



OCTOBER 26, 2025 • 8:30 AM • CELEBRATION OF REFORMATION DAY
A CONFESSED TRUTH AND JOY

Welcome! We're excited you're here. In our service, we gather before Almighty God to offer Him our worship and praise. We come together to be strengthened by His Word to be His witnesses.

Families, if you brought your children with you today, we want you to know that the spiritual well-being of your child is very important to us. Many families wish to teach and encourage their younger child(ren) to be in church and get what they can out of it. If you feel that you need to take your child out for whatever reason; there is a cry room near the back of the sanctuary and a restroom with a baby changing station is located by the elevator (to the left as you exit the sanctuary). **Guests**, we welcome you. If you will, please help us to get to know you by filling out the Guest side of the Welcome Card found in the pews/ chair backs and place it in the offering plates.

As We Gather: Big Idea of *The Creed Series*: This four-week series examines the Nicene Creed and its development from the Council of Nicaea (AD 325). We are blessed with many freedoms in this country. While these national freedoms are great blessings, in the Holy Gospel, Jesus points out that for true freedom, one must be free from slavery to sin. Only in Christ is anyone truly free. We will confess the truth, freedom, and joy of Jesus!

WELCOME

Please Stand

CALL TO WORSHIP

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

OPENING HYMN

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.

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OPENING SENTENCES

Psalms 46:1, 7, 10-11

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

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

Taking the cross of grace and peace to form a community of uncommon servants.

OPENING SENTENCES *(cont.)*

P "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"

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

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Isaiah 35:10

P Let us confess our sins to God, our Father.

C Almighty God, You are our mighty fortress. We resist this reality when we live according to the so-called wisdom of the world. We resist the reality that, in Christ, we are free indeed when we use our law-keeping as a measure of our standing with You. We resist the reality that You are with us when we celebrate Your works as our own. Still our selfish nature and forgive our sins for Jesus' sake. Gladden our hearts and set us free.

P The prophet Isaiah reminds us, "The ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away." This is our reality as Jesus forgives us and sets us free. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive You all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

GREETING

HYMN OF PRAISE

803 Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

1 Joyful, joyful we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee, Praising Thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, Drive the gloom of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness, Fill us with the light of day.

3 Thou art giving and forgiving, Ever blessing, ever blest,
Wellspring of the joy of living, Ocean-depth of happy rest!
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Fountainhead of love divine:
Joyful, we Thy heav'n inherit! Joyful, we by grace are Thine!

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SALUTATION AND 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. 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.

C Amen.

Be Seated

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

+ WORD +

FIRST READING

*Revelation 14:6–7
(Fear God and worship Him.)*

⁶ Then 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. ⁷ And 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.

CHOIR ANTHEM

All Creatures of Our God and King

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 15:1-11
(The Resurrection of Jesus Christ.)

15 Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, ² and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. ³ For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁴ that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁵ and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶ Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷ Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸ Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹ For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰ But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹ Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please Stand

VERSE

Luke 12:32

P Alleluia. Fear not, little flock,

C for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 8:31–36

(It is only through Jesus that we become free.)

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

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

Be Seated – Children Dismissed for Children's Church

MESSAGE HYMN

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.

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MESSAGE

Taking the cross of grace and peace to form a community of uncommon servants.

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.

OFFERING *(Thanks for your ongoing stewardship and support of God's mission here!)*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH *(Prayer response after each petition...)*

P Lord, in Your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9–13

+ SACRAMENT +

PREFACE

2 Timothy 4:22

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

P It is good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, our God, for You have set us free and justified us by Your grace. Because our Lord Jesus is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him are set free from the power of sin and death and will rise again to new life in the city of God. Therefore with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

HYMN

657 A Mighty Fortress is Our God

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!

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THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

Be Seated

DISTRIBUTION/ DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

636 Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness

821 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

After the Distribution - Please Stand

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Lord of hosts, we thank and praise You for blessing us with Your body and blood. Still our souls and gladden our hearts so that we exalt You among the nations and throughout the whole earth; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24–26

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

664 Fight the Good Fight

1 Fight the good fight with all your might; Christ is your
2 Run the straight race through God's good grace; Lift up your
3 Cast care a - side, lean on your guide; His bound - less

strength, and Christ your right. Lay hold on life, and
eyes, and seek His face. Life with its way be -
mer - cy will pro - vide. Trust, and en - dur - ing

it shall be Your joy and crown e - ter - nal - ly.
fore us lies; Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.
faith shall prove Christ is your life and Christ your love.

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DISMISSAL

Into the world, justified by Jesus

A HUGE "Thank you" to those that served to make worship happen (virtual and in-person) today...

Pastor Rev. Jason Hoerth
Children's Message Chris Graves, DCE
Elder Jon Dreier

Reader Nina Wichard
Organist Cheryl Heck
Acolyte Abby Wood

Acknowledgments

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Taking the cross of grace and peace to form a community of uncommon servants.