

## REFORMATION WEEKEND

Mercy for Sinners  
October 26 & 27, 2019  
5:00pm & 8:00am

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### AS WE GATHER

The Pharisee vividly demonstrates arrogance as he prays to God, "I thank You that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes." Before we laugh at the Pharisee, we all ought to take a look at our own lives and recognize the ways in which we have demonstrated arrogance as well. Arrogance is a beguiling temptation for anyone absolutely certain of their rightness. It often comes from forgetting what the Gospel actually is and arises from the mistaken idea that Christianity consists of doing good things so that God will be merciful. The least likely person in the parable—the tax collector—gives a vivid demonstration of the opposite of arrogance. Standing far off, not even looking to heaven, he beats his breast, and says, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner!" Recognizing his distance from God, he humbly pleads for mercy. True Christianity consists of receiving the mercy of God and then doing good things out of thanks and gratitude.

### WELCOME

"Therefore, since we have been justified by faith,  
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.  
Through Him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace  
in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God."  
(Romans 5:1-2)

### HANDSHAKES & HUGS

#### ✠ PREPARATION ✠

### OPENING HYMN #656 "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

A mighty fortress is our God, A trusty shield and weapon;  
He helps us free from every need That hath us now o'er taken.  
The old evil foe Now means deadly woe; Deep guile and great might  
Are his dread arms in fight; On earth is not his equal.

With might of ours can naught be done, Soon were our loss effected;  
But for us fights the valiant One, Whom God Himself elected.  
Ask ye, Who is this? Jesus Christ it is, Of Sabaoth Lord,  
And there's none other God; He holds the field forever.

Though devils all the world should fill, All eager to devour us,  
We tremble not, we fear no ill; They shall not over pow'r us.  
This world's prince may still Scowl fierce as he will, He can harm us none.  
He's judged; the deed is done; One little word can fell him.

The Word they still shall let remain Nor any thanks have for it;  
He's by our side upon the plain With His good gifts and Spirit.  
And take they our life, Goods, fame, child, and wife, Though these all be gone,  
Our vict'ry has been won' The Kingdom ours remaineth.

(Rise)

### INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: Today God's mercy calls us:

**People: to confess our sins,**

Pastor: to receive forgiveness,

**People: to thank Him,**

Pastor: to live with gratitude,

**People: to give others the mercy we ourselves receive,**

Pastor: and to walk humbly with God in all we say and do.

### CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us confess our sins to God and to one another. We have sinned  
against you, O God, in thought, word, and deed.

**People: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.**

Pastor: We have not loved you with our whole heart.

**People: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.**

Pastor: We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

**People: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.**

Pastor: We have been arrogant in attitude and action.

**People: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.**

Pastor: Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

### **HYMN OF PRAISE**

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To God on high be glory And peace to all the earth;  
Goodwill from God in heaven Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!  
We praise and bless you, Father; Your holy name, we sing –  
Our thanks for your great glory, Lord God, our Heav'nly King.

To You, O solebegotten, The Father's Son, we pray;  
O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away.  
Have mercy on us, Jesus; Receive our heartfelt cry,  
Where You in pow'r are seated At God's right hand on high.

For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord.  
Forever and forever, Be worshipped and adored;  
You with the Holy Spirit Alone are Lord Most High.  
In God the Father's glory. "Amen!" our glad reply.

### **SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray and always ready to give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour down on us the abundance of your mercy; forgive us those things of which our conscience is afraid; and give us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask except by the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

(Be seated)

✠ **WORD** ✠

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** *Genesis 4:1–15* (Adam and Eve's son Cain murders their other son, Abel.)

Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, "I have gotten a man with the help of the LORD." And again, she bore his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a worker of the ground. In the course of time Cain brought to the LORD an offering of the fruit of the ground, and Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat portions. And the LORD had regard for Abel and his offering, but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his face fell. The LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry, and why has your face fallen? If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is contrary to you, but you must rule over it." Cain spoke to Abel his brother. And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel and killed him. Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is Abel your brother?" He said, "I do not know; am I my brother's keeper?" And the LORD said, "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood is crying to me from the ground. And now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. When you work the ground, it shall no longer yield to you its strength. You shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth." Cain said to the LORD, "My punishment is greater than I can bear. Behold, you have driven me today away from the ground, and from your face I shall be hidden. I shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me." Then the LORD said to him, "Not so! If anyone kills Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold." And the LORD put a mark on Cain, lest any who found him should attack him.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE 2 Timothy 4:6–8, 16–18** (The Lord will gather me safely into His heavenly kingdom.) For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing. At my first defense no one came to stand by me, but all deserted me. May it not be charged against them! But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## 8:00 ANTHEM

*"If God Be For Us"*

(Rise)

**HOLY GOSPEL** *Luke 18:9–17* (An arrogant Pharisee and a tax collector)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the eighteenth chapter.

**People: Glory to you, O Lord.**

He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt: "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted." Now they were bringing even infants to him that he might touch them. And when the disciples saw it, they rebuked them. But Jesus called them to him, saying, "Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to you, O Christ.**

(Be seated)

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

**SERMON HYMN #566 "By Grace I'm Saved"**

By grace I'm saved, grace free and boundless;  
My soul, believe and doubt it not. Why stager at this word of promise?  
Has Scripture ever falsehood taught? No! Then this word must true remain:  
By grace you too will life obtain.

By grace! None dare lay claim to merit;  
Our works and conduct have no worth.  
God in His love sent our Redeemer, Christ Jesus, to this sinful earth;  
His death did for our sins atone, And we are saved by grace alone.

By grace God's Son, our only Savior, Came down to earth to bear our sin.  
Was it because of your own merit That Jesus died your soul to win?  
No, it was grace, and grace alone, That brought Him from His heav'nly throne.

By grace! This ground of faith is certain; As long as God is true, it stands.  
What saints have penned by inspiration,  
What in His Word our God commands, Our faith in what our God has done  
Depends on grace-grace through His Son.

By grace to timid hearts that tremble, In tribulation's furnace tried,  
By grace, in spite of fear and trouble, The Father's heart is open wide.  
Where could I help and strength secure If grace were not my anchor sure?

By grace! On this I'll rest when dying; In Jesus' promise I rejoice;  
For though I know my heart's condition, I also know my Savior's voice.  
My heart is glad, all grief has flown Since I am saved by grace alone.

## SERMON

*"Just Who is Justified Before God?"*

*Luke 18:9-17*

(Rise)

## NICENE CREED

**People: 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.**

(Be seated)

**OFFERING** As your offering is collected, **please sign our attendance book** located at the end of the pew. If you are a visitor, please leave your address and phone. After you are finished, please pass the book along to others in your pew, and return the book to the center aisle. You may check the register to see the names of those to greet after the service.

(Rise)

### **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

Pastor: Let us pray to our dear Father in heaven as His dear children, asking Him to hear us for the sake of Christ and to grant us all things needful and all things beneficial for our salvation.

*Brief silence*

Pastor: Gracious God, you have renewed your Church in every age and generation with the voices of those who proclaim the Gospel and who speak your Word in both good and difficult days. Receive our thanks for raising up Martin Luther and those with him who contended for the Gospel against many enemies.

**People: Make us so bold that we may, in our own day and age, contend for the faith against those who would silence our voices or distract us from the Gospel of Christ crucified and risen.**

Pastor: Holy Lord, you continue to bless your Church with faithful pastors and church workers who are determined to know only Jesus Christ. Bless those who serve your people, that they may be preserved in temptation and sustained in trial.

**People: Open the hearts of many to hear your call to full-time service in the church. Give to the people wisdom to hear the voice of your Word and to guard against false teachings.**

Pastor: Almighty God, your Word is truth. Keep us from abandoning pure doctrine, preserve us from pride, and help us to share your truth that a new generation may know and love you.

**People: Be with all the baptized, that we may live out fully the new life you have granted to us by water and the Word, and guide us to serve our neighbors in love.**

Pastor: Mighty God, you have great power and yet you act with mercy. Teach those who lead us in this land to use power rightly and to act mercifully. Strengthen them to preserve order, to uphold justice, and to protect life and defend the weak.

**People: Give us wise, godly and faithful leaders who will follow your commands and serve with integrity.**

Pastor: Merciful God, you have continually been the defender of the weak, the advocate for the poor, and the help of the sick and those in need. Deliver the sick in accordance with your will, relieve their suffering, and grant them patience and peace especially Jerry, Nancy, Robert, Marge, Steve, Sharon, Judi, Bette, Nathan, Shirley, Mary, Cindy, Bill, Katie, Dolores, Russ, Herb, Sarah, Marge, Gladys, John, Arlene, Shirley, Jonathan and Sarah.

**People: Give to the aged your comfort and peace. Give to the grieving hope in the Gospel and the resurrection of the dead. Give to the dying your presence, and bring them into the place of everlasting light and life.**

Pastor: Mighty Lord, your Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Help us to know it well, and keep us from departing from Christ, who is the way, the truth and the life.

**People: We pray for those who have fallen away from the truth, those whose wander from your house, and those who are tempted by doubt and fear. Bring them once again into your fold, and restore and strengthen their faith.**

Pastor: Almighty Father, you know best the needs of your Church. Bless those who serve in the foreign mission fields of our Church, especially the Ferry family serving in Asia and Rachel Meyer, serving in Uganda.

**People: Bless us to be good stewards of all you give us and receive our tithes and offerings as part of our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.**

Pastor: Blessed Lord, you have granted us the privilege of a place at Christ's table. Give us also your Spirit and faith, that we may approach His table with repentance, receive His body and blood with faith, and depart to bear His fruit in lives of holiness and service.

**People: Bless your Church with unity of doctrine and life, that through the forgiveness of sins we may know the gift of a clear conscience and live at peace with one another.**

Pastor: Lord of all compassion, comfort those who continue to grieve the passing of loved ones and bless Nancy as she remembers Jimmy.

**People:** Grant us all thankful hearts, even as we join with Henry and Eleanor in thankfulness for your many blessings.

**Pastor:** Preserve your Church, O Lord, that we may not surrender the true Gospel for any reason, but be kept in this faith and fear throughout the days of our earthly pilgrimage, until that day when we and all your people shall stand before the judgment seat of Christ to receive the reward you have prepared for all who have loved His appearing. All this we pray through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whom with the Father and the Holy Spirit, are one God, now and forevermore.

**People:** Amen.

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**People:** 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.

#### ✠ SACRAMENT ✠

#### THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

#### THE PEACE OF THE LORD

**Pastor:** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**People:** Amen.

#### AGNUS DEI

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O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;  
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;  
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

(Be seated)

**DISTRIBUTION** Those guests who desire to commune who are members of another LCMS congregation may do so; if you are coming from another church background, please see the pastor or an elder first.

#### HYMN #570 "Just as I Am, Without One Plea"

Just as I am, without one plea But that Thy blood was shed for me  
And that Thou bidd'st me come to Thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am and waiting not To rid my soul of one dark blot,  
To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, though tossed about With many a conflict, many a doubt,  
Fightings and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind; Sight, riches, healing of the mind,  
Yea, all I need, in Thee to find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, Thou wilt receive, Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;  
Because Thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am; Thy love unknown Has broken every barrier down;  
Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

#### HYMN #647 "Lord Jesus Christ, the Church's Head"

Lord Jesus Christ, the Church's head, You are her one foundation;  
In You she trusts, before You bows, And waits for Your salvation.  
Built on this rock secure, Your Church shall endure  
Though all the world decay And all things pass away. O hear, O hear us, Jesus!

O Lord, let this Your little flock, Your name alone confessing,  
Continue in Your loving care, True unity possessing.  
Your sacraments, O Lord, And Your saving Word To us, Lord, pure retain.  
Great that they may remain Our only strength and comfort.

Help us to serve You evermore With hearts both pure and lowly;  
And may Your Word, that light divine, Shine on in splendor holy  
That we repentance show, In faith ever grow: The pow'r of sin destroy  
And evils that annoy. O make us faithful Christians.

And for Your Gospel let us dare To sacrifice all treasure;  
Teach us to bear Your blessed cross, To find in You all pleasure.  
O grant us steadfastness In joy and distress, Lest we, Lord, You forsake.  
Let us by grace partake Of endless joy and gladness.

**HYMN #554 “O Jesus, King Most Wonderful”**

O Jesus, King most wonderful! O Conqueror renowned!  
O Source of peace ineffable, In whom all joys are found:

When once You visit darkened hearts, Then truth begins to shine,  
Then earthly vanity departs, Then kindles love divine.

O Jesus, light of all below, The fount of life and fire,  
Surpassing all the joys we know, All that we can desire:

May ev’ry heart confess Your name, Forever You adore,  
And, seeking You, itself inflame To seek You more and more!

Oh, may our tongues forever bless, May we love You alone  
And ever in our lives express The image of Your own!

**COMMON DISMISSAL**

(Rise)

**POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: Let us pray. Mighty God, we thank you for the mercy you have shown us in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. For this bread and this cup, which deliver your mercy into our mouths and into our hearts, we praise you. By your Spirit, guide us daily in gratitude to you and mercy to our neighbors; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

**BENEDICTION**

Pastor: The Lord’s mercy for you is inexhaustible. Fight the good fight. Finish the race. Keep the faith. 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.

**People: Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN #803 “Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”**

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.

All Thy works with joy surround Thee, Earth and heav’n reflect Thy rays,  
Stars and angels sing around Thee, Center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain, Flow’ry meadow, flashing sea,  
Chanting bird, and flowing fountain Call us to rejoice in Thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving, Ever blessing, ever blest,  
Well-spring 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!

Preacher  
Liturgist  
Children’s Message  
Lector  
Acolytes  
Organist – Saturday  
Director of Parish Music

Pastor Harold Bender  
Pastor Noah Kegley  
Laurel Privatt  
Jodi Drew  
Logan Rauter, Brooklyn Hoffman  
Jo Bender  
Michelle Prince

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**Remember In Your Prayers:**

Jerry Spitzer, Nancy Gottschalk, Robert Behling, Steve Wollerman, Sharon Potzner, Judi Stilley, Bette Henrics, Nathan Halstead, Shirley Krznarich, Mary DeBona, Cindy Braun, Bill Hemberger, Katie Meinzen, Dolores Frahm, Russ Graf, Herb Hafemann, Sarah (Zimmermann) Klevgard, Marge Christensen, Gladys Delaney, John & Arlene Kurer, Shirley Giese, Jonathan Baars.

**Altar Flower Sponsors:** Henry & Eleanor Weil thankful for blessings received; Angie Korth.

**Bulletin Sponsor:** Nancy Cesar in loving memory of Jimmy.

**Relatives & Friends of Members:** The Niemiec family, relatives of Mike & Sandy Geboy; Julie Bach; Lucy, granddaughter of John & Judy Brunner; Debbie, sister of Dalen Heinzen; Jim Teske, brother of Cheryl Hippler; Ed Reger, cousin of Keith Baumgart; Dennis Sweeney, husband of Pat; Kirsten Nickel; John Rinka, cousin of the Raatz's & Percell families; William Bosio, nephew of Roger & Lonna Wiedmeyer; Rylee, granddaughter of a friend of Rick & Jodi Drew; Dawn Gallatin; Ginny GrothOlson, cousin of Carri Becker Halstead; Ron, Julie Avila's dad; Greg Baumgart, brother of Keith & Bev; Betty, sister of Dorothy Steinke; Karen McLaughlin; April, Eddie and Jesse friends of LouAnn Zimmel; Robert Morgan, father of Jennifer Ricard; Bob, Anthony, Clarence, Ann, Michelle, Virginia, Christie, Ashley, Brian, Jim & Lan, Jim Minaco, friends and relatives of Larry & Carol Hoffmann; Janis Masek Paradowski; John, brother-in-law of Sharon & Robert Komor; Beth, niece of Carole Wirtala; Terri, daughter of Sharon Stehmeier; Sharon, mother of Justine Foti; Judy, friend of Joyce Muecke; Vicki & Wendy, sisters of Mary Kochanski; Janet & Gene Lunog; Norma Ulbing, mother of Debbie; Christy Flores, niece of Linda Key; Luke, nephew of Pam Heinzen; Lynne & Gayle, sisters of Laurel Privatt; Andy Pretty, nephew of Dale & Mary Pipkorn; Lukas, grandson of Pat & Don Zimmermann; Elizabeth, friend of the Bolger's; Daryl Johnson, brother of Dean (Janet); Randy, his wife Charity, & Beth Treibel, brother, sister-in-law & niece of Marlene & Russ Koehn.

**Military:** Cross Foti (Marines); Connor Knapp (US Navy); Halie (US Navy); Christopher; Graham Maline; Steven & Eric Raatz; Jon Gimbel; Ryan Dembowiak (US Navy).