

**Morning Worship**  
**Bethesda Lutheran Church 8:30**  
**Immanuel Lutheran Church 11:00**  
**October 31, 2021**  
**Reformation Day**

**Acknowledgement and Thanksgiving for the Land**

*Creator, you mad all people of every land. It is our responsibility to give thanks and respect to those who first occupied this land we are upon. We give thanks to the Anishinaabe, the first people of this land. We offer our respect to those ancestors who may be interred in this land. Creator let us be of Good Mind and to reconcile the mistreatment of this land and to those who have been displaced. With thankful and respectful hearts we pray in Your name, Your son the Peacemaker and the Sacred Spirit. Amen.*

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**Prelude/Gathering**

**Call to Worship**

**A Mighty Fortress is Our God**  
**A Litany for Reformation Sunday**

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

**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,**  
**Though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea,**  
**Though its waters roar and foam,**  
**Though the mountains tremble with its tumult.**

## **Prayer of Brokenness / Confession**

Almighty One, **Maker of the Universe**, we confess that our heads are turned down and we are focused only on what is in front of us. We have a hard time breaking out of the cycle of this world that pushes us to achieve monetary success and gaining of possessions as a way of happiness. Guide us back to Your ways, in which we are called to love You and love one another, as You have loved us. Remind us the Your reign is not of this world, and that the beloved community You are building on earth in which we serve one another and meet the needs of each other. For we find that when we seek to care for one another, our won needs are met. When we love one another, we are loved, and we know Your love more deeply. Bring us back to Your way, Your truth, and Your life, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

## **Blessing / Assurance of Pardon**

God's steadfast love endures forever. There is no end to God's faithfulness, and when we seek God, we find God is already among us. Know God's love in your love for one another. Know God's forgiveness as you forgive one another, seek to repair what has been broken and reconcile whenever possible. Know God's peace as you center your lives on God's love and share God's love with the world. **Amen.**

## **Gathering Hymn ELW #504 "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"**

*[Sung]*

*A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;  
our helper he amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.  
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;  
his craft and power are great, and, armed with cruel hate,  
on earth is not his equal.*

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

**God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;  
God will help it when the morning dawns.**

*[Sung]*

*Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing;  
were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing.*

*Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus it is he,  
Lord Sabbath is his name, from age to age the same,  
and he must win the battle.*

The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter;  
God speaks and the earth melts.

**The Lord of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our refuge.**

Come, behold the works of the Lord!

**God makes wars cease to the end of the earth;  
God breaks the bow, shatters the spear,  
and burns the shields with fire.**

*[Sung]*

*And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,  
we will not fear, for God has willed, his truth to triumph through us.  
The prince of darkness grim, we tremble not for him;  
his rage we can endure, for lo! his doom is sure,  
one little word shall fell him.*

Be still, and know that the Lord is God!

**God is exalted among the nations;  
God is exalted in the earth.**

The Lord of hosts is with us;

**The God of Jacob is our refuge.**

*[Sung]*

*That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth;  
the Spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth;  
let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;  
the body they may kill, God's truth abideth still,  
his kingdom is forever.*

~ posted on the **Presbyterian Mission** website. **The authors write:“ This litany interweaves Martin Luther’s great Reformation hymn with the words from Scripture that inspired it, the words of Psalm 46.”**

## **Greeting**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you. Prayer of the Day**

Almighty God, gracious lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## WORD

### First Reading Jeremiah 31:31-34

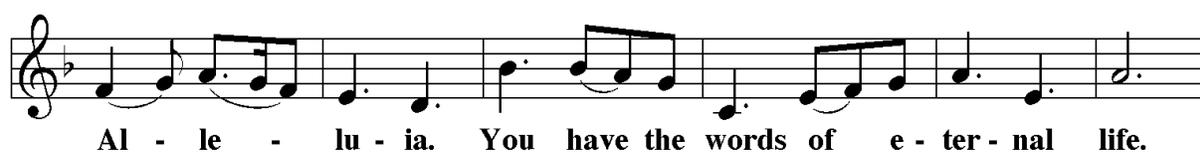
Response after Reading: The Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 46

### Second Reading Romans 3:19-28

Response after Reading: The Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel



### The Holy Gospel according to John 8:31-36

Response after the announcement: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Response after the conclusion: **Praise to you O Christ.**

## **Sermon**

### **Blessing of Quilts and Kits at Immanuel**

#### **Hymn of the Day #517 ELW “Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word”**

### **Affirmation of Unity**

We share one faith, have one calling, are of one soul and one mind; have one God and Father, are filled with one Spirit, are baptized with one baptism, eat of one bread and drink of one cup, confess one Name, are obedient to one Lord, work for one cause, and share one hope.

Together we come to know the height and the breadth and the depth of the love of Christ; are built up to the stature of Christ, to the new humanity; know and bear one another's burdens, thereby fulfilling the law of Christ that we need one another, admonishing and comforting one another; that we suffer with one another for the sake of righteousness. Together we pray; together we serve God in this world.

~written by Nolan Palsma, and printed in “Prayerful Preparation: Living God, Renew Us.”

### **Prayers of Intercession**

#### **Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

Share a sign of God's peace.

#### **Offering Prayer**

Gracious Lord, you have lavished upon us the riches of your glory. You shelter us, care for us, and bring us safely to each stop on our journey. As you have given to us out of your abundance, we return our offering to you with praise and thanksgiving. **Amen.**

## Great Thanksgiving

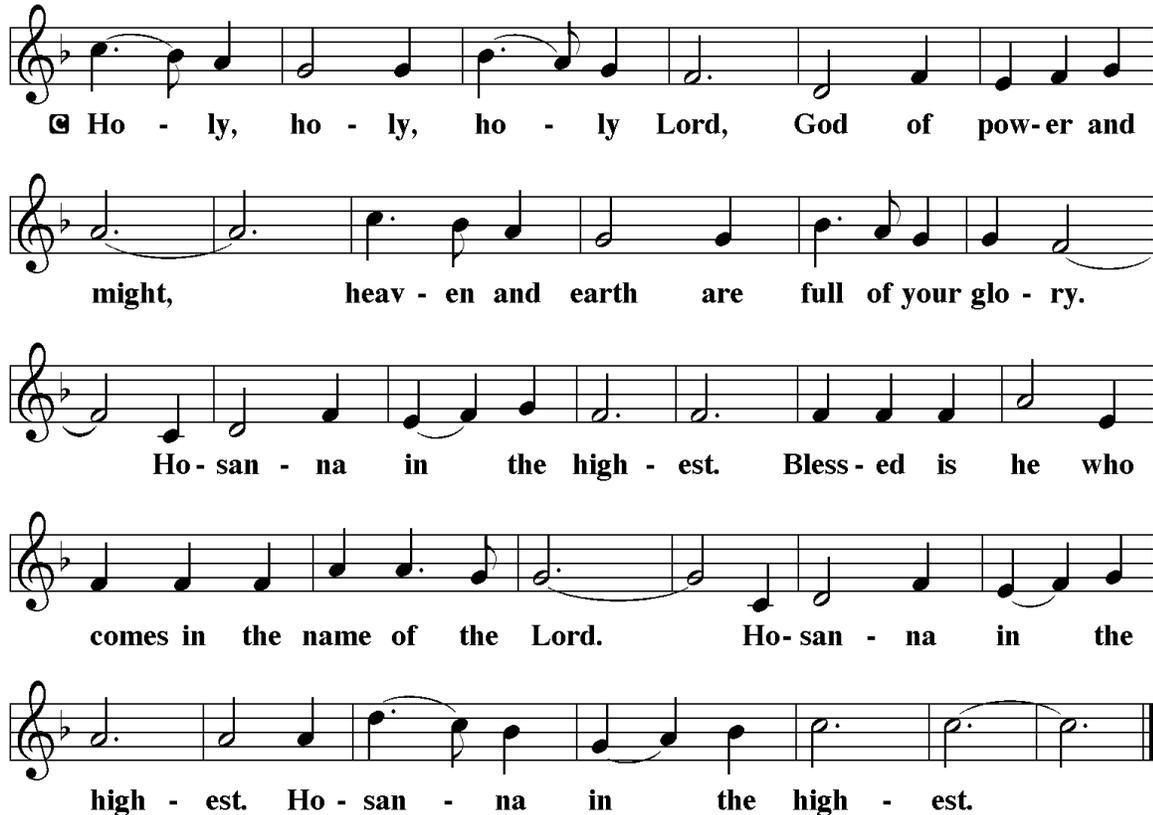
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and  
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## Words of Consecration/The 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 today 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

Taste and see that the Lord is good!

## **Communion Hymn #652 ELW "Built on a Rock"**

Verses 1, 3, 4

### **Prayer after Communion**

O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, in the way of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **Announcements**

#### **Benediction**

For all that God can do within us,  
for all that God can do without us,  
**Thanks be to God!**

For all in whom Christ lived before us,  
for all in whom Christ lives beside us,  
**Thanks be to God!**

For all the Spirit wants to bring us,  
for where the Spirit wants to send us,  
**Thanks be to God!**

The blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
be with you and on your way together,  
now and forever.  
**Amen.**

~ Written by the Liturgical Task Force of the Lutheran-Roman Catholic Commission on Unity.

## **Sending Hymn #654 ELW "the Church's One Foundation"**

Verses 1, 3, 5

### **Dismissal**

Go in peace and serve those who hunger.  
**Thanks be to God!**