



The  
**mountains** and the **hills**

shall break forth  
before you into singing,  
and all the trees of the field  
shall clap their hands.

• ISAAH 55:12 •

# Reformation Sunday

November 1<sup>st</sup> / November 2<sup>nd</sup> 2020

**Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church**

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**Trinity Ev. Lutheran School**

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## Welcome to Trinity!

We're glad you're here to worship!

If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Tesch  
(715-587-8521) or Principal Danell (715-732-2956)

**Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word**

**(Hymn 203)**

- 1 Lord, keep us steadfast in your Word;  
Curb those who by deceit or sword  
Would seek to overthrow your Son  
And to destroy what he has done.
- 2 Lord Jesus Christ, your pow'r make known,  
For you are Lord of lords alone;  
Defend your Christendom that we  
May sing your praise eternally.
- 3 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.

**Please rise**

## **Confession of Sins**

*P: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.*

*C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.*

### **Assurance of Forgiveness**

*P: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

**C: Amen.**

### **Prayer of the Day:**

*P: Let us pray*

***Gracious Lord, our refuge and strength, pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your Word, protect and comfort them in all temptations, defend them against all their enemies, and bestow on the Church your saving peace; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.***

**C: Amen**

**Please be seated**

### **Old Testament Lesson**

*In the ancient Medo-Persian Empire, Daniel was threatened with death for his faith. It wasn't because of any public or inflammatory speech. It was because he prayed in his home. 500 years later, Jesus' disciples were threatened with death if they continued to preach in Jesus' name. 1500 years after that, Martin Luther was threatened with death if he continued to preach the Gospel.*

*In every case God's faithful people declared that they would rather face persecution than deny their Savior. They would do his work and follow his commands no matter what the cost.*

*What threats do you face for your faith? There is always a price to pay for faithfulness. We might not face lions or wind up in court, but we can lose relationships because of moral purity. We can lose promotions because of worship priorities. We can lose friendships because we won't condone sin.*

*Faithfulness to God's Word in the face of persecution requires trust. God shut the lions' mouths to answer the king's question: Is your God able to rescue you? Yes, he is. God shut the lions' mouths to show his Church of all the ages that God is able to guard and keep his own. You can trust him and be faithful to his Word in the face of any persecution.*

### **Daniel 6:10-12,16-23 (EHV)**

<sup>10</sup>Now, when Daniel learned that the document had been signed, he went to his house. It had windows on its upper story that opened toward Jerusalem. Three times each day he would get on his knees and pray and offer praise before his God. He continued to do that, just as he had been

doing before this. <sup>11</sup>Then these men came as a group and found Daniel praying and seeking favor from his God.

<sup>12</sup>They then went and asked the king about the decree. “Your Majesty, did you not sign a decree that anyone who prays to any god or person for thirty days except to you, Your Majesty, would be thrown into the den of lions?”

The king answered, “Indeed I did. The order is established as a law of the Medes and the Persians that cannot be revoked.”

<sup>16</sup>Then the king gave the order, and Daniel was brought and thrown into the lions’ den. The king said to Daniel, “May your God, whom you serve continually, rescue you.” <sup>17</sup>A stone was brought and placed over the mouth of the pit. The king sealed it with his signet ring and the signet rings of his nobles so that nothing could be changed with regard to Daniel’s situation. <sup>18</sup>Then the king went to his palace. He spent the night without food, and no entertainment was brought before him. But he could not sleep.

<sup>19</sup>At dawn the king arose as soon as it was light and hurried to the lions’ den. <sup>20</sup>As he came near the pit, he cried out in a fearful voice. The king said to Daniel, “Daniel, servant of the living God, was your God, whom you serve continually, able to rescue you from the lions?”

<sup>21</sup>Then Daniel spoke with the king. “Your Majesty, may you live forever! <sup>22</sup>My God sent his angel and shut the mouth of the lions. They have not hurt me because he found me innocent in his presence. Also before you, Your Majesty, I have committed no crime.”

<sup>23</sup>Then the king was very glad and said that Daniel should be brought up from the pit. So Daniel was brought up from the pit, and he was unharmed because he trusted in his God.

### **Gospel Lesson**

*Speaking the Word of God has always carried a price. Jesus warned us about that. He told us that he was sending us out as sheep among wolves. He also told us that he would use that persecution to give his servants the chance to share the Gospel. He promised that the Holy Spirit would speak through us when we stand trial. He kept that promise when Stephen, the first martyr, stood trial.*

*When persecution broke out after Stephen’s death, Christians were jailed, tortured and killed because they refused to deny their Savior. Every one of the apostles went to jail. All but one was killed for his faith. Years later, Martin Luther was threatened, declared an outlaw, hunted and vilified for teaching what the Bible said. Everything that Jesus told us has happened.*

*These days, the persecution has changed. Instead of vehement, murderous threats, Christians are now insulted, branded, belittled, and*

*ignored. It's not coincidence that liquor stores, marijuana dispensaries, and bars are called "essential," while churches are labeled "non-essential." It's part of the new persecution. Condemning sin is now unacceptable and promoting righteousness is branded "judgmental." We're called unloving, closed minded, and evil.*

*And it hurts. Being rejected and maligned is heart breaking. It can make us want to keep our faith to ourselves. We have to stand with each other and encourage each other to stand with Christ when it's dangerous, unpopular, painful, or just plain hard. Jesus promised, "All men will hate you because of me, but he who stands firm to the end will be saved."*

*Jesus doesn't guarantee an absence of persecution, but faithfulness in spite of it. Jesus told us that we will witness to the Word of God before brothers, fathers, children, governors and princes. What comfort that brings. With Martin Luther we declare: "Here I stand. I can do no other. God help me. Amen."*

### **Matthew 10:16-23 (EHV)**

<sup>16</sup>“Look, I am sending you out as sheep among wolves. So be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves. <sup>17</sup>Be on guard against people. They will hand you over to councils, and they will whip you in their synagogues. <sup>18</sup>You will be brought into the presence of governors and kings for my sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles. <sup>19</sup>Whenever they hand you over, do not be worried about how you will respond or what you will say, because what you say will be given to you in that hour. <sup>20</sup>In fact you will not be the ones speaking, but the Spirit of your Father will be speaking through you.

<sup>21</sup>“Brother will hand over his brother to death, and a father will do the same with his child. Children will rise up against parents and have them put to death. <sup>22</sup>You will be hated by all people because of my name, but whoever endures to the end will be saved. <sup>23</sup>And when they persecute you in one town, flee to the next. Amen I tell you: You will not finish going through the cities of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

### **If God Had Not Been on Our Side**

**(Hymn 202)**

1 If God had not been on our side  
And had not come to aid us,  
Our foes with all their pow'r and pride  
Would surely have dismayed us,  
For we, his flock, would have to fear  
The devil's wolves, both far and near,  
Who rise in might against us.

*Cont...*

Cont...

## If God Had Not Been on Our Side

(Hymn 202)

- 2 Their furious wrath, did God permit,  
Would surely have consumed us  
And as a deep and yawning pit  
With life and limb entombed us.  
A hellish storm would o'er us roll  
From Satan, who desires our soul  
And seeks to overwhelm us.
- 3 Blest be the Lord, who foiled their threat  
That they could not devour us.  
Our souls, like birds, escaped their net;  
They could not overpower us.  
The snare is broken - we are free!  
Our helper and our strength is he  
Who made the earth and heavens.

### ***Epistle Lesson/Sermon Text:***

*Paul knew firsthand that faithfulness to the Word of God brought persecution. His friends had abandoned him and his enemies never stopped hounding him. He was in jail when he wrote this second letter to Timothy and he expected to die there.*

*Paul had been forsaken by his friends, but he was not alone. Paul knew that he was never alone, even when his friends deserted him. Jesus was always with him. Paul trusted in God's answer to Darius' question in the Old Testament: "Was your God able to rescue you?" Jesus fulfilled the first promise in the Gospel lesson: "the Spirit of your Father will be speaking through you." And Paul believed the second promise, too: "whoever endures to the end will be saved."*

*Paul knew that God would rescue him from every evil—not always avoiding danger, but being with him through danger. Paul knew that even if he died for Christ, God would rescue him and bring him to heaven. Eventually the headsman's sword took Paul's life; and Jesus rescued him and took him to his heavenly kingdom.*

*Lord, keep us faithful in the face of any persecution!.*

### **2 Timothy 4:9-18 (EHV)**

<sup>9</sup> Make every effort to come to me quickly, <sup>10</sup> for Demas, because he loved this present world, has forsaken me and gone to Thessalonica.

Crescens has gone to Galatia, and Titus to Dalmatia. <sup>11</sup> Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, because he is useful to me for ministry. <sup>12</sup> I have sent Tychicus to Ephesus. <sup>13</sup> When you come, bring the cloak I left in Troas with Carpus, and the scrolls, especially the parchments.

<sup>14</sup> Alexander the coppersmith did me a great deal of harm. The Lord will pay him back for what he did. <sup>15</sup> You be on your guard against him also, because he vehemently opposed our message.

<sup>16</sup> At my first hearing, no one came to my defense, but everyone deserted me. May it not be counted against them. <sup>17</sup> But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message would be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles would hear it, and I was rescued from the lion's mouth. <sup>18</sup> The Lord will rescue me from every evil work and will bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

### Prayers for Our family and Friends

**The Beaumont Family, Milferd Behnke, Ashleigh Bourdelais, Ardice Cerney, Gladys Constine, Geri Garbrecht, Jean Harper, Dorothy Johnson, Sally Kamps, Rose Karr, Noah & Kristin Olson, Lisa Schmitt, Marjorie Urbaniak, and Jesse Zach**

### Prayers for those called to protect

**Military:** Jesse Adams (Sue Connor's son), Greg Carow (Dennis Carow's godson/nephew), Aeron Forsberg (Linda and Gene Erickson's grandson), Dayton Godfrey (Dave & Cindy Schacht's great-nephew), Joshua Jansen (Isaac Jansen's cousin), Jesse Johnston (Jim & Laurie Johnston's son), Patrick Noppenberg (Denis & Deb Vieth's son), Aaron Stocker Jr. (Martina (Dura) Stocker's husband), Dylan Vanko, (Roy and Grace Chmela's grandson), and Thomas Weirich (Mary Bush's nephew).

**Firefighter: Steve Campbell.**

**Police: Greg Haemker, Raymond Cashaw** (Pastor Sonnemann's niece's husband) and **David Peterson** (Jamie Tesch's uncle). Ask the Lord to bless them, strengthen them, and keep them safe.

### **The 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.*

**The Benediction:**

*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. Amen.*

**A Mighty Fortress Is Our God**

**(Hymn 200)**

1 A mighty fortress is our  
God,  
A trusty shield and weapon;  
He helps us free from ev'ry need  
That has us now o'ertaken.  
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.

2 With might of ours can  
naught be done;  
Soon were our loss effected.  
But for us fights the valiant one  
Whom God himself elected.  
You ask, "Who is this?" Jesus  
Christ it is,  
The almighty Lord.  
And there's no other God;  
He holds the field forever.

3 Though devils all the world  
should fill,  
All eager to devour us,  
We tremble not, we fear no ill;  
They shall not overpower 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.

4 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 do what they will — Hate,  
steal, hurt, or kill —  
Though all may be gone,  
Our victory is won;  
The kingdom's ours forever!

**TRINITY'S CORE MISSION**

**Shining the Light of the Gospel in our community.**

**John 8:12** - *"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."*

**Matthew 5:16** - *"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."*