



Risen Christ Lutheran Church
Reformation Sunday Observed
November 2, 2025 9:30am

REMEMBER, YOU ARE IN GOD'S SANCTUARY. AS YOU ENTER HIS SANCTURARY, PLEASE SIT QUIETLY, PRAY, AND READ THROUGH THIS WORSHIP FOLDER TO PREPARE FOR WORSHIP



"Unless I am convinced by the testimony of the Holy Scriptures or by evident reason-for I can believe neither pope nor councils alone, as it is clear that they have erred repeatedly and contradicted themselves-I consider myself convicted by the testimony of Holy Scripture, which is my basis; my conscience is captive to the Word of God. Thus I cannot and will not recant, because acting against one's conscience is neither safe nor sound. God help me. Amen." – Martin Luther's words spoken in 1521

ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION – (2nd & 4th Sundays) We believe that the Lord’s Supper is not symbolic. We believe what Jesus Himself said: that His body and blood are truly present in this, His meal that He instituted for forgiveness and spiritual strength, that God desires our sincere confession, continuous seeking and giving forgiveness and, that being genuine in taking Communion so that we not harm ourselves by taking it in an unworthy manner. If you believe the above and you are a baptized believer who trusts in the death and resurrection of Jesus for the forgiveness of sins, and you have examined yourself, you are welcome to commune with us. Please talk to the Pastor if you have any questions. The bread is offered before the “individual” and “common” cups of wine. (Note: White Grape Juice is in the center of the tray.)

OFFERING – Through the offerings of His faithful people, our Lord provides for the ongoing work of His Church. If you are a visitor, we are glad that you came to be served by the Lord this day. If you choose to contribute to the ongoing work of the Gospel, we give thanks that God has moved you to contribute toward the work of sharing the Gospel here in Plymouth and around the world through your here! You can also take advantage of Online Giving by visiting www.RisenChrist.info

A WORD TO OUR MEMBERS AND GUESTS – Welcome and thank you for coming. Everyone please complete a Worship Card and place it in the offering plate. For Guests, Pastor will send you a welcome card and please indicate that you “desire” a call for any further contact.

Large Print Bulletins – Available from an usher.

Listening Assistance Devices – Available at the Sound Booth.

Parent Room – A row of seating and plenty of area for standing or walking is available in the Welcome Area/Lobby (“Narthex”)

For Children – Children’s Book Cart for Worship: Available in the Welcome Area.

As We Gather – Jesus calls us to abide in His Word. To abide means to dwell or be at home. Are you at home in Jesus’ Word? Is it the place where you long to be? Jesus’ Word is the only place in all the world where we can find the absolute guarantee of sins forgiven, hope restored, and new life granted as children of God the Father. Today, Jesus mercifully calls us to come to Him, confess our sins, and be filled with His pardon and peace. He will renew us by His Word, strengthen us at His Table, and send us forth with His blessing to proclaim to all creation: “So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed” (John 8:36).

Welcome and Announcements

Invocation and Opening Sentences

John 8:31–32

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

G Amen.

P Jesus said, “If you abide in My word,

G **you are truly My disciples,**

P and you will know the truth,

G **and the truth will set you free.”**

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



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 wins sal -
ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, Whom God Him -
mour us, We trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; They can - not
fear it; For God Him - self fights by our side With weap - ons



va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe Has sworn to
self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be? The Lord of
o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage; In bat - tle
of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house, Goods, hon - or,



work us woe. With craft and dread - ful might He
hosts is He, Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord, God's
we'll en - gage. His might is doomed to fail; God's
child, or spouse, Though life be wrenched a - way, They



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

Confession and Absolution

John 8:36

P With humble hearts, let us approach our Father's throne of grace.

Silence to reflect on our sin and our need for the Savior

P Together, we pray:

C Gracious Father, because our entire lives are to be ones of repentance, we bow before You and confess our sins. We have turned away from the truth of Your Word, choosing to go our own way. By what we have thought, by what we have done, and by what we have failed to do, we have broken Your commands and are deserving of Your wrath and punishment. By the mercy of Christ, Your Son, set us free from our captivity. Enable us by Your Holy Spirit to live under You in Your kingdom and to serve You in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness. Amen.

P Just as Christ is risen from the dead, He lives and reigns to all eternity! It is most certainly true that He died and rose again for you to make you right with God, to adopt you as children of the heavenly Father, and to set you free from sin and death. As a called and ordained servant of the Word, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P "So if the Son sets you free,

C you will be free indeed!"

Introit

Psalm 34:1–2, 11, 22; antiphon: Psalm 119:46

I will speak of your testimonies before kings, [O Lord,]
and shall not be put to shame.

I will bless the LORD at all times;
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

My soul makes its boast in the LORD;
let the humble hear and be glad.

Come, O children, listen to me;
I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

The LORD redeems the life of his servants;
none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

I will speak of your testimonies before kings, [O Lord,]
and shall not be put to shame.

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people.

C Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth,

P protect and deliver us in times of temptation,

C defend us against all enemies,

P and, through the abiding Word of Your Son,

C set us free from our sin that we may know Your saving peace;

P through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C** Amen.

First Reading

Revelation 14:6–7

⁶Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people. ⁷And he said with a loud voice, "Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come, and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water."

L This is the Word of the Lord. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 46; antiphon: v. 7

C **The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

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

C **Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,**

L though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

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

L God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns.

C **The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; He utters His voice, the earth melts. The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

L Come, behold the works of the LORD, how He has brought desolations on the earth.

C **He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; He burns the chariots with fire.**

L "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"

C **The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

Epistle

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 stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

²¹But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: ²³for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. ²⁶It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

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

L This is the Word of the Lord. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

Apostles' Creed

C **I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.**

Holy Gospel

John 8:31–36

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter.

G **Glory to You, O Lord.**

³¹So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." ³³They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free?'"

³⁴Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. ³⁶So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Thy Word Is a Lamp

REFRAIN: Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet

And a light unto my path.

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet

And a light unto my path.

1. When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way,
Still You're there right beside me.

And nothing will I fear
as long as You are near.

Please be near me to the end. **Refrain**

2. I will not forget Your love for me, and yet
My heart forever is wandering.

Jesus, be my guide and hold me to Your side;
And I will love You to the end. **Refrain**

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Sermon – "Christ Has Set Us Free and What That Really Means"

1. Satan promises liberty but delivers slavery – "satan's big lie". Jesus stated, "Everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin."
2. Jesus offers us DISCIPLESHIP and thereby sets us free! "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."
 - a. Knowledge of God through knowing His Word and commitment to God actually liberates us!
 - b. So, Christ offering us discipleship = He wants to set us free.
 - c. "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples."
 - d. God has already accepted the blame and shame of our sin... atoned of it... and thereby set us free from the power of guilt!

Regular Offering – ONLINE GIVING available at www.RisenChrist.info – Whether you are a visitor or a member, please turn in a **Worship Card** so we may know whom the Lord has served with His Word.

Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Lord Jesus, You have freed us from the captivity to sin and death, from the delusion of trying to earn and maintain our own righteousness, and from the chains of condemnation and fear. That is why we rejoice in Your Word: If the Son sets you free,

G you will be free indeed!

MEN – Lord Jesus, only Your mercy and grace enable us to know, find, and live in the freedom of Your eternal Gospel. Send Your Spirit upon Your Church that we continue in the truths of the Reformation, and that, to all the peoples of the world, we proclaim this truth: If the Son sets you free,

G you will be free indeed!

WOMEN – Lord Jesus, free us from self-centeredness and pride. Turn our focus toward You first in faith and then toward others in love. Bless all who serve You and others in their homes, in the church, in the workplace, and in our community to rejoice in knowing that if the Son sets you free,

G you will be free indeed!

P Lord Jesus, You proclaim freedom for the captives and recovery for those with infirmities. Grant Your healing, in both soul and body, to those we name before You (quietly to ourselves). Rejoicing in Your healing touch, grant that all who receive Your Good News boldly say: If the Son sets you free,

G you will be free indeed!

MEN – Lord Jesus, for these and all other concerns we have, please hear and answer our prayers according to Your gracious will

G that we live each day in the freedom we have come to know. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

**G 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.**

In Christ Alone

1. In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light my strength, my song
This Cornerstone this solid Ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and
storm
What heights of love what depths of peace
When fears are stilled when strivings cease
My Comforter my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand

2. In Christ alone who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live

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3. There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

4. No guilt in life no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

Benediction

John 8:31–32, 36; Numbers 6:24–26

- P** Jesus said, "If you abide in My word,
C **you are truly My disciples,**
P and you will know the truth,
C **and the truth will set you free.**
P So if the Son sets you free,
C **you will be free indeed."**
P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.
C **Amen.**

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