

# *Reformation Sunday*



*October 29, 2023 | 10:30 a.m.*

*Kviteseid Lutheran Church  
308 North Third Street  
Milan, Minnesota*

# ORDER OF SERVICE

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*Welcome to worship at Kviteseid Lutheran Church...* On this day we celebrate the heart of our faith: the gospel of Christ—the good news—that makes us free! We pray that the Holy Spirit would continue to unite the church today in its proclamation and witness to the world. In the waters of baptism we are made one body; we pray for the day that all Christians will also be one at the Lord’s table.

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**OPENING HYMN**        “The Church of Christ, in Every Age” (vs. 1-3, 5)    ELW #729

## INTRODUCTION FOR THE DAY

*Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God’s grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.*

## MARTIN LUTHER’S MORNING PRAYER: In unison

**All**    “I give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have protected me through the night from all harm and danger. I ask that you would also protect me today from sin and all evil, so that my life and actions may please you. Into your hands I commend myself: my body, my soul, and all that is mine. Let your holy angel be with me, so that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.”

## \*\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

**P**        Let us speak the truth about ourselves to our neighbors and to God, acknowledging what we have done and what we have left undone.

**C**        **Your holiness, O God, commands that we confess:  
We have neither loved our neighbors as ourselves  
nor honored ourselves as your beloved creation.  
We have judged unjustly, regarded others ungenerously,  
profited at the losses of those near and distant,  
borne grudges, desired vengeance,  
and kept silence in the face of wrongdoing.  
We long to live in accord with your desire  
that your way of compassion, kindness, and honesty  
will govern our hearts and minds, turning us toward lives of peace.  
Forgive us and lead us. Amen.**

P The Holy One who promises forgiveness to those who seek the good hears your confession.  
As the crucified and risen child of God,  
your Redeemer fully knows your sorrow  
and your desire for reconciled relationships.  
You are forgiven.  
In that promise is the power to love your neighbors and yourselves  
as beloved of God who created all that exists. Amen.

### HYMN #504 AND PSALM 46

L <sup>1</sup>God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

C <sup>2</sup>**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,  
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**

L <sup>3</sup>though its waters rage and foam,  
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

Verse 1 "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" ELW #504

L <sup>4</sup>There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
the holy habitation of the Most High.

C <sup>5</sup>**God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;  
God shall help it at the break of day.**

Verse 2 "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" ELW #504

L <sup>6</sup>The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;  
God speaks, and the earth melts away.

C <sup>7</sup>**The LORD of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.**

L <sup>8</sup>Come now, regard the works of the LORD,  
what desolations God has brought upon the earth;

C <sup>9</sup>**behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;  
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear,  
and burns the shields with fire.**

Verse 3 "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" ELW #504

L <sup>10</sup>"Be still, then, and know that I am God;  
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth."

C <sup>11</sup>**The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.**

Verse 4 "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" ELW #504

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

**C Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## LESSON: Jeremiah 31:31-34

*The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the LORD means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy. The renewed covenant is possible only because the LORD will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.*

## LESSON: Romans 3:19-28

*Paul's words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ's death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.*

## HYMN

“God’s Word Is Our Great Heritage”

ELW #509

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 8<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C Glory to you, O Lord.**

## GOSPEL: John 8:31-36

*Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.*

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 22<sup>nd</sup> chapter.

## GOSPEL: Matthew 22:34-40

*Put on the spot by the Pharisees, Jesus displays wisdom by summarizing the law of God in just two commandments.*

P The Gospel of our Lord.

**C Praise to you, O Christ.**

## CHILDREN’S SERMON

## SERMON

**PROFESSION OF FAITH**

*Martin Luther’s explanation of the Second Article of the Apostles’ Creed from the Small Catechism.*

**C**      **I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father in eternity,  
and also a true human being, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord.  
He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned human being.  
He has purchased and freed me from all sins, from death, and from the  
power of the devil, not with gold or silver but with his holy, precious blood  
and with his innocent suffering and death.  
He has done all this in order that I may belong to him, live under him in his  
kingdom, and serve him in eternal righteousness, innocence, and  
blessedness, just as he is risen from the dead and lives and rules eternally.  
This is most certainly true.**

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

*Each portion of the prayers ends with these words:*

**P**      God of grace,

**C**      **hear our prayer.**

*The prayers are concluded with these words:*

**P**      Gracious God, into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in  
your unending love and amazing grace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**C**      **Amen.**

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY RESPONSE**      “Create in Me a Clean Heart”

ELW #186

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**P**      Giver of Life, prosper the work of our hands in faith. Prosper the work of our  
gifts offered in gratitude. Prosper the joy of our life in following Christ.

**C**      **Amen.**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

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**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.**

## RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION

P The Lord is faithful in all his words, and gracious in all his deeds.

C **This is most certainly true.**

P God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Let us hold fast to the confession of our faith without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.**

P This is most certainly true.

C **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN “Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound” ELW #779

## DISMISSAL

P We are called to continue in the Word. Go in peace. Serve the Lord.






C **Thanks be to God!**

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<b>Black Cross</b>		Symbolizes Jesus' death and pain and reminds us that faith in Jesus is what saves us. "For one who believes from the heart will be justified" –Rom 10:10
<b>Red Heart</b>		Even though the cross is black, it does not kill our hearts, but makes us alive. "The just shall live by faith" – Rom 1:17
<b>White Rose</b>		Faith in Jesus brings true joy, consolation and peace, not worldly joy and peace – John 14:27. White is the color of angels and blessed spirits.
<b>Blue Sky</b>		Symbolizes our hope for the coming joys of heaven, though not yet revealed.
<b>Gold Rim</b>		As a circle is unending, so the joys of heaven will be unending. Its gold color reminds us that the joys of heaven are more precious than any other treasure.