

Gethsemane Lutheran Church

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<https://www.facebook.com/gethsemaneportland>

Reformation Day

October 31, 1517 to October 31, 2021

“You will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” - John 8:32

GATHERING

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to worship! For the safety of our community, we ask that you sign in and wear a mask. Our worship service is broadcast live on Zoom and Facebook. Only the presenters in our worship will be recorded. Please see an usher if you have any questions.

PRELUDE

GATHERING LITANY

(adapted from the writings of Lutheran reformers)

Beloved, the Word of God has resounded through the ages, proclaiming the good news of God's unfailing love for us.

We celebrate the reformation which continues to this day.

For Christ has redeemed us, even though we were lost. He has freed us from all sins, from death, and from the power of evil, not with gold or silver but with his precious blood and innocent death. (*Martin Luther, 1528*)

We confess our sins and give thanks for the gift of grace.

The Gospel reveals and declares this mystery, which human beings so often distort and hide. (*Martin Chemnitz, 1565*)

We name our limits and give thanks for the gift of scripture.

Faith is a sincere confidence in the grace of God, promised to us in Christ, kindled in the heart by the Holy Spirit. (*Johann Arndt, 1605*)

We claim the Holy Spirit and give thanks for the gift of faith.

The church is truly the church only when it exists for others. (*Dietrich Bonhoeffer, 1944*)

We offer ourselves in service and give thanks for the church.

Diversity is not assimilation in the same way grace is not the law. In fact, diversity is God's defense against empire. (*Lenny Duncan, 2019*)

We stand up against empire and give thanks for the gift of diversity.

The movement in our relationship to God is always from God to us. Always. We can't, through our piety or goodness, move closer to God. God is always coming near to us. Most especially in the Eucharist and in the stranger. (*Nadia Bolz-Weber, 2013*)

We open our hearts and give thanks for life with God.

And so we are saved by grace through faith and set free to live for God and work for liberation. We open our hearts to the ongoing reformation of our lives, our church, and our community, as we are daily transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Let us bless the Lord. Thanks be to God!

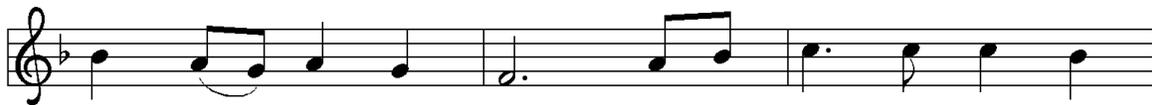
GATHERING HYMN, *All Are Welcome* (ELW 641)



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly
 2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and
 3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and
 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and
 5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how
 true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to
 wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where
 stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and
 heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
 dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
 peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
 live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
 words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of
 wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we
 Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in
 strang-er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an
 laugh-ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
 claim the faith of Je - sus:
 Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,
 end to fear and dan - ger:
 claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

KYRIE



A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **G** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:



A Chri - ste e - le - i - son: **G** Christ, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy:



A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **G** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:

HYMN OF PRAISE



G Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



I Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we



wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



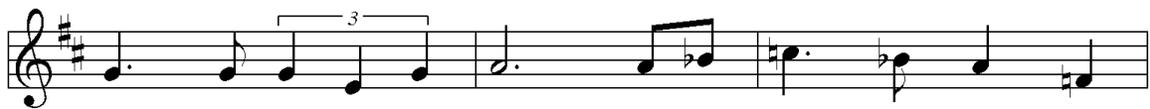
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



☐ Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



☐ For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly



Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther, A - men.



☞ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth,



and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY - Luther's Morning Prayer

Let us pray,

I thank you, my Heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me.

Amen.

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

The children receive a blessing from Pr. Elizabeth. Pumpkin Carving party today!

Thank you to all those who worked in the Pumpkin Patch for the past two weeks in the wind and rain! We had a lot of fun with families in the neighborhood. Many thanks to Jasmine for coordinating these activities for our families.

WORD

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34

³¹The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 46

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

**²Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains be toppled into the depths of the sea;**

³though its waters rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble at its tumult.

**⁴The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.**

⁵There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of | the Most High.

**⁶God is in the midst of her; she shall not be overthrown;
God shall help her at the | break of day.**

⁷The nations make much ado, and the kingdoms are shaken;
God has spoken, and the earth shall melt away.

**⁸The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.**

⁹Come now and look upon the works of the Lord,
what awesome things he has done on earth.

**¹⁰It is he who makes war to cease in all the world;
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.**

¹¹“Be still, then, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”

**¹²The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.**

SECOND READING: Romans 3:19-28

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

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

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

Al - le - lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: John 8:31-36

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 8th chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” ³³They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free?’”

³⁴Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY, *The Church of Christ in Every Age*, ELW 729, v. 1-3



1 The church of Christ, in ev - 'ry age be - set by
2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the vic - tims
3 Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a car - ing
4 For he a - lone, whose blood was shed, can cure the
5 We have no mis - sion but to serve in full o -



change, but Spir - it - led, must claim and test its
of in - jus - tice cry for shel - ter and for
church that longs to be a part - ner in Christ's
fe - ver in our blood, and teach us how to
be - dience to our Lord; to care for all, with -



her - i - tage and keep on ris - ing from the dead.
bread to eat, and nev - er live be - fore they die.
sac - ri - fice, and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.
share our bread and feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.
out re - serve, and spread his lib - er - at - ing word.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000

Music: WAREHAM, William Knapp, 1698-1768

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WELCOME NEW MEMBER GABRIEL SPRAGUE

Let us pray,

Merciful God, we thank you for our brother Gabriel, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called him to yourself, enlightened him with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished him in the community of faith. Uphold your servant in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all. We ask this in the name of Christ. **Amen.**

PROFESSION OF FAITH

The congregation is invited to stand and join in the profession of faith.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
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,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

People of God, do you promise to support Gabriel and pray for him in his life in Christ?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life. Stir up in Gabriel the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Amen.

Let us rejoice with our brother in Christ. **We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.**

Together we will give thanks and praise to God, and proclaim the good news to all the world!

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Set free from sin and death and nourished by the word of truth, we join in prayer for all of God's creation.

Strengthen the church to rediscover paths of love throughout the world and raise up teachers and leaders to guide communities of faith into joyful ways of welcoming, worshiping, healing, praying, singing, feeding, teaching, loving, and living. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Embolden movements of people to care for the world around us. Reveal to us creation's beauty and teach us to care for your fields, valleys, mountains, streams, oceans, and deserts, so that future generations will continue to be awed by them. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Grant courage to all leaders who hear your call for peace. Protect our children from gun violence, our families from domestic violence, our communities from war and conflict. Make us peacemakers. Strengthen worldwide peace efforts so that we might live in harmony as neighbors who share a common planet. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Provide refuge and help for all who lack adequate food, housing, or health care. Strengthen organizations that provide neighborly care to all who struggle. Heal and be present with all who are sick or suffering in any way, especially those we name now in our hearts and with voice.... Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

We give you thanks for the witness of the saints, especially reformers throughout generations who worked to rediscover the proclamation of the gospel. Guide us in their way of living until we all gather together at your table of abundance. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Confident that you hear us, O God, we boldly place our prayers into your hands; through Jesus Christ, our truth and life.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

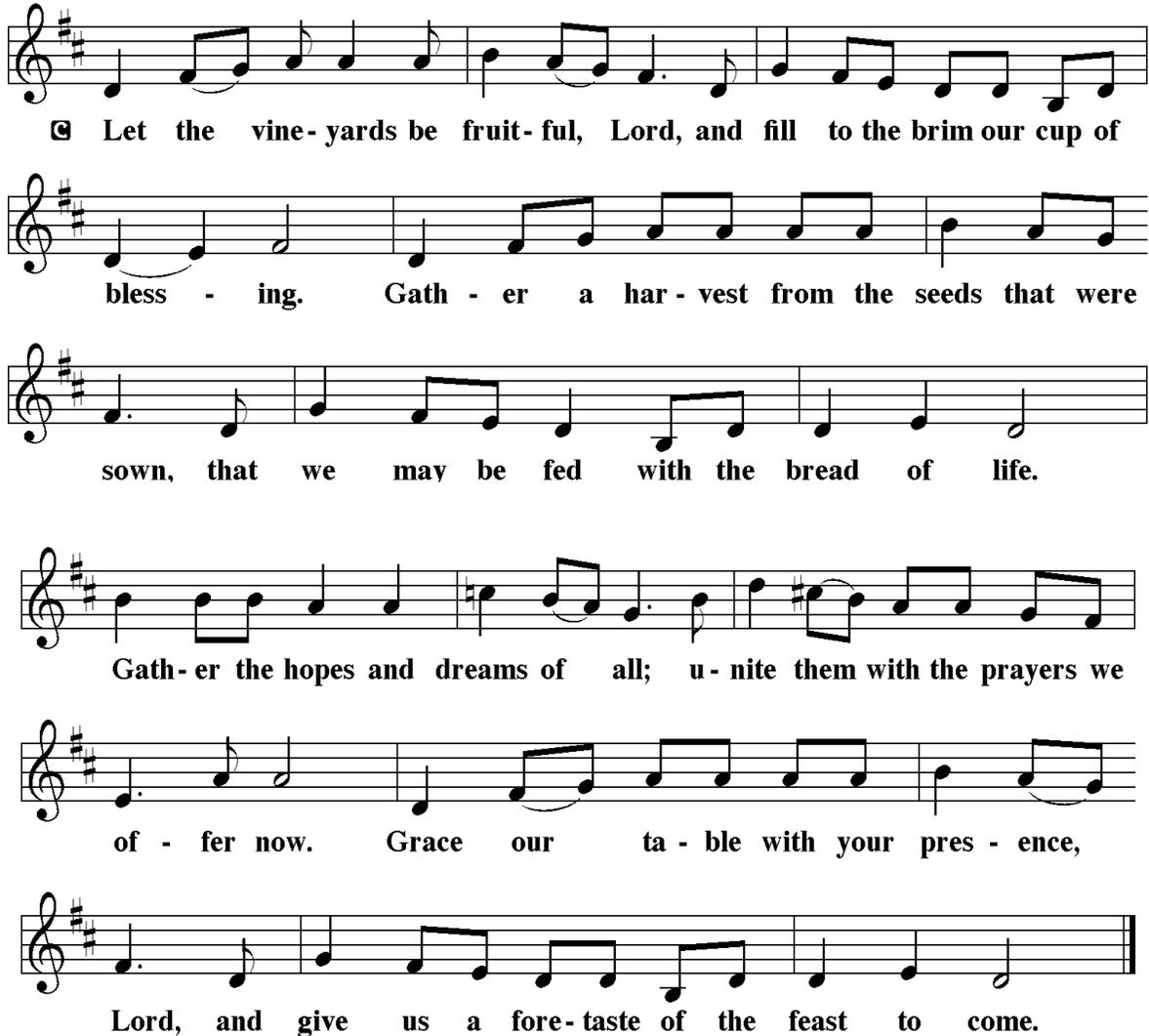
For the safety of our community during this pandemic time, we remain in our seats for a moment of quiet reflection.

SPECIAL MUSIC: “A Mighty Fortress,” Piano Solo, Jay Rector

OFFERING

Thank you for your generous gifts to sustain the mission and ministry of Gethsemane Lutheran Church. You may give online at www.glcportland.org/give or with Venmo.

OFFERTORY



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were
sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,
Lord, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray.

Merciful God,

we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

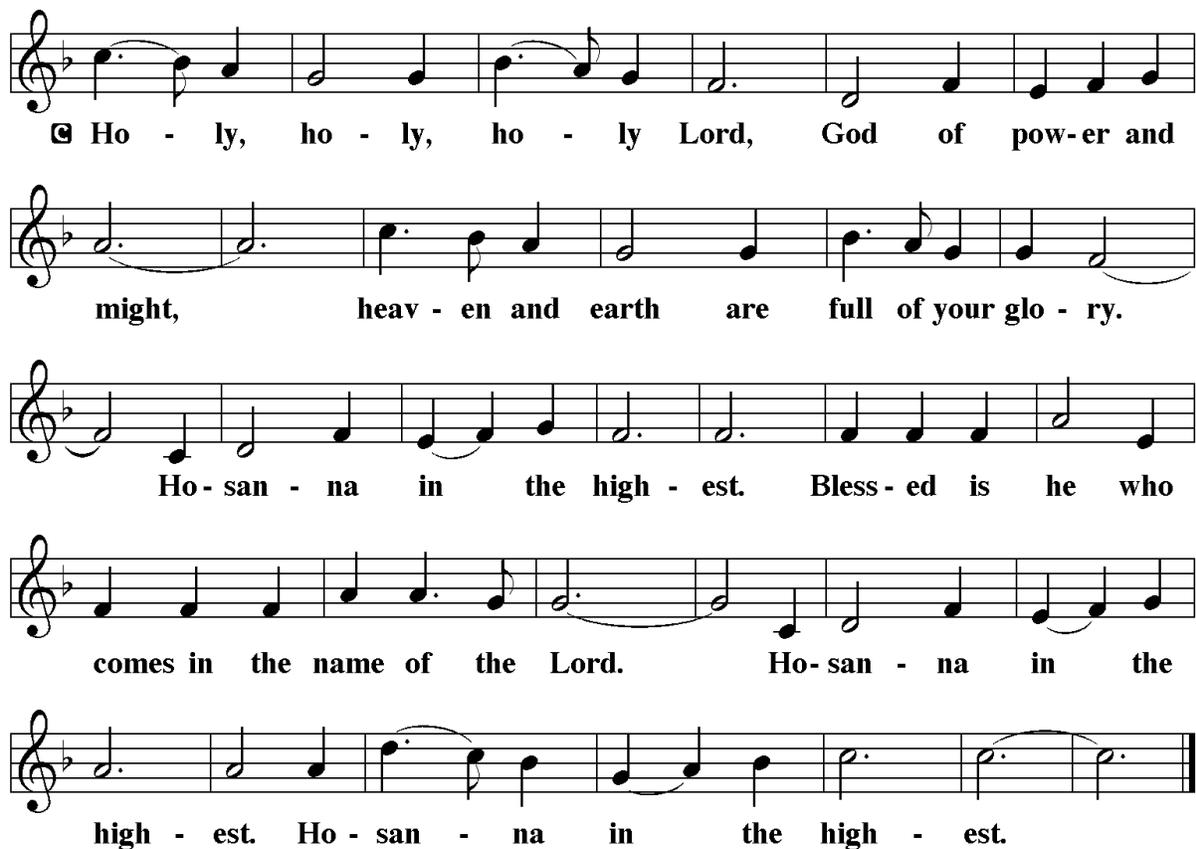
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



♩ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

*All are welcome to celebrate communion as part of our worship this morning!
If you are joining us via livestream, any bread and wine, water or juice may
be used. Please hold up the bread and the cup as Pastor Elizabeth says the
words of institution.*

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all. 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. Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out your Holy Spirit, that by this Holy Communion we may know the unity we share with all your people in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

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

**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 us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

LAMB OF GOD



☩ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All are welcome at the table! If you did not pick up a communion cup, please see an usher. Please dispose of your cup as you exit the sanctuary today.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

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

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



☩ Thank - ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry -
one what God has done. Let all who seek the
Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.
Send us with your prom - is - es, O God, and
lead us forth in joy with shouts of thanks -
giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Ever-living God, you have fed us with spiritual food and nurtured us with the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Transform us now by the power of your Holy Spirit, and send us forth to make peace in our world. Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✚ give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG, *A Mighty Fortress is Our God*, ELW 504



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -
4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who



to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
your us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,



has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

DISMISSAL

The reformation continues! Go in the peace and power of the Holy Spirit!
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Please leave the sanctuary quietly so that those who wish may remain to listen without interruption. Thank you!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Last day of the Pumpkin Patch! Stop by for the Pumpkin Carving Contest today at noon!**
- Worship with us on Zoom at <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81476436505> To join by phone, call (253) 215 8782 and enter Meeting ID: 814 7643 6505. Or find us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/gethsemaneportland>.



- We will celebrate **All Saints' Sunday on November 7th**. Our tradition is to read aloud the names of those who passed this year. Please see Pr. Elizabeth if you have names to add. Thank you!
- Plan to stay after worship on **Sunday, November 14th** for a special congregational party led by our Transition Team. After a shorter worship service, we will share some songs, snacks, have a history bingo game, and then break into small groups for brainstorming and conversation. You can join on Zoom or in person. Thank you for participating in this important time in the life of our church!



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