

Reformation Sunday

October 29, 2023

Greetings and Welcome

Prelude by the Faith Singers & Congregation – “Awesome God,” arr. Hamilton

**Our God is an awesome God, He reigns from heaven above
with wisdom, pow’r and love our God is an awesome God!**

GATHERING

Dedication of Stoles

**Call to Worship and Confession*

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

C: Amen.

P: *(Jeremiah 17:7-8)* ⁷Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord.

C: ⁸They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit.

P: Our family tree of faith is filled with men and women who live by faith and make mistakes. When we stumble, we are in good company. Yet, we are also surrounded by a company of saints, redeemed by the mercy of God. Let us confess our sin and put our trust in this mercy.

Silence

C: Forgiving God, we confess that our actions do not always reflect your goodness. Like Abraham, we question your promise. Like Jacob, we take what is not ours. Like Moses, we fear that we are not enough. In your love and compassion, prune our faults and failures and keep us connected to you.

P: God has heard your confession and forgives your sin. Jesus is living water for you and all. May the Holy Spirit dwell in you richly that you bear the fruit of love for God and one another.

C: Amen.

- 1 **Christ, the life of all the living, Christ, the death of death, our foe,
Christ, yourself for me once giving to the darkest depths of woe:
through your suff'ring, death, and merit life eternal I inherit.
Thousand, thousand thanks are due, dearest Jesus, unto you.**
- 2 **You have suffered great affliction and have borne it patiently,
even death by crucifixion, fully to atone for me;
for you chose to be tormented that my doom should be prevented.
Thousand, thousand thanks are due, dearest Jesus, unto you.**
- 3 **Then, for all that bought my pardon, for the sorrows deep and sore,
for the anguish in the garden, I will thank you evermore;
thank you for the groaning, sighing, for the bleeding and the dying,
for that last triumphant cry, praise you evermore on high.**

Children's Sermon

WORD

Reading: 1 Kings 18:23, 26-39 *Readers:* Angela Spray & Pastor Adam

²³Let two bulls be given to us; let them choose one bull for themselves, cut it in pieces, and lay it on the wood, but put no fire to it; I will prepare the other bull and lay it on the wood, but put no fire to it. ²⁶So they took the bull that was given them, prepared it, and called on the name of Baal from morning until noon, crying, ‘O Baal, answer us!’ But there was no voice, and no answer. They limped about the altar that they had made. ²⁷At noon Elijah mocked them, saying, ‘Cry aloud! Surely he is a god; either he is meditating, or he has wandered away, or he is on a journey, or perhaps he is asleep and must be awakened.’ ²⁸Then they cried aloud and, as was their custom, they cut themselves with swords and lances until the blood gushed out over them. ²⁹As midday passed, they raved on until the time of the offering of the oblation, but there was no voice, no answer, and no response.

³⁰Then Elijah said to all the people, ‘Come closer to me’; and all the people came closer to him. First he repaired the altar of the LORD that had been thrown down; ³¹Elijah took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, to whom the word of the LORD came, saying, ‘Israel shall be your name’; ³²with the stones he built an altar in the name of the LORD. Then he made a trench around the altar, large enough to contain

two measures of seed. ³³Next he put the wood in order, cut the bull in pieces, and laid it on the wood. He said, ‘Fill four jars with water and pour it on the burnt-offering and on the wood.’ ³⁴Then he said, ‘Do it a second time’; and they did it a second time. Again he said, ‘Do it a third time’; and they did it a third time, ³⁵so that the water ran all round the altar, and filled the trench also with water.

³⁶At the time of the offering of the oblation, the prophet Elijah came near and said, ‘O LORD, God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that you are God in Israel, that I am your servant, and that I have done all these things at your bidding. ³⁷Answer me, O LORD, answer me, so that this people may know that you, O LORD, are God, and that you have turned their hearts back.’ ³⁸Then the fire of the LORD fell and consumed the burnt-offering, the wood, the stones, and the dust, and even licked up the water that was in the trench. ³⁹When all the people saw it, they fell on their faces and said, ‘The LORD indeed is God; the LORD indeed is God.’

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Reading:* Mark 3:24-25

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 3rd chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁴If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. ²⁵And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand.

P: The gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Song: “God’s Word Is Our Great Heritage” ELW 509

(organ)

**God's word is our great heritage
and shall be ours forever;
to spread its light from age to age
shall be our chief endeavor.
Through life it guides our way;
in death it is our stay.
Lord, grant while time shall last
your church may hold it fast
throughout all generations.**

Sermon: "Prone to Split: Elijah"

Song of the Day – “A Mighty Fortress” ELW 504

(piano)

- 1 **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.**
- 2 **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.**

Interlude by the Faith Singers

- 3 **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 judgment must prevail!
One little word subdues him.**
- 4 **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!**

**The Apostles' Creed*

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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*

Stewardship Time:

Anniversary Video: Change in the Church

Stewardship is about our grateful response to God's grace for us. How do you respond? If you would like to financially support our ministry together, you can place a donation in an offering box or through our website. If you would like to support our ministry together through service, you can find a list of ministry teams online or on our ministry team menu. Consider joining a ministry team, or starting a new one, today!

—Please take a moment to sign into the Welcome Folder in your pew—

**Great Thanksgiving*

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.

**Words of Institution*

P: 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.

**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 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.

Communion Songs

“By Grace We Have Been Saved” (ACS 1006) (piano)

Refrain: By grace we have been saved—saved by grace through faith, not because of what we do; it is the gift of God.

- 1 **On the days when you are weak, on the days when you are strong, rich or poor, young or old, just listen to the song. *Refrain***
- 2 **Rest your body, rest your mind, in the stillness you will find you're a lovely, precious child, part of the great design. *Refrain***
- 3 **You don't need to be afraid. You will never be alone. There is mercy, there is hope, and love will take you home. *Refrain***

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is” ELW 502 (organ)

- 1 **The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never; I nothing lack if I am his and he is mine forever.**
- 2 **Where streams of living water flow, my ransomed soul he leadeth and, where the verdant pastures grow, with food celestial feedeth.**
- 3 **Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, but yet in love he sought me, and on his shoulder gently laid, and home, rejoicing, brought me.**
- 4 **In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear Lord, beside me, thy rod and staff my comfort still; thy cross before to guide me.**
- 5 **Thou spreadst a table in my sight; thine unction grace bestoweth; and, oh, what transport of delight from thy pure chalice floweth!**
- 6 **And so, through all the length of days, thy goodness faileth never. Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house forever.**

**Post-Communion Blessing*

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

**Closing Prayer*

SENDING

**Benediction*

P: May the Lord bless you and keep you, may the Lord make his face to shine on you
and be gracious to you, may the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
C: **Amen.**

**Sending Song – “And He Shall Reign”*

(piano)

*Refrain: And he shall reign for ever, his throne and crown shall ever endure.
And he shall reign for ever, and we shall reign with him.*

1. **What a vision filled my eyes, one like a Son of man.**
Coming with the clouds of heav'n he approached an awesome throne. *Refrain*
2. **He was given sov'reign power, glory and authority.**
Every nation, tribe and tongue worshipped him on bended knee. *Refrain*
3. **On the throne for ever, see the Lamb who once was slain;**
wounds of sacrificial love for ever shall remain. *Refrain*

Dismissal

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord.
C: **Thanks be to God.**

Song Credits

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Worship Assistants

Communion Assistant: Karen Sibert
Greeter: Judy Dillard
Reader: Angela Spray
Ushers: Larry Kuster & Liddy Stark
Pastor: Adam Dichsen
Music Director: Jean Welch
Pianist: Jean Welch
Organist: Sandi Watts
Bass Guitar: Drew Snodgrass
Drummer: Dave Mason
Violinist: Taylor Justison
Financial Assistants: Kelly Hartz & Patty Nelson
Chancel Committee: Karen Sibert
Coffee Hosts: Judy Dillard & Vicki Robson



Singers:

Benen Dichsen	Rigby Dichsen	Adam Krohe	Melissa Street
Louis Dichsen	Kelly Hartz	Kris Roth	Carol VanderKloot
Marilyn Dichsen	Terri Kimler	Allie Snodgrass	

Church Council Members:

Malinda Carlson	Kelly Hartz	Patty Nelson	Monica Proefrock
Ken Devlin	Greg Kimler	Mike Oldenettel	Kelly Street
Marilyn Dichsen			

The altar plants are donated today
by the Dichsen family in celebration of Karen's birthday on October 30
and
by Susan Roegge in celebration of Jerry & Kris Roegge's
60th wedding anniversary on November 3

What's Coming Up at Faith?

Sunday, October 29, 9:30am: Worship
10:45am: Sunday School
The Giving Boutique

Wednesday, November 1, 7-8am: Men's Prayer Group
5:15pm: Worship Core Team

Thursday, November 2, 5:30pm: Outreach Core Team

Saturday, November 4, 8:00am: Cooking for
9:00am: Men's Breakfast

Sunday, November 5, 9:30am: Worship
10:45am: Sunday School

Wednesday, November 8, 7-8am: Men's Prayer Group

Saturday, November 11, 12:30pm: Children's Choir Rehearsal
1:30pm: Anniversary Choir Rehearsal

News Updates

Sunday School

Calling all kids! After worship, fellowship, and snacks, we will gather for music and then head to our classes. We have two classes this year, one for pre-K through Kindergarten and the other for early elementary. If you have questions or are interested in helping, contact Patty Nelson at 217-653-3105.

Doorbell Dinners: coming up October 30-November 3

Help us deliver meals in the community. For more information and to sign up, visit the signup counter by the Fair-Trade coffee sales.

The Giving Boutique Is Open TODAY

Kathy Trenter and Karen Dean have organized a new project in anticipation of the giving season. This Giving Boutique will take place following worship **today!** It will feature handmade/designed crafts for decoration or gift giving. We have wreaths, trees, book stacks, shelf sitters, nativity stones, tier trays, hair bows, and more.

The Giving Boutique comes with a twist! The emphasis will be on the Giving! The "purchase" of any item will actually be a donation to the group of YOUR choice: HUGS, Faith Lutheran Youth Group, Jacksonville Food Center, "Share the Light" Ministry, or Lutheran World Relief. You will receive a gift card to present to a special recipient that a gift has been made in their honor. You may then keep the item for yourself, share it with that recipient, or even give it to another. The Giving goes on!! The most important participants will be all those who take advantage of this event to remember special friends and family members in this creative way. Thank you to all for your creative donations!!

75th Anniversary Choir & Children's Choir

Faith Lutheran's 75th Anniversary Celebration is November 12th. Music has played an important part in the life of this congregation through the years. In celebration of this event, **we would like to invite you to sing with the Chancel Choir that day**. This is an invitation to those who may be coming back to visit also.

A **rehearsal** is scheduled for **Saturday, November 11th at 1:30 pm in the sanctuary**. There is a **sign-up sheet and printed music available** on the counter by the coffee sales. Please contact Jean Welch at 217.652.7009 (text) or email jrwelch53@msn.com with questions. We hope you can join us! **Children will rehearse at 12:30pm.**

Music Rehearsals!!!

Exaltation Ringer rehearsals are on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month after service at 10:45am in the sanctuary (but not on October 8). We ring one Sunday each month. If you are interested in ringing, please let me know.

Jean Welch, *Music Director*

Discipleship Group

How well do you know the women of the Bible? Join us at **10:00am on November 15** in the Faith Library to test your knowledge. If you have any questions about our group or are curious about how we spend our time together, please call Kelly Hartz at 217-502-1979 or email khartz@sompo-intl.com.

Women of Faith Fellowship Night

In November we're doing another Gal's Game Night but with sub sandwiches this time! Join us in the Great Room on **Wednesday, November 15th at 6:00 pm** for some friendly competition and yummy sandwiches. Bring your favorite board or card game and we'll choose ones that evening to play. Please RSVP to Monica at 217-737-0475 by November 12 so we can provide enough food.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Join this exciting new ministry team! Sharon Zuiderveld and her sister, Mary Ellen Peterson, are looking for crocheters and knitters (or those who want to learn) to help make prayer shawls. The shawls will then be given to friends as reminders that they are covered by our prayers and the love and grace of God. Anyone interested in knitting or crocheting for the Prayer Shawl ministry may contact Sharon Zuiderveld. Beginners (and lefties) are welcome. Please let her know what day and time are best for you.

Her email is: sharonzuiderveld@hotmail.com and her cell is: 217-883-1258

Jacksonville Area Conference of Churches Fall Collection

The JACC is collecting items to help at-risk youth in our area. Donated items will be delivered to Midwest Youth Services, who serve at-risk, runaway, and homeless youth. This program serves youth ages 14-24 who may be struggling to pay rent, searching for independence, pregnant or parenting, living with friends, living with relatives, couch surfing, living in a shelter, homeless, or at risk of being homeless. Needed items include:

Small bottles of dish soap	All-purpose cleaner	Paper towels
Hand soap	Disinfectant spray or wipes	Rubber gloves
Windex	Sponges	Small bottles of toilet bowl cleaner

Please place your items in the blue box by the Mission & Ministry Center **through October 29**.

Western IL FCA – 2023 Fall Fundraising Banquet in Jacksonville

Over the past seven years, God has done exciting things through Western Illinois FCA...impacting the lives of coaches, athletes, and others in our community. We are continually looking for opportunities to expand Fellowship of Christian Athletes and take the love of Christ to more of our local schools!

Date – **Saturday, November 11, 2023 @ Hamiltons**

Format – Our event will begin at 4:30pm with remarks from local athletes and coaches, words of encouragement from St. Louis Cardinal, Tommy Edman, and a wonderful dinner. Guests must make reservations through a table host or through www.WesternILFCA.org. There is no cost to attend, but we will receive an offering to support the ministry of Western IL FCA. Seating is limited.

Sign-Up Sheets

are available at the podium in the gathering area. Please take a moment to sign up to be an Usher, Reader, Greeter, Communion Assistant, Coffee Host, Chancel Committee volunteer, and to Donate Altar Plants. **Thank You!** *We are Gifted to Serve!*

Fairly-Traded Coffee/Tea

Check out the coffee display from Equal Exchange (on the counter outside of the coat closet). Simply select the product(s) you would like to purchase, and place the money in the container provided by the display. Checks should be made out to Faith Lutheran Church with “*coffee*” designated in the memo area.