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FM 99.1**

**REFORMATION SUNDAY, October 25, 2020
By God's Grace We Are Saved**

(P: pastor; C: congregation)

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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 loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen**

P: God is our refuge and strength, **C: A very present help in trouble.**

HYMN: "O Word of God Incarnate" LBW 231 *(Text and tune: Public Domain)*

**O Word of God incarnate, O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky;
We praise you for the radiance That from the hallowed page,
A lantern to our footsteps, Shines on from age to age.
The Church from you, dear Master, Received the gift divine;
And still that light is lifted O'er all the earth to shine.
It is the chart and compass That, all life's voyage through,
Mid mists and rocks and quicksands Still guides, O Christ to you.
Oh, make your Church, dear Savior, A lamp of burnished gold
To bear before the nations Your true light, as of old;
Oh, teach your wand'ring pilgrims By this their path to trace,
Till, clouds and darkness ended, They see you face to face.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people. Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and deliver us in times of temptation, defend us against all enemies, and grant to Your Church Your saving peace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: Amen**

FIRST LESSON: Revelation 14:6-7, *Give God glory*

⁶Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people. ⁷And he said with a loud voice, “Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come, and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water.”

P: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God!**

SECOND LESSON: Romans 3:19-28, *All fall short of God’s glory; all are justified as a gift*

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

²¹But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: ²³for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God’s righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. ²⁶It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

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

P: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God!**

GOSPEL: John 8:31-36, *Set free from sin*

P: The Holy Gospel according to John, the eighth chapter. **C: Glory to you, O Lord!**

So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” ³³They answered him, “We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, ‘You will become free’?”

³⁴Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. ³⁶So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

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

SERMON

HYMN: “Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word” LBW 230

(Text and tune: Public domain)

**Lord, keep us steadfast in your Word; Curb those who by deceit or sword
Would wrest the kingdom from your Son And bring to nought all he has done.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, your pow’r make known, For you are Lord of lords alone;
Defend your holy Church, that we May sing your praise triumphantly.**

**O Comforter of priceless worth, Send peace and unity on earth;
Support us in our final strife And lead us out of death to life.**

PRAYERS

Prayers and intercessions are said by the pastor. In concluding the prayers the pastor says:

P: Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

C: 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 now and forever. Amen

BENEDICTION

P: 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. **C: Amen**

DISMISSAL HYMN: “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” LBW 228 (Text and tune: Public domain)

**A mighty fortress is our God, A sword and shield victorious;
He breaks the cruel oppressor’s rod and wins salvation glorious.
The old evil foe, Sworn to work us woe,
With dread craft and 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.
Ask who this may be: Lord of hosts is he!
Jesus Christ, our 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 over pow’r us.
This world’s prince may rage, In fierce war engage.
He is doomed to fail; God’s judgment 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.
If they take our house, Goods, fame, child, or spouse,
Wrench our life away, They cannot win the day. The Kingdom’s ours forever!**

*For those who wish to remain, Holy Communion follows the
Dismissal Hymn.*

We strive to use our gifts and the best resources available to support people in their faith. To inquire about our sermons and/or the resources used to produce them please contact us through our church office. To God be the glory!

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Psalm 46 and “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

Overcoming fear in Word and song (or more accurately the Lord)

Psalm 46 (ESV)

*To the choirmaster. Of the Sons of Korah.
According to Alamo. A Song.*

¹ God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

² Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,
though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,

³ though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble at its swelling. Selah

⁴ There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.

⁵ God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;
God will help her when morning dawns.

⁶ The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;
he utters his voice, the earth melts.

⁷ The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress. Selah

⁸ Come, behold the works of the LORD,
how he has brought desolations on the earth.

⁹ He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
he breaks the bow and shatters the spear;
he burns the chariots with fire.

¹⁰ "Be still, and know that I am God.
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth!"

¹¹ The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress. Selah

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” LBW 228

(Text and tune: Public domain)

A mighty fortress is our God, A sword and
shield victorious;
He breaks the cruel oppressor's rod and wins
salvation glorious.
The old evil foe, Sworn to work us woe,
With dread craft and 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.
Ask who this may be: Lord of hosts is he!
Jesus Christ, our 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 overpow'r us.
This world's prince may rage, In fierce war
engage.
He is doomed to fail; God's judgment 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.
If they take our house, Goods, fame, child, or
spouse,
Wrench our life away, They cannot win the
day. The Kingdom's ours forever!

For a Devotion on Psalm 46 and A Mighty Fortress go to:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l25xE1szulk>

This can also be found on our Facebook page and YouTube – General Devotion Section.