



Festival of the Lutheran Reformation

COMFORT AMID CHAOS

RISEN SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

Chula Vista, California
October 28, 2012

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Welcome and thank you for joining us for worship today! In our service we gather before our almighty and saving God to offer him our worship and praise. We also assemble to hear God's holy and powerful word and celebrate his life-giving sacraments. Through these means, God strengthens our faith and walks us ever closer to our eternal home with him.

TODAY'S FOCUS

At the Festival of the Reformation, we give thanks that by God's grace alone and through his Word alone, we have been rescued from the false ways of salvation that could only lead us to ruin and doom. Prompted by his grace, let us stand fast in his true Word, and to a life that reflects our devotion to a Savior who gave himself up for us.

YOUR PARTICIPATION IS ENCOURAGED

To participate in this service, just follow along in this service folder. Lutheran worship is specifically designed to include the participation of the assembly. We are not here to be an audience, we are here to speak and sing the Word of God to each other.

Parts marked **M** are spoken by the minister, and parts marked **C** are spoken by the congregation. Congregational parts are also printed in bold. It looks like this:

M Spoken by the minister.

C **Spoken by the congregation.**

To help you understand the path of worship as you follow it today we've provided several side notes throughout the service folder. Read the notes to discover why we say and sing what we do. You will find a deeper appreciation for the rich symbolism and spiritual meaning behind Lutheran worship.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

Sin made me an enemy of God, O Jesus. But you mad me a friend. I thank you for your grace, by which I am reconciled to God. I thank you for your love, which sees me in my distress and rescues me from a guilty verdict of hell. And I thank you for the faith which you have placed into my heart through the power of the Holy Spirit. Help me to see you as my perfect, ever-present Savior. In your name I pray. Amen.

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Preacher.....Name
Presiding MinisterName
KeyboardistName
InstrumentalistsName
Choir.....Name
Ushers.....Name

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- Item 2
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ORDER OF SERVICE

INVOCATION

‡ *Please stand.*

M In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 107:1

M Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever."

God's goodness has abundantly provided for our earthly existence. God's grace has taken care of us from eternity to eternity. Today, as we celebrate the 495th anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation, and also the 50th anniversary of Reformation Lutheran Church, we glance with one eye to the future and one eye to the past. Christ has been, still is, and must remain the rock upon which we build. Today we celebrate as a look back leads us to thankfulness in the present and confidence for the future.

This battle hymn of the Reformation is still a favorite of Lutherans. Based on Psalm 46, it is as rousing today as it was when Luther urged his close friend Philip Melancthon to sing it with him during times of sorrow and distress.

OPENING HYMN

201 RED HYMNAL

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

RESPONSES

M God is our refuge and strength, an ever present help in trouble.

C **Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though the waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.**

M There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells.

C God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day.

M Come and see the works of the Lord, the desolations he has brought on the earth.

C He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth; He breaks the bow and shatters the spear, He burns the shields with fire.

M Be still and know that I am God;

C I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.

M The Lord Almighty is with us;

C The God of Jacob is our Fortress!

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

M In mercy, God opened to us the throne of his grace and kindness through Jesus Christ. Let us then, with sincere hearts, draw near to the throne of God in honest, true confession, and lay open our sins before him.

C Father in heaven, I have sinned. In many ways I have offended you and violated your commands. I am not worthy to be called your child. If you kept a record of sins, my situation would be hopeless. I have taken your Word for granted and failed to advance your work with generous gifts of my time, talents, and resources. I come to you, not on my own merit, but through Jesus Christ. Forgive all my sins, and create in me a clean heart, I pray.

M The Lord has promised that if we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. God has forgiven you and cleansed you from all your sins. You have been made new by the power of the Holy Spirit. Rest assured that you have peace with God and that all your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

1 John 1:9

C Our citizenship is in heaven, and we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Philippians 3:20

Colossians 3:4

M When Christ who is your life appears again in the same way he ascended into heaven, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Revelation 7:16-17

C **Never again will we hunger; never again will we thirst. The sun will not beat upon us, nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be our shepherd. He will lead us to springs of living water. And God will wipe away every tear from our eyes.**

Romans 5:1

M We now have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

C **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON

Romans 3:19-28

NOW WE KNOW THAT WHATEVER THE LAW SAYS, IT SAYS TO THOSE who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God. Therefore no one will be declared righteous in his sight by observing the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of sin.

But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood. He did this to demonstrate his justice, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished— he did it to demonstrate his justice at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.

Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded. On what principle? On that of observing the law? No, but on that of faith. For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from observing the law.

*Words and Music by Allen Pote***SECOND LESSON***John 6:29-35*

JESUS ANSWERED, “The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent.”
So they asked him, “What miraculous sign then will you give that we may see it and believe you? What will you do? Our forefathers ate the manna in the desert; as it is written: ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’”

Jesus said to them, “I tell you the truth, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.”

“Sir,” they said, “from now on give us this bread.”

Then Jesus declared, “I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty.”



The "Te Deum", which translated means "You God" as in "You God, we praise", is an ancient song of praise to the Triune God. It also reflects our ancient Christian heritage. The reformer Martin Luther held up the "Te Deum" alongside the three great creeds as a profession of the Christian faith.

YOU ARE GOD, WE PRAISE YOU  *Te Deum*

We praise you, O God, we acclaim you as Lord. All creation worships you, Father everlasting. To you all angels, all the powers of heaven, cherubim and seraphim, sing in endless praise: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of heavenly hosts, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

The glorious company of apostles praise you. The noble fellowship of prophets praise you. The white-robed army of martyrs praise you. Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you: Father of majesty unbounded, your glorious, true, and only Son, and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.

You, Christ, are the King of glory, the eternal Son of the Father. When you became man to set us free, you humbled yourself to be born of a virgin. You overcame the sting of death and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. You sit at the right hand of God in the glory of the Father. We believe that you will come to be our judge.

Come then, Lord, and help your people, bought with the price of your own blood, and bring us with your saints to glory everlasting. Amen.

ANTHEM

In Christ Alone

*Words and Music by Stuart Townend and Keith Getty
Arranged by David Angerman*

HYMN OF THE DAY

202 RED HYMNAL

If God Had Not Been On Our Side

THEREFORE, REMEMBER THAT FORMERLY YOU WHO ARE GENTILES by birth and called “uncircumcised” by those who call themselves “the circumcision” (that done in the body by the hands of men)—remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ.

For he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in his flesh the law with its commandments and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new man out of the two, thus making peace, and in this one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.

Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God’s people and members of God’s household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

Sermon Theme

OFFERING

This is a moment in our worship when members and friends of Risen Savior respond to God’s good news with gifts to support his saving work. If you are a guest with us today, please do not feel obligated to participate. Everyone is asked to please sing a friendship register and pass it to the outside of their row.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M Lord God, ever since you ushered in the New Testament, you have provided abundant blessings and gifts to your Church. You commissioned the apostles to go into all the world with the Word you had taught them. You gave to them and us the keys to the kingdom of heaven, the waters of Baptism, and the Holy Supper of your body and blood. Through these means you have fed and nourished your faithful at all times and in all places. 495 years ago you shattered the darkness of the medieval age with the light of your Word, held in the heads, hands, and hearts of the reformers. 50 years ago you started Reformation Lutheran congregation for the purpose of spreading the gospel in San Diego. As we remember these two milestones, direct our hearts toward you as we proclaim.

Psalm 100

C **Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth. Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.**

M Gracious Lord, bless our Reformation and Anniversary celebration today. Direct us away from any pride or glory that we might assume for ourselves. Lead our minds to remember clearly the mercy you have shown us over the years. Inspire our hearts to worship you in spirit and in truth. Guide our hands in thankful response for your many gifts. As we glance into the past, lead us to repent of our many shortcomings. Move us to stand in awe of your love and faithfulness. Use the fulfillment of your promises in the past to bring us joy in the present and confidence for the future. In true celebration we glorify your name, saying:

Psalm 150

C **Praise the LORD. Praise God in his sanctuary. Praise him in his mighty heavens. Praise him for his acts of power. Praise him for his surpassing greatness. Let everything that has breath praise the LORD.**

M Hear the prayers your people bring to you this day, O Lord, and answer them according to your wisdom and grace. Amen.

C **Motivate us to repent daily and to approach the throne of grace with our prayers and requests, knowing that our Father both hears and answers them for your name's sake.**

LORD'S PRAYER

C 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.

HYMN

208 RED HYMNAL

Thy Strong Word

BLESSING

M The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

293 RED HYMNAL

God's Word Is Our Great Heritage

*With God's Word as
our heritage and
foundation, we
continue to look back
in Christ and go
forward in Christ.*

