

# Reformation Sunday

October 25, 2026

## WELCOME & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Out of respect and in the spirit of truth, we acknowledge that we gather in community on land which is Treaty 7 territory and the traditional territory of the Blackfoot people of the Canadian Plains. We honour the Blackfoot people past, present and future, and the Metis Nation of Alberta, Region III. May our actions and choices demonstrate open hearts, kindness, and compassion towards all who call this place home.

## COMMUNITY LIFE

**Today we in the ELCIC are celebrating our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a special worship service** that will be livestreamed from Camp Kinasao, led by Bishop Larry Kochendorfer and youth participating in the Saskatchewan Synod Youth Retreat. This Reformation service centres on the theme "One Body" and all people of the ELCIC are invited to participate.

**Everyone is invited to gather here this afternoon at 3 pm** to join the worship recording in the sanctuary and then **stay for a light meal** of sandwiches, dessert, and coffee following the service. If you have an ELCIC t-shirt, you're welcome to wear it for this special anniversary celebration.

## INTRODUCTION

Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who pours love into our hearts  
and healing upon the earth. **Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves  
and the truth is not in us.  
Let us confess our sin to God,  
who is faithful and just,  
and who has promised to forgive our sin  
and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection*

Most merciful God,  
**have mercy on us.**

**We confess to you that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not trusted you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved one another in deed and in truth.  
In your compassion, forgive our sin  
and so uphold us by your Spirit  
that we may live and serve you in newness of life  
through Jesus Christ our light and our truth. Amen.**

With joy, I proclaim to you that Almighty God, rich in mercy, abundant in love,  
forgives all our sin and grants us newness of life in Jesus Christ.  
**Thanks be to God!**

KYRIE "Now the Feast"/ELW 157

Leader

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Assembly

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have

For the reign of God, and for

mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peace through-out the world, for the u-ni-ty of all, let us pray to the

Lord. For your

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peo - ple here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your

word, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer-cy. Christ, have mer-cy. Lord, have

Help, save, and de-fend us, O God.

mer - cy. A - men.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE "Now the Feast and Celebration" ELW 167

*Refrain*



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!

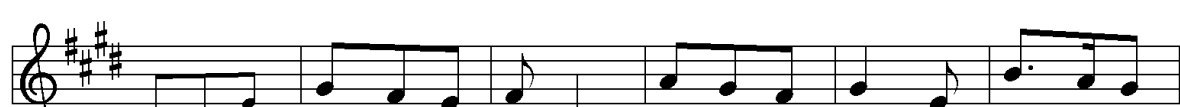


1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.

*Refrain*



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.

*Refrain*



3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



God; to make all things new.

*Refrain*

## **GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

It is our delight to pray. 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.**

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

### **FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34**

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It 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. But 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. No 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.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 46 REFRAIN "Though the Earth Shall Change" ACS 1035** *sing twice*



Though the earth shall change, though the moun-tains trem-ble,



though the wa - ters rage, you, God, are here.



Though the na - tions war, though the peo - ples bat - tle,



though the em - pire fal - ters, we will not fear.

**SECOND READING: Romans 3:19-28**

*Paul's words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ's death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.*

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

Now 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. For no human will be justified before him by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

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

Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law? That of works? No, rather through the law of faith. For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

# GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: "Alleluia, Alleluia" NTF

Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we  
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal  
life. Al - le - lu - ia! *Optional Repeat*

## GOSPEL: John 8:31-36

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." They 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?'"

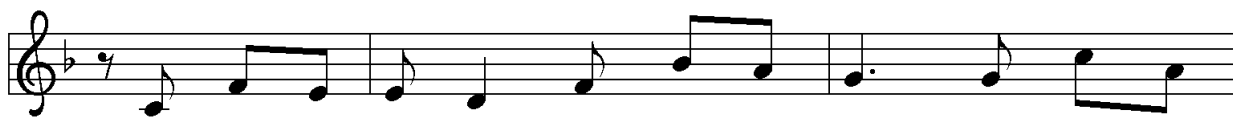
Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY "Soli Deo Gloria" ELW 878 v 1,2,4 & 5



O God of bless - ings, all praise to you! Your love sur -  
 All praise for proph - ets, through grace in - spired to preach and  
 All praise for Je - sus, best gift di - vine through word and  
 A bil - lion voic - es in one great song, now soft and



rounds us our whole life on through. You are the  
 wit - ness with hearts on fire. Your Spir - it  
 wit - ness, in bread and wine; in - car - nate  
 gen - tle, now deep and strong, in ev - 'ry



free - dom of those op - pressed; you are the com - fort of all dis -  
 choos - es the weak and small to sing the new reign where might - y  
 love song of bound - less grace, priest, teach - er, proph - et in time and  
 cul - ture and style and key, from hill and val - ley, with sky and



tressed. Come now, O ho - ly and wel - come guest:  
 fall; with them may we live your gos - pel call:  
 space, your stead - fast kind - ness with hu - man face:  
 sea, with Christ we praise you e - ter - nal - ly:



So - li De - o glo - ri - a! So - li De - o glo - ri - a!

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

*A brief silence.*

Gracious God, as we celebrate Reformation Sunday, we remember the witness of Martin Luther and the reformers of the church in every generation. Empower us and give us courage to continue the work of reform and renewal in our own day. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Holy God, send your Spirit of justice and peace to those who experience strife and discord, violence and heartbreaking need. Give wisdom and discernment to all in authority that they may put the needs of others before their own.  
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We ask your blessing on all people who have been harmed by the church and its leaders, that the truth may make them free. We pray for the relief of all those who are sick or suffering or recovering in hospital. We pray especially for Don and Carol, Arne, Kate, Janet D, Dave, Austin, Patrick, Linda H, Carol, Murray, Shirley J., Jody, Mo, Sidonia, Jim N., Clayton P, Marlene and Darcy, Clayton and Margaret, Sheila, Ray, Nancy, Alan T, Cherylee, Elda, and those we name silently now . . . [silence].  
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We give thanks for those exploring or returning to a life of faith. Encourage and guide them, that they may find their hope in you. We ask your blessing on those who do the quiet, unseen work of the church especially the Soup Kitchen volunteers. Hold in your care Kevin and Diane Fjordbotten and Millicent Foelker, as well as Pastor Joel, Vanessa and Hans. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for all those who mourn. Our thoughts and prayers are with Marlene and William and their family as they grieve, and also with the family and friends who lost loved ones in Wainright. Comfort and reassure them that you are holding them and all who grieve in your loving arms. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

With gratitude, we remember those disciples who paved the way for us and all those we loved who now rest in your loving care. Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

## MEAL

We set our table for the communion meal.

## OFFERTORY "As the Grains of Wheat" ELW 465

*Refrain*



The musical notation is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff is labeled 'Refrain'. The lyrics for the first three staves are: 'As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were', 'gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from', and 'all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.' The fourth staff has two lines of lyrics: '1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,' and '2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when'. The fifth staff is also labeled 'Refrain' and has the lyrics: 'may we share the pres - ence of your love.' and 'all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.'

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were

gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from

all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,  
2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when

*Refrain*

may we share the pres - ence of your love.  
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

## OFFERING PRAYER (the congregation joins during the rest of this season)

Let us pray. Merciful God, everything in heaven and earth belongs to you. We joyfully release what you have entrusted to us. May these gifts be signs of our whole lives returned to you, dedicated to the healing and unity of all creation, through Jesus Christ. 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 our duty and delight  
that we should everywhere and always  
offer thanks and praise to you, O God,  
through Jesus Christ,  
who calls us to follow his way of humble service and love,  
and so with the church on earth,  
all creation and the host of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

### "Holy Holy" NTF/ELW 191

*Congregation:*

The musical score is written for a congregation on a single treble clef staff. It begins with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 6/8 time signature. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes, with some measures containing rests. The lyrics are written below the staff, aligned with the notes. The score is divided into five lines of music. The first line ends with a comma, the second with a semicolon, and the third with an exclamation point. The fourth line ends with a period, and the fifth line ends with a double bar line. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!'.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and

might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your

glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!

Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho -

san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

You are indeed holy,  
gracious and merciful God;  
everything is filled with your glory.  
We give you thanks for your promise and presence  
which have sustained the faithful in this and every generation.  
Above all, we give you thanks for Jesus, born of Mary,  
who in word and deed announced your gentle rule  
of justice, reconciliation, and peace.

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus 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.

Remembering his command to love one another,  
his life and death, his resurrection and his ascension,  
we pray for his coming again.  
Come, Lord Jesus.

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit,  
that all of your promises may come to us and your whole creation.  
Gather our prayers with those of the apostles, prophets, martyrs,  
and all the faithful who have gone before us,  
and unite them with the unceasing prayer of the One  
who lives in us and in whom we live, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Uniting our prayers with the whole company of heaven, as our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

#### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

**ERIN**

Hunger no more. Thirst no more.  
Come to the banquet of life.

Together let us take and eat, the body of Christ given for you  
Together let us take and drink, the blood of Christ shed for you

#### **COMMUNION VIDEO**

# COMMUNION SONG "Lamb of God" NTF



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
 you break the chains of ha - tred and  
 you are the way of jus - tice and  
 you are the way of mer - cy and



world: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,  
 fear:  
 peace:  
 love.

## Final Stanza



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,



grant us peace, grant us peace.

## "Goodness of God"

I love you, Lord,  
for your mercy never fails me.  
All my days  
I've been held in your hands.  
From the moment that I wake up  
until I lay my head,  
oh, I will sing of the goodness of God.

All my life you have been faithful.  
All my life you have been so, so good.  
With every breath that I am able,  
oh, I will sing of the goodness of God.

I love your voice.  
You have led me through the fire,  
and in darkest night,  
you are close like no other.  
I've known you as a father,  
I've known you as a friend.  
And I have lived in the goodness of God.

All my life you have been faithful.  
All my life you have been so, so good.  
With every breath that I am able,  
oh, I will sing of the goodness of God.

### *Bridge*

Your goodness is running after, it's running after me.  
Your goodness is running after, it's running after me,  
With my life laid down, I'm surrendered now.  
I give you everything,  
'cause your goodness is running after,  
it's running after me.

All my life you have been faithful.  
All my life you have been so, so good.  
With every breath that I am able,  
oh, I'm gonna sing of the goodness of God.  
oh, I'm gonna sing of the goodness of God.

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

## **SENDING OF COMMUNION**

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: Pour out your Spirit on all who share your word and sacrament with those who are sick or homebound. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

## **BLESSING**

May God bless you and keep you.

May God's face shine on you and be gracious to you.

May God look on you with favour and ✝ give you peace. Amen.

# SENDING SONG "A Mighty Fortress" ELW 504 v 1, 2, 4



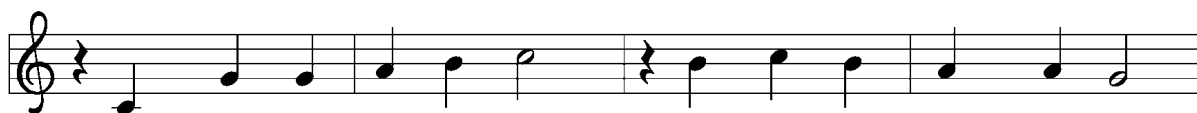
A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -  
No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -  
God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who



to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and  
ject - ed. But now a cham-pion comes to fight, whom  
fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe  
God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?  
weap-ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,



has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might  
The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,  
goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.  
God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.  
they can - not win the day. The king-dom's ours for - ev - er!

## SENDING

Led on by saints before us, go in peace to serve the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God. We will!**

#### COPYRIGHT PERMISSIONS

1. **“Kyrie” “Now the Feast” “Alleluia, Alleluia” “As the Grains of Wheat” “Holy, Holy” “Lamb of God”**  
Words & Music by Marty Haugen © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc. Reproduced under OneLicense.net #A-712444.
2. **“Though the Earth Shall Change”** Text: Rolf Begdahl, b. 1955, based on Psalm 46. Music: Tom Witt. Text and music © 2009 Augsburg Fortress. Reproduced under OneLicense.net #A-712444.
3. **“Soli Deo Gloria”** Text & Music by Marty Haugen © 1999 GIA Publications, Inc. Reproduced under OneLicense.net #A-712444.
4. **“Goodness of God”** Contributors: Jason Ingram, Ed Cash, Ben Fielding, Jenn Johnson, Brian Johnson, Bethel Music © 2018 Bethel Music Publishing (ASCAP). All Rights Reserved. Reproduced under OneLicense.net #A-712444.
6. **“A Mighty Fortress”** Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829-1878, alt., Tune: J. Klug, Geistliche Lieder, 1543. Reproduced under OneLicense.net #A-712444.
7. **Liturgy** from Now the Feast and Celebration, Marty Haugen, GIA Publication Inc.

Permission to podcast / stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #A-712444, and CCLI License #547407. All rights reserved.