Service of Holy Communion Reformation Sunday October 30, 2022 10:00 a.m.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

"Praise the Almighty, My Soul Adore Him" "Dear Christians, One and All" "Entrata Festiva" - Flor Peeters - G. F. Kauffmann

- Alfred Fedak

WELCOME

GATHERING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who looks upon us in compassion, forgives our sin, and heals our lives.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

The congregation may kneel or sit.

Have mercy, O God, against you, you alone, we have sinned. In your compassion, cleanse us from our sin and take away our guilt. Create in us a new heart and give us a steadfast spirit. Do not cast us away, but fill us with your Holy Spirit and restore your joy within us. Amen.

As tender as parent to child, so deep is God's compassion for you. As high as heaven is above earth, so vast is God's love for you. As far as east is from west, so far God removes your sin from you, renewing your life through Jesus Christ. Blessed be God who crowns us with mercy and love.

Blessed be God forever.

The congregation is invited to turn and face the cross in the procession.

GATHERING HYMN

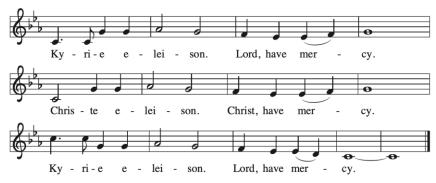
"Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation"

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.

KYRIE





PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us 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.

The congregation may be seated.

THE WORD

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING Jeremiah 31:31-34

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the LORD means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the LORD will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.

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.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 46 read responsively

¹God is our refuge and strength,

a very present help in trouble.

²Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;

³though its waters rage and foam,

and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

⁴There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,

the holy habitation of the Most High.

⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;

God shall help it at the break of day.

⁶The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;

God speaks, and the earth melts away.

⁷The LORD of hosts is with us;

the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

⁸Come now, regard the works of the LORD,

what desolations God has brought upon the earth;

⁹behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;

who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

¹⁰"Be still, then, and know that I am God;

I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth."

¹¹The LORD of hosts is with us;

the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

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.

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.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The congregation may stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

"Thy Strong Word" st. 1 Red Book #511

GOSPEL John 8:31-36

The holy gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John, the eighth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

³¹Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." ³³They 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'?"

³⁴Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

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

The congregation may be seated.

SERMON

The congregation may stand.

Red Book #511

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Thy Strong Word" sts. 3-6 Stanza 3: all Stanza 4: low voices Stanza 5: high voices Stanza 6: all

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, and 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, and he will come to judge the living and 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, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Trusting in God's extraordinary love, let us come near to the Holy One in prayer.

For the church and its people, that it may continue in Christ's word with clarity and reject stories that compete for its loyalty and attention, let us pray: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who parent children in situations of war or violence, especially for parents in the Holy Land, Ukraine, Uvalde, and St. Louis, that even through the horrors of death they may offer their children the security of love, let us pray: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who seek reformation of their own lives or who yearn for change in the lives of loved ones, that God would shape their desires and their paths according to God's own will, let us pray: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who face the limits of their strength and the mortality of their bodies, that despite frustration and loss they would experience God's grace, let us pray: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who have this week been carried by the promises of their baptism into Christ's loving hands, we give thanks, and for increase in our own trust in his resurrection, let us pray: **Lord, have mercy.**

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

THE MEAL

PEACE

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

CHOIR ANTHEM

"The Rock on Whom We Stand" - Cindy Berry (Jim Cunningham & Ryan Fitch, *trumpeters*)

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 God thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy (*the presiding minister continues giving thanks*)...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Let the peoples praise you, generous and abundant creator.... United by your Spirit and with all your people, we pray through your Son, Jesus Christ, to you, our Source and our Goal, our Sun and our Shield, our God, now and forever.

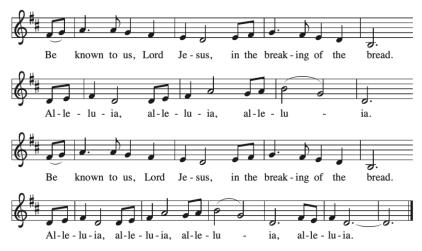
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we pray as Jesus taught us: 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

FRACTION ANTHEM

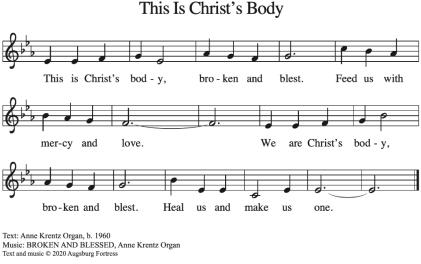


SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT

All are welcome to Holy Communion today. Lutherans believe that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine. The ushers will invite you forward to

receive. Gluten free wafers are available; please let the pastor know if you wish to receive them. If you are able to receive either bread or wine (but not both), please know that you still receive the full communion.

HYMN DURING COMMUNION



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BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

BLESSING

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, guard your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and the blessing of Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, be withs you now and forever. **Amen.**

During the hymn, the congregation is invited to turn and face the cross in the procession.

SENDING HYMN

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

Red Book #504

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The Lord is with you! Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE	"Basse de Trompette"	- Francois Couperin
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SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

The Rev. Kimberly van Driel	Presiding Minister
Sandy Lefebvre	Assisting Minister
Susan Farrell	Reader
Amelia O'Rourke	Crucifer
Claudia van Driel	Acolyte
Signe Mitchell	Organist
Jim Cunningham and Ryan Fitch	Trumpeters
Harry Cunningham	Senior Choir Director
Marlin Boltz	AV Assisting Minister
Karen Boltz	PowerPoint Assisting Minister
Roxanne Glagola	Altar Guild
Bill and Judy Vilcheck	Ushers
Jim and Jeanette Cunningham	Counters

Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by the congregation of First English Lutheran Church.

All are welcome to gather in the social hall for coffee hour following worship. Thank you to our hosts, Tillie and Tony Sequite.

Mon., 10/31	5:00 PM	Community Dinner
	8:00 PM	NA Meeting (Social Hall)
Wed., 11/2	7:00 PM	AA Meeting (Social Hall)
	7:00 PM	Zoom book group (online)
Thurs., 11/3	10:30 AM	Bible Study
	7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal

THIS WEEK AT FIRST ENGLISH

	7:30 PM	NA Meeting (Downstairs)
Fri., 11/4		Pastor Kimberly's day off
	5:00 PM	Wedding Rehearsal
Sat., 11/5	2:00 PM	Wedding at First English
Sun. 11/6	9:00 AM	Bible Study (Pastor's office)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

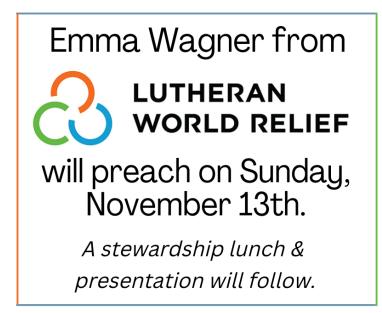
Next week is All Saints Sunday. We will remember those who have died in Christ over the last year. If there is a name you would like included in the prayers, please contact the church office by Thursday, Nov. 3rd (724) 283-2378 or officefelc@zoominternet.net).

We rejoice with Stephanie Flinchbaugh and Frank McGrath as they are married at First English on Saturday, November 5th. Please keep them in your prayers as they embark on a new life together!

First English will send \$2,000 to Lutheran Disaster Response to provide Hurricane Ian relief. The Council would like to challenge the congregation to match this gift by the end of October. Donations can be made online at elca.org or through FELC by indicating "Hurricane Relief" on the specials line of your offering envelope.

Do you have joys and concerns you would like to lift up in the prayers of intercession today? We'll invite people to name those concerns prior to worship during the welcome time. Zoom worshipers are invited to name their prayer requests in the chat.

Join us for Daily Discipleship Bible study at 9 a.m. If you wish to join by zoom, please join the worship link. We'll conclude by 9:40.



PRAYERS

Tony Sequite; Hazel Warheit; Kyle Badger; Joyce Mitchel (Matt Cooper's grandma); those affected by hurricane Ian; Brian Salisbury; Mark Vogel & family; continued healing for Graham Cannon; Stan Graff; family of Gretchen Farrell; Aryl Bashline; Patrick Frank; Holly Schubert; Ellen Dodge; Tad Sellers; Claudia; Pam Patterson; Tom Olson

If you would like to add someone to the prayer list, please contact the church office or add their names to the sign-up sheet in the social hall.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18 The holy ones of the Most High shall receive the kingdom **Psalm 149**

Sing the LORD's praise in the assembly of the faithful. (*Ps. 149:1*) Ephesians 1:11-23

God raised Christ from the dead and made him head over all the church

Luke 6:20-31

Jesus speaks blessings and woes

ZOOM MEETING INFO

To join online, click 'Join Our ZOOM Meeting' in the email. Meeting ID: 956 305 5281 Password: 408299

> To join via telephone, dial: +1 301 715 8592 Meeting ID: 956 305 5281 Password: 408299

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