

Our Saviour

Lutheran Church



Saturday Worship + 28 October 2023
Reformation Saturday, Year A

6194 Dumfries Rd. Warrenton, VA 20187 + 540.347.3224. + www.oslc-warrenton.org

GATHERING

Gathering Song *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

ELW 631

Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
Fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation, enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit into ev'ry troubled breast;
let us all in thee inherit; let us find thy promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty, to deliver; let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation, pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee!
Changed from glory into glory, till in heav'n we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise!

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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

C **Amen.**

The presiding minister may comment briefly upon the service of the day.

P Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Steadfast and faithful God,
C you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you.
We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering.
We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others.
For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us.
For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation,
forgive us.
For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive
us.
Lead us back to you and set us on the right path;
in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

P Beloved in Christ,
God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.
God's compassion is beyond compare.
In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.
In † Christ, you are already and always forgiven.
C Amen.

Sharing the Peace

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

Prayer of the Day

L Let us pray.
L 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.
C Amen.

WORD

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

L A reading from Jeremiah.

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.

L The word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 46

L We will read the Psalm responsively. The congregation will read the sections in bold print.

God is our shelter and strength,
always ready to help in times of trouble.

² **So we will not be afraid, even if the earth is shaken
and mountains fall into the ocean depths;**

³ even if the seas roar and rage,
and the hills are shaken by the violence.

⁴ **There is a river that brings joy to the city of God,
to the sacred house of the Most High.**

⁵ God is in that city, and it will never be destroyed;
at early dawn he will come to its aid.

⁶ **Nations are terrified, kingdoms are shaken;
God thunders, and the earth dissolves.**

⁷ The Lord Almighty is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.

⁸ **Come and see what the Lord has done.**

See what amazing things he has done on earth.

⁹ He stops wars all over the world;
he breaks bows, destroys spears, and sets shields on fire.

¹⁰ **“Stop fighting,” he says, “and know that I am God,
supreme among the nations, supreme over the world.”**

¹¹ The Lord Almighty is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Second Reading: Romans 3:19-28

L A reading from Paul’s letter to the church in Rome.

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

- L The word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel: John 8:31-36

The congregation remains seated during the multi-voice presentation of the lesson.

- P The holy gospel according to John.
C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus (*to the new Jewish believers*): ³¹ If you hear My voice and abide in My word, you are truly My disciples; ³² you will know the truth, and that truth will give you freedom.

Jewish Believers: ³³ We are Abraham's children, and we have never been enslaved to anyone. How can You say to us, "You will be set free"?

Jesus: ³⁴ I tell you the truth: everyone who commits sin surrenders his freedom to sin. He is a *slave to sin's power*. ³⁵ Even a household slave does not live in the home like a member of the family, but a son belongs there forever. ³⁶ So *think of it this way*: if the Son comes to make you free, you will really be free.

- P The Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Children's Message

(Children come forward during "This Little Light of Mine".)

Sermon

Song of the Day *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

ELW 504

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.

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.

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 judgement must prevail!
One little word subdues him.

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!

Prayers of the People

When prompted, everyone is encouraged to call out names of people, places or organizations for which they are thankful or that are in need of God's care.

The minister begins the prayers:

P Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.

Hear now the names we speak before you and each other.

The minister concludes the prayers:

P Into your hands, O God, we commend those for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C Amen.

MEAL

Sharing Our Gifts

L Let us offer back to God what God has first given us: ourselves, our time and our possessions, signs of his gracious love.

Our offerings support the work of the church here and around the world. Please pass the baskets from front to back. You may also make an offering online at www.oslc-warrenton.org by clicking the “DONATE” tab on the homepage. Thank you!

Offertory Song

Canon of Grace

Spiritoso Ringers

Offering Prayer

L Let us pray together.

C God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you.

We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed.

Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

Dialogue

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.

Thanksgiving at the Table

P Holy God, mighty and merciful,
C **your mercy endures forever.**

P By your promise you bound yourself to earth and all its creatures, granting them life and calling them to flourish. You bound yourself to your people of old, showing them steadfast love and calling them to be a light to the nations. Holy God, mighty and merciful,
C **your mercy endures forever.**

P By your promise, you joined us to Jesus, your Beloved, who in the night in which he was betrayed, took bread, and 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.

With this bread and cup we remember his life laid down and lifted up; Holy God, mighty and merciful,
C **your mercy endures forever.**

P Send your Holy Spirit upon us and these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be for us the Body and Blood of your Son. Holy God, mighty and merciful,
C **your mercy endures forever.**

P With earth and its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, with [*... and*] all the saints, we praise you, O God, through Christ Jesus, in your Spirit, now and forever.
C **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

P Let us pray as our Savior taught us.

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.

Sharing Holy Communion

All baptized Christians are invited to share Christ's Body. If you wish to receive Holy Communion, please come forward and stand or kneel around the altar.

Communion Song *You Are My King (Amazing Love)*

I'm forgiven because You were forsaken.
I'm accepted; You were condemned.
I'm alive and well, Your Spirit is within me
because You died and rose again.

Chorus:

Amazing love, how can it be that You, my King, would die for me?
Amazing love, I know it's true; it's my joy to honor You.

(Repeat Chorus)

In all I do I honor You.

You are my King, You are my King.
Jesus, You are my King.
Jesus, You are my King.
(Chorus)

Prayer After Communion

L Let us pray.

Blessed be your name, O God,
for we have feasted on your Word,
Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts.
Strengthened by this food,
send us to gather the world to your banquet,
where none are left out and all are satisfied.
In Jesus' name we pray.

C Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

P The God of glory, † Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

Sending Song

Reformation Song

Your Word alone is solid ground;
The mighty rock on which we build.
In every line the truth is found,
And every page with glory filled.

Through faith alone we come to You.
We have no merit we can claim.
Sure that Your promises are true,
We place our hope in Jesus' name.

Chorus:

Gloria, gloria, glory to God alone.
Gloria, gloria, glory to God alone.

In Christ alone we're justified.
His righteousness is all our plea,
Your law's demands are satisfied.
His perfect work has set us free.

By grace alone we have been saved.
All that we are has come from You.
Hearts that were once by sin enslaved,
Now by Your pow'r have been made new.

(Chorus)

And on this Reformation day,
We join with saints of old to sing.
We lift our hearts as one in praise:
Glory to Christ our gracious King.

(Chorus)

Dismissal

L Go in peace. God is at work in you.
C Thanks be to God.

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Songs

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Bible Readings

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