

OCTOBER 26, 2025, 9:30A.M. | REFORMATION SUNDAY

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP, SETTING FOUR

\* = Please stand *as you are comfortable*.

**Bold** type indicates congregational responses.

- **Welcome! No matter your background, circumstance, or footing in faith your presence is valued and celebrated as a part of the beloved community of God today.**
- *Your generosity is appreciated and encouraged as it sustains and furthers the work of the congregation in the community and makes a difference in the lives of many. Gifts and offerings may be placed in the plate at the entrance before, during, or after the service. To give electronically, please visit [richfield-lutheran.org/give](http://richfield-lutheran.org/give)*

**As we Gather...**

*Joyous Reformation Sunday! God is indeed here! Today we worship and celebrate in the pure gift of God's love handed over in grace. The scripture passages in 1 Kings describe the building of Solomon's temple, and we similarly give thanks in community. We are yet reminded that God's presence is not limited by brick or stone, nor anything in life or death. We are sent once again as God's abiding place and people in the world.*

**I. GATHERING**

**PRELUDE**

*JESUS PRICELESS TREASURE*

**BACH**

*(The prelude gathers us in the Lord's presence. You are invited to center through it.)*

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Psalm 118:1,24 (adapted)*

O give thanks to the LORD, for God is good;

**God's steadfast love endures forever!**

This is the day that God has made

**Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

**WELCOME**

**\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*(All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.)*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, maker, redeemer, and life-giving renewer.

**Amen.**

Together let us confess all that has kept us from love of God and our neighbors as ourselves...

*(Silence is kept for reflection.)*

Merciful God,

**we confess that we are bound to fall short of your perfect will. In the ways we have failed in thought, word, or deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone, we ask for your grace, forgiveness, and renewing Spirit. Instill in us again the power of your love so that we may follow and serve you in newness of life, through Jesus Christ.**  
**Amen.**

God's steadfast love endures forever. In the Word made flesh, God's compassion is poured out completely in grace and mercy, and in the name of Christ † you are forgiven and set free. Live now again in faith, hope, and love.  
**Amen.**

**\* GATHERING HYMN**

*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

**ELW #504**

**\* GREETING**

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

**And also with you.**

**\* PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

**Mighty God, the splendor of Solomon's temple cannot compare to the majesty of your heart. Show your heart in this place and take up residence in us, that we would love and serve in the Spirit of Christ, crucified and risen for all. Amen.**

**FIRST READING: 1 Kings 5:1-5**

*(Amid a newfound peace, Solomon communicates the plans to build "a house for God's name.")*

Now King Hiram of Tyre sent his servants to Solomon when he heard that they had anointed him king in place of his father, for Hiram had always been a friend to David. <sup>2</sup>Solomon sent word to Hiram, saying, <sup>3</sup>"You know that my father David could not build a house for the name of the Lord his God because of the warfare with which his enemies surrounded him, until he put them under the soles of his feet. <sup>4</sup>But now the Lord my God has given me rest on every side; there is neither adversary nor misfortune. <sup>5</sup>So I intend to build a house for the name of the Lord my God, as the Lord said to my father David, 'Your son, whom I will set on your throne in your place, shall build the house for my name.'

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 27 (read responsively)**

The LORD is my light and my salvation;  
whom shall I fear?

**The LORD is the stronghold of my life;  
of whom shall I be afraid?**

<sup>2</sup> When evildoers assail me  
to devour my flesh—  
my adversaries and foes—  
they shall stumble and fall.

<sup>3</sup> **Though an army encamp against me,  
my heart shall not fear;  
though war rise up against me,  
yet I will be confident.**

<sup>4</sup> One thing I asked of the LORD;  
this I seek:  
to live in the house of the LORD  
all the days of my life,  
to behold the beauty of the LORD,  
and to inquire in his temple.

<sup>5</sup> **For he will hide me in his shelter  
in the day of trouble;  
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;  
he will set me high on a rock.**

<sup>6</sup> Now my head is lifted up  
above my enemies all around me,  
and I will offer in his tent  
sacrifices with shouts of joy;  
I will sing and make melody to the LORD.

<sup>7</sup> **Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud;  
be gracious to me and answer me!**

<sup>8</sup> “Come,” my heart says, “seek his face!”  
Your face, LORD, do I seek.

<sup>9</sup> **Do not hide your face from me.  
Do not turn your servant away in anger,  
you who have been my help.**

Do not cast me off; do not forsake me,  
O God of my salvation!

<sup>10</sup> **If my father and mother forsake me,  
the LORD will take me up.**

<sup>11</sup> Teach me your way, O LORD,  
and lead me on a level path  
because of my enemies.

<sup>12</sup> **Do not give me up to the will of my adversaries,  
for false witnesses have risen against me,  
and they are breathing out violence.**

<sup>13</sup> I believe that I shall see the goodness of the LORD  
in the land of the living.

**<sup>14</sup> Wait for the LORD;  
be strong, and let your heart take courage;  
wait for the LORD!**

**SECOND READING: 1 Kings 8:1-13**

*(The entire people gather to witness and worship at the completion and dedication of the temple. The glory of the Lord fills the space as the people remember God's acts of faithfulness and liberation.)*

Then Solomon assembled the elders of Israel and all the heads of the tribes, the leaders of the ancestral houses of the Israelites, before King Solomon in Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of the covenant of the LORD out of the city of David, which is Zion. <sup>2</sup> All the people of Israel assembled to King Solomon at the festival in the month Ethanim, which is the seventh month. <sup>3</sup> And all the elders of Israel came, and the priests carried the ark. <sup>4</sup> So they brought up the ark of the LORD, the tent of meeting, and all the holy vessels that were in the tent; the priests and the Levites brought them up. <sup>5</sup> King Solomon and all the congregation of Israel, who had assembled before him, were with him before the ark, sacrificing so many sheep and oxen that they could not be counted or numbered. <sup>6</sup> Then the priests brought the ark of the covenant of the LORD to its place, in the inner sanctuary of the house, the most holy place, underneath the wings of the cherubim. <sup>7</sup> For the cherubim spread out their wings over the place of the ark, so that the cherubim made a covering above the ark and its poles. <sup>8</sup> The poles were so long that the ends of the poles were seen from the holy place in front of the inner sanctuary, but they could not be seen from outside; they are there to this day. <sup>9</sup> There was nothing in the ark except the two tablets of stone that Moses had placed there at Horeb, where the LORD made a covenant with the Israelites when they came out of the land of Egypt. <sup>10</sup> And when the priests came out of the holy place, a cloud filled the house of the LORD, <sup>11</sup> so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud, for the glory of the LORD filled the house of the LORD.

<sup>12</sup> Then Solomon said,

"The LORD has said that he would dwell in thick darkness.

<sup>13</sup> I have built you an exalted house,  
a place for you to dwell forever."

Word of God, word of life.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**\* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**p 151**

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

**\* GOSPEL: John 2:19-22**

*(Foreshadowing his coming death and resurrection, Jesus speaks cryptically of a temple which he will tear down and raise up in three days.)*

The holy gospel according to John, the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>19</sup> Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” <sup>20</sup> The Jews then said, “This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?” <sup>21</sup> But he was speaking of the temple of his body. <sup>22</sup> After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

*“WHERE IS GOD”*

**SAM MAIER**

**M. DIV. STUDENT | LUTHER SEMINARY, ST. PAUL, MN**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*Built on the Rock*  
*(Please stand for the final verse.)*

**ELW #652**

**\* PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*(The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ’s peace, and may say, “Peace be with you,” or similar words.)*

## **II. THANKSGIVING**

**CHOIR ANTHEM**

*My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less*

**ELW #597**

**\* OFFERTORY**

*Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven*

**ELW #864 v. 1**

**Praise, my soul, the God of heaven; joyfully your tribute bring.**

**Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, evermore God’s praises sing.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Glorious is God’s faithfulness!**

**\* PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*After each petition:*

*...Merciful God,*

**Hear our prayer.**

**\* LORD’S PRAYER**

**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.

#### IV. SENDING

##### COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

##### \* BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace, in the name of the Triune God.

**Amen.**

##### \* SENDING HYMN

*Beautiful Savior*

**ELW #838**

##### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

**Thanks be to God.**

##### POSTLUDE

*PRAISE TO THE LORD*

**WALTHER**

*(The postlude sends us out to be Christ's peace in the world. You are invited to savor it.)*

*Our service continues with sharing fellowship in Coffee Hour in the Fellowship Hall, across the hall; and then in the world with other neighbors.*

##### **Next Sunday...**

*We recognize all those who rest in God's eternal love in a special All Saints Sunday. In worship we'll remember, name, and lift in prayer those in the congregation who have died in the past year, and we'll also be invited to honor all others who have gone before us. In the scripture readings, we follow the narrative as it intersects with the life of the prophet Elijah in 1 Kings 19. Elijah experiences great difficulty, sadness, hunger, and hardship amid the struggle to be faithful. God listens, brings sustenance, speaks amid the supposed silence, and ultimately sends Elijah back into the thick of the world. It may point to a promise of how God still encounters us in our grief today, lifting us up, and letting us know that God's work of love continues, even in death.*

##### **THIS WEEK'S DAILY BIBLE READINGS:**

Mon, October 27. Psalm 84:8-12

Tues, October 28. John 14:21-27

Wed, October 29. Matthew 21:28-32

Thurs, October 30. Psalm 32:1-7

Fri, October 31. Romans 3:19-28

Sat, November 1. Luke 6:20-31

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