

**Reformation Sunday
All Saint's Sunday
October 29, 2023**

Gathering
God invites us to enter His presence

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Preparation for Worship (*Time for Silent Preparation*)

 **Call to Worship** (*Responsively*)

Bonnie Mecaughey

Great and marvelous are your deeds,
Lord God Almighty.
**Just and true are your ways,
King of the nations.**
Who will not fear you, Lord,
and bring glory to your name?
**For you alone are holy.
All nations will come and worship before you.**

—Revelation 15:3-4, NIV

 **Invocation**

Bonnie Mecaughey

O God, our guide and guardian,
you have led us apart from the busy world into the quiet of your house.
Grant us grace to worship you in spirit and in truth,
to the comfort of our souls
and the upbuilding of every good purpose and holy desire.
Enable us to do more perfectly the work to which you have called us,
that we may not fear the coming of night,
when we shall surrender into your hands
the tasks which you have committed to us.
So may we worship you not with our lips only at this hour,
but in word and deed all the days of our lives,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

 **Hymn 26**

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

Confessing
God invites us to be honest with Him

Call to Confession

Bonnie Mecaughey

We know that nothing is able to separate us
from the love of God in Jesus Christ.
Let us in freedom confess the wrong we have done.

—based on Romans 8:39

Prayer of Confession *(Responsively)*

Bonnie Mecaughey

O Lord, our hearts are heavy with the violence of our world,
so much suffering through the ages,
wars and holocausts, genocide and abuse.
We cry on behalf of our violent world:

Lord, have mercy.

O Lord, you love and care for us as a parent;
you came to share life with us as a brother.
But we confess we have failed to live as your children
and instead have broken many bonds.
We cry on behalf of our violent world:

Lord, have mercy.

O Lord, you have called us to live together in community,
to consider one another as brother and sister,
regardless of ethnicity, economic status, or popularity.
Yet we prejudge one another,
refuse to love one another,
and victimize one another.

We cry on behalf of our violent world:

Lord, have mercy.

O Lord, giver of all life,
you fearfully and wonderfully made us
and breathed into our nostrils the breath of life.

Yet we endanger the lives of one another,
abuse the lives of young children among us,
destroy those who are defenseless,
and oppress those who are powerless.

We cry on behalf of our violent world:

Lord, have mercy.

Pardon us through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Time for Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Bonnie Mecaughey

All the prophets testify about Christ
that everyone who believes in him
receives forgiveness of sins through his name.

—from Acts 10:43, NRSV

Leader: *This is the Promise of the Lord*

All: **Thanks be to God!**

 **Gloria Patri**

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
And to the Holy Ghost:
As it was in the beginning,
Is now and ever shall be, world without end.
A-men, A-men.*

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Offering

Thankful of the gifts God has given us, we offer ourselves to Him

Minute for Stewardship

Matt Steinginga

Invitation

As God's dear children, then, take him as your pattern, and follow Christ by loving as he loved you, giving himself up for us as an offering and a sweet-smelling sacrifice to God.

— Ephesians 5:1-2, NJB

Offering

Offertory

*Prelude in G Minor
Prelude in F Major*

Bach

 **Doxology**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. A-men.*

 **Prayer of Dedication**

Almighty and most merciful God, from you comes every good and perfect gift. We give you praise and thanks for all your mercies. Your goodness has created us, your bounty has sustained us, your discipline has chastened us, your patience has borne with us, your love has redeemed us. Give us a heart to love and serve you, and enable us to show our thankfulness for all your goodness and mercy by giving up ourselves to your service and cheerfully submitting in all things to your blessed will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

 **Praise Song**

Blessed Be Your Name

Verse 1

*Blessed be Your Name in the land that is plentiful;
Where Your streams of abundance flow, blessed be Your Name.*

Verse 2

*Blessed be Your Name when I'm found in the dessert place,
When I walk through the wilderness, blessed be Your Name.*

Pre-Chorus

*Every blessing You pour out I'll turn back to praise;
When the darkness closes in, Lord, still I will say:*

Chorus

*Blessed be the Name of the Lord, blessed be Your Name.
Blessed be the Name of the Lord, blessed be Your glorious Name.*

Verse 3

*Blessed be Your Name when the sun's shining down on me;
When the world's all as it should be, blessed be Your Name.*

Verse 4

*Blessed be Your Name on the rod marked with suffering:
Though there's pain in the offering, blessed be Your Name.*

Pre-Chorus

Chorus

Bridge (2x)

*You give and take away, You give and take away.
My heart will choose to say: Lord, blessed be Your Name.*

Chorus (2x)

Proclaiming

God speaks to us through His Word

Children's Sermon

God's Adopted Children

Susan Obenschain

Scripture Reading

Galatians 4:21-31

²¹ Tell me, you who want to be under the law, don't you hear the law? ²² For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by a slave and the other by a free woman. ²³ But the one by the slave was born as a result of the flesh, while the one by the free woman was born through promise. ²⁴ These things are being taken figuratively, for the women represent two covenants. One is from Mount Sinai and bears children into slavery—this is Hagar. ²⁵ Now Hagar represents Mount Sinai in Arabia and corresponds to the present Jerusalem, for she is in slavery with her children. ²⁶ But the Jerusalem above is free, and she is our mother. ²⁷ For it is written,

**Rejoice, childless woman,
unable to give birth.**

**Burst into song and shout,
you who are not in labor,
for the children of the desolate woman will be many,
more numerous than those
of the woman who has a husband.**

²⁸ Now you too, brothers and sisters, like Isaac, are children of promise. ²⁹ But just as then the child born as a result of the flesh persecuted the one born as a result of the Spirit, so also now. ³⁰ But what does the Scripture say? **“Drive out the slave and her son, for the son of the slave will never be a coheir with the son of the free woman.”** ³¹ Therefore, brothers and sisters, we are not children of a slave but of the free woman.

Sermon

*“Sarah and Hagar”
Rev. Tim Latham*



Praise Song

Christ, Our Hope in Life and Death

Verse 1

*What is our hope in life and death
Christ alone Christ alone
What is our only confidence
That our souls to Him belong
Who holds our days within His hand
What comes apart from His command
And what will keep us to the end
The love of Christ in which we stand*

Chorus

*O sing hallelujah
Our hope springs eternal
O sing hallelujah
Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death*

Verse 2

*What truth can calm the troubled soul
God is good God is good
Where is His grace and goodness known
In our great Redeemer's blood
Who holds our faith when fears arise
Who stands above the stormy trial
Who sends the waves that bring us nigh
Unto the shore the rock of Christ*

Verse 3

*Unto the grave what will we sing
Christ He lives Christ He lives
And what reward will heaven bring
Everlasting life with Him
There we will rise to meet the Lord
Then sin and death will be destroyed
And we will feast in endless joy
When Christ is ours forevermore*

Responding
We respond to God's Word

! Profession of Faith (*Psalm 23*)

The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing.
He makes me lie down in green pastures,
he leads me beside quiet waters,
he refreshes my soul.
He guides me along the right paths
for his name's sake.
Even though I walk
through the darkest valley,
I will fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies.
You anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
Surely your goodness and love will follow me
all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD
forever.

—Psalm 23

Prayers of the People

Commissioning
God sends us out into the world as His witnesses

! Hymn 468 *The King of Love My Shepherd Is*

! Benediction & Blessing

! Postlude

