

Reformation Sunday / Affirmation of Baptism
October 27, 2024

Prelude / Bell / Welcome

Thanksgiving for Baptism

L: People of God, in the baptismal waters we traveled with Jesus from death into life.

C: Our past, our sin, our failure, our doubt, are drowned and gone.

L: Our fear, our confusion, our self-righteousness, our despair, are washed away by grace.

C: Our pride, our hypocrisy, and other people's opinions of us no longer define who we are. We are free!

L: The Spirit lives and moves through us now,

C: A great and joyful mystery,

L: So we may bring love and mercy into the world as the body of Christ.

C: Let us rejoice that God has claimed us as God's own in this baptismal grace. We are free!

L: Sisters and brothers, this happens not by our own doing or believing, but by God's mercy and grace alone. And so we give thanks to God for the gracious gift of baptism that joins us together with Jesus, through the power of the Spirit. And all God's people said...

C: Amen! Amen! Thanks be to God!

Hymn / Reformation Litany

A Mighty Fortress is our God

ELW 504

(Spoken) L: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

**C: Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea,
though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.**

(Sung)

*A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;
our helper frees us from the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe, forsworn to work us woe,
with guile and dreadful might is armed to wage the fight: on earth there is no equal.*

(Spoken)

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

**C: God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;
God will help it when the morning dawns.**

(Sung)

*If we in our own strength confide, our striving turns to losing;
the righteous one fights by our side, the one of God's own choosing.
You ask who this may be: Christ Jesus, it is he,
the Lord of hosts by name. No other God we claim! None else can win the battle.*

(Spoken)

L: The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter; God speaks and the earth melts.

C: The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

L: Come, behold the works of the Lord!

**C: God makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
God breaks the bow, shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.**

(Sung)

*Though all the world with devils fill and threaten to devour us,
we tremble not, we trust God's will: they cannot overpower us.
Though Satan rant and rage, in fiercest war engage,
this tyrant's doomed to fail; God's judgement must prevail! One little word shall triumph.*

(Spoken)

L: Be still, and know that the Lord is God!

C: God is exalted among the nations; God is exalted in the earth.

L: The Lord of hosts is with us;

C: The God of Jacob is our refuge.

(Sung)

*God's Word shall stand above the pow'rs, shall end all their thanksgiving.
The Spirit and the gifts are ours, for God with us is living.
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also; though all of these be gone,
they yet have nothing won. The kingdom's our forever!*

Gospel Reading

John 8:31-36

Reflection

Song

All Are Welcome

ELW 641 vs. 1, 3, 5

Affirmation of Baptism

Nancy Powers, Council President: The following people have been instructed in the Christian faith and desire to make public affirmation of Baptism:

Emerson Batterberry

Karter Leukam

Payton Nygaard

Carson Olson

Alivia Schaefer

Phoenix Turnbull

John Weiss

Colin Wendlandt

Profession of Faith

L: Do you believe in God the Father?

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

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

**C: 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.**

L: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**C: 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.**

Blessing Laying on of Hands & Presentation of Stoles

*(During the laying on of hands: parents and families are invited to
come forward and participate. All others raise a hand in blessing.)*

Stir up in *(name of student)* 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.**

(Congregational blessing as students move to center of sanctuary)

Prayer of Blessing

L: Let us rejoice with these sisters and brothers in Christ.

**C: 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. Thanks be to God! Amen!**

Offering

Thanksgiving at the Table

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

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

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

