: I will bless the Lord at all times. Praise shall always be on my lips; my soul shall glory in the Lord; for God has been so good to me. (Refrain)

Vs 2: Glorify the Lord with me. Together let us all praise God's name. I called the Lord, who answered me; from all my troubles I was set free. (Refrain)

Vs 3: Worship the Lord, all you people. You'll want for nothing if you ask. Taste and see that the Lord is good; in God we need put all our trust. (Refrain)

Communion Prayer: P: Let us pray,

C: We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing: *(Please stand as you are able.)*

The Lord bless you & keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you & be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace. In the name of the Father, & the Son, & the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Sending: *"How Great Thou Art"* #415

Vs 1: O Lord my God, When I in awesome wonder Consider all the works Thy hands have made I see the stars I hear the mighty thunder Thy pow'r thru'out The universe displayed

Chorus: Then sings my soul My Savior God to Thee How great Thou art How great Thou art
Then sings my soul My Savior God to Thee How great Thou art How great Thou art

Vs 2: When through the woods & forest glades I wander I hear the birds Sing sweetly in the trees When I look down From lofty mountain grandeur And hear the brook And feel the gentle breeze [chorus]

Vs 3: But when I think That God His Son not sparing Sent Him to die I scarce can take it in That on the cross My burden gladly bearing He bled and died To take away my sin [chorus]

Vs 4: When Christ shall come With shout of acclamation And take me home What joy shall fill my heart Then I shall bow In humble adoration And there proclaim My God how great Thou art [chorus]

Dismissal: L: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

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St. Luke Lutheran Church · 308 First Ave. PO Box 276 Goodhue, MN 55027

Sunday School: 8:30AM · Sunday Worship: 9:30AM · Wednesday Worship: 6:45PM

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