



St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



Reformation Sunday

Ephesians 6:10-23

October 27, 2024

10:30 Holy Communion

Ephesians 6 tells us to put on the armor of God as if this life were a battle. Indeed, this life is a battle. Though we may enjoy peace in our land, the kingdom of God is not created easily. It takes hard work. It is always opposed. Our opponents are sometimes obvious and sometimes subtle. They are often not what we expect them to be. But the ways God calls us to are effective armor for the battle.

Welcome to worship today!

If you are visiting with us we invite you to sign the Guest Book in the back of the sanctuary.

Large print bulletins are available on the usher's stand.

The Zoom feed for this service is available in the nursery.

† GATHERING †

Prelude and Announcements

Gathering Hymn Cry of My Heart

(For music turn to Hymn 10 in the Songbook binder)

Refrain (2x)

**It is the cry of my heart to follow You.
It is the cry of my heart to be close to You.
It is the cry of my heart to follow all of the days of my life.**

- 1. Teach me Your holy ways O Lord,
so I can walk in Your truth.
Teach me Your holy ways O Lord
and make me wholly devoted to you.**

Refrain

**It is the cry of my heart to follow You.
It is the cry of my heart to be close to You.
It is the cry of my heart to follow all of the days of my life.**

- 2. Open my eyes so I can see
the wonderful things that You do.
Open my heart up more and more,
and make it wholly devoted to You.**

Refrain (2x)

**It is the cry of my heart to follow You.
It is the cry of my heart to be close to You.
It is the cry of my heart to follow all of the days of my life.**

Text and music: Terry Butler; Copyright 1991 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing; CCLI# 844980

Confession and Forgiveness

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.

P: Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are captive 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: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen

Hymn of Praise Give to Our God Immortal Praise
(For music see Hymn 848 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **Give to our God immortal praise!
Mercy and truth are all his ways.
Wonders of grace to God belong;
repeat his mercies in your song.**
2. **He sent his Son with pow'r to save
from guilt and darkness and the grave.
Wonders of grace to God belong;
repeat his mercies in your song.**
3. **Give to the Lord of lords renown;
the King of kings with glory crown.
His mercies ever shall endure
when lords and kings are known no more!**

Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray...

Gracious Father, we pray for the entire Church. Fill it with truth and peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error; direct it; where in anything it is amiss, reform it; where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in need, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

† WORD †

First Reading Romans 8:22-27

B: ²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; ²³and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

²⁶Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

After the reading the reader may say: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Scripture Poetry Psalm 46 (*Read responsively*)

D: Our sure defense,
our shelter and help in trouble,
God never stands far off.

**C: So we stand unshaken
when solid earth cracks
and volcanoes slide into the sea,
when breakers rage
and mountains tremble in the swell.**

D: The Lord of cosmic power,
Jacob's God, will shield us.

**C: A river delights the city of God,
home of the Holy One Most High.**

D: With God there, the city stands;
God defends it under attack.

**C: Nations rage, empires fall.
God speaks, earth melts.**

D: The Lord of cosmic power,
Jacob's God, will shield us.

**C: Come! See the wonders
God does across the earth;**

D: everywhere stopping wars,
smashing, crushing, burning
all the weapons of war.

**C: An end to your fighting!
Acknowledge me as God,
high over nations, high over earth.**

D: The Lord of cosmic power,
Jacob's God, will shield us.

First Reading Ephesians 6:10-24

E: ¹⁰Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹²For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. ¹⁴Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. ¹⁵As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. ¹⁶With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. ¹⁸Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. ¹⁹Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak. ²¹So that you also may know how I am and what I am doing, Tychicus will tell you everything. He is a dear brother and a faithful minister in the Lord. ²²I am sending him to you for this very purpose, to let you know how we are, and to encourage your hearts. ²³Peace be to the

whole community, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

After the reading the reader may say: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

C: Alleluia. Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in us the fire of your love. Alleluia.

Gospel Reading John 15:18-21

The gospel is announced:

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 15th and 16th chapters.

C: Glory to you O Lord.

[Jesus continued to speak at the last supper] ¹⁸“If the world hates you, be aware that it hated me before it hated you. ¹⁹If you belonged to the world, the world would love you as its own. Because you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world—therefore the world hates you. ²⁰Remember the word that I said to you, ‘Servants are not greater than their master.’ If they persecuted me, they will persecute you; if they kept my word, they will keep yours also. ²¹But they will do all these things to you on account of my name, because they do not know him who sent me.

After the reading:

P: The gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you O Christ.

Children’s Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day Rise Up, O Saints of God!

(For music see Hymn 669 in the Red Hymnal)

1. Rise up, O saints of God!

From vain ambitions turn;

Christ rose triumphant that your hearts
with nobler zeal might burn.

2. Speak out, O saints of God!

Despair engulfs earth’s frame;

as heirs of God’s baptismal grace,
the word of hope proclaim.

3. **Rise up, O saints of God!**
The kingdom's task embrace;
redress sin's cruel consequence;
give justice larger place.
4. **Give heed, O saints of God!**
Creation cries in pain;
stretch forth your hand of healing now,
with love the weak sustain.
5. **Commit your hearts to seek**
the paths which Christ has trod;
and, quickened by the Spirit's pow'r,
rise up, O saints of God!

Text: Norman O. Forness, b. 1936, copyright Norman O Forness, admin. Augsburg Fortress.. Music: William H. Walter, 1825-1893

Apostles' Creed

P: We confirm our faith with the Apostles' Creed

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

**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.**

**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.**

Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

P: We share that peace with one another.

The congregation may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

Special Music and Gathering of Prayers and Offerings

You are invited to write a prayer concern on the small blank slip of paper in your worship bulletin. This slip will be collected by the ushers in the offering plates. The concerns raised will be prayed for later in the service.

Offering Prayer

P: Let us pray: Blessed are you, O God,

C: source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

P: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

Issues raised by the congregation are prayed for.

The prayer concludes:

P: Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

† MEAL †

Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus of Nazareth; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with church of yesterday, today and tomorrow;

and the church here in this place and all churches throughout the world, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

(Isaiah 6:3, spoken)

**C: Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

P: In the night in which he was handed over our Lord Jesus took bread, 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."

Lord's Prayer

P: Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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.**

Invitation to Communion

P: Jesus welcomes you to this table. Come, here is your God.

Communion Distribution

Welcome to the Lord's Supper! All who are baptized are invited to receive communion. We use wheat bread and wine for communion. If you would prefer a gluten free wafer instead of bread please tell the communion assistant. Also, if you prefer grape juice to wine, it is available pre-filled in the individual glasses.

As we commune together everyone is invited to sing the following hymns:

Lamb of God (Page 39 of the Blue Hymnal)

641 *All Are Welcome (Red Hymnal)*

640 *Our Father, By Whose Name (Red Hymnal)*

Communion Blessing *After all have communed the pastor will say:*

P: The body and the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

A: Let us pray:

Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

✠ SENDING ✠

Blessing

P: God all mighty,
God most merciful
bless you, keep you,
and give you peace.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*
(For music turn to Hymn 504 in the Red Hymnal)

- 1. A mighty fortress is our God,
A sword and shield victorious;
He breaks the cruel oppressor's rod
And wins salvation glorious.
The old satanic foe
Has sworn to work us woe!
With craft and dreadful might
He arms himself to fight.
On earth he has no equal.**
- 2. No strength of ours can match his might!
We would be lost, rejected.**

**But now a champion comes to fight,
Whom God himself elected.
You ask who this may be?
The Lord of hosts is he!
Christ Jesus mighty Lord,
God's only Son, adored.
He holds the field victorious.**

**3. Though hordes of devils fill the land
All threat'ning to devour us,
We tremble not, unmoved we stand;
They cannot overpower us.
Let this world's tyrant rage,
In battle we'll engage!
His might is doomed to fail;
God's judgment must prevail!
One little word subdues him.**

**4. God's Word forever shall abide,
No thanks to foes, who fear it;
For God him-self fights by our side
With weapons of the Spirit.
Were they to take our house,
Goods, honor, child, or spouse,
Though life be wrenched away,
They cannot win the day.
The Kingdom's ours forever!**

Text and music: Martin Luther, 1483-1546 Text and Music: David Haas, Copyright 1988 GIA Publication Inc.

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: God's Work. Our Hands.



Worship assistants TODAY:

Greeters and Ushers	Sue Kaufmann
Acolyte	Alyssa Young
Altar Care	Emma Deibler
Communion Assistant	Linda Flood
Counters	John and Linda Thompson
Coffee Hour	Pie Sunday

Worship assistants for next Sunday, November 3

Greeters and Ushers	Helen Crown
Acolyte	Alyssa Young
Altar Care	Sue Kaufmann
Communion Assistant	Mary Zuege
Counters	Burdie Gillern and Babette Huber
Coffee Hour	Pie Sunday

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St. John's Lutheran Church

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The Rev. Jonathan Deibler, Pastor
 William Shi, Pianist