Reformation Sunday



October 25, 2026

ST. JOHN'S
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
4629 Aspen Hill Road, Rockville, Maryland 20853
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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

a Reconciling in Christ Congregation

Gathering

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude

*Confession & Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.
Amen.

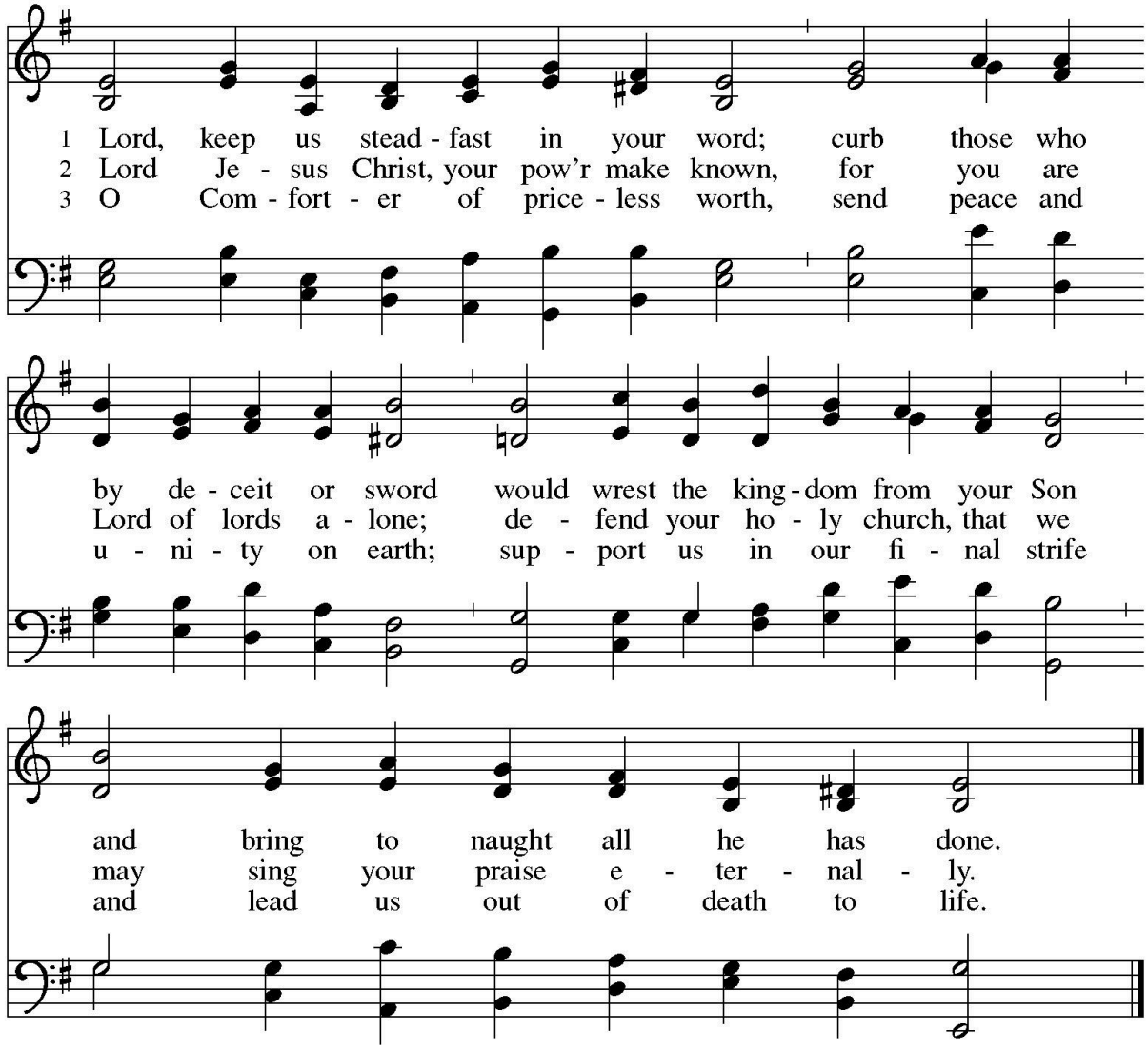
Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Compassionate God,
we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts.
Creation groans from overuse.
Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.
Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.
Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others.
Turn our hearts back to you.
Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.
Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Hear this good news:
We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.
Amen.

*<u>Gathering Hymn</u>

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word



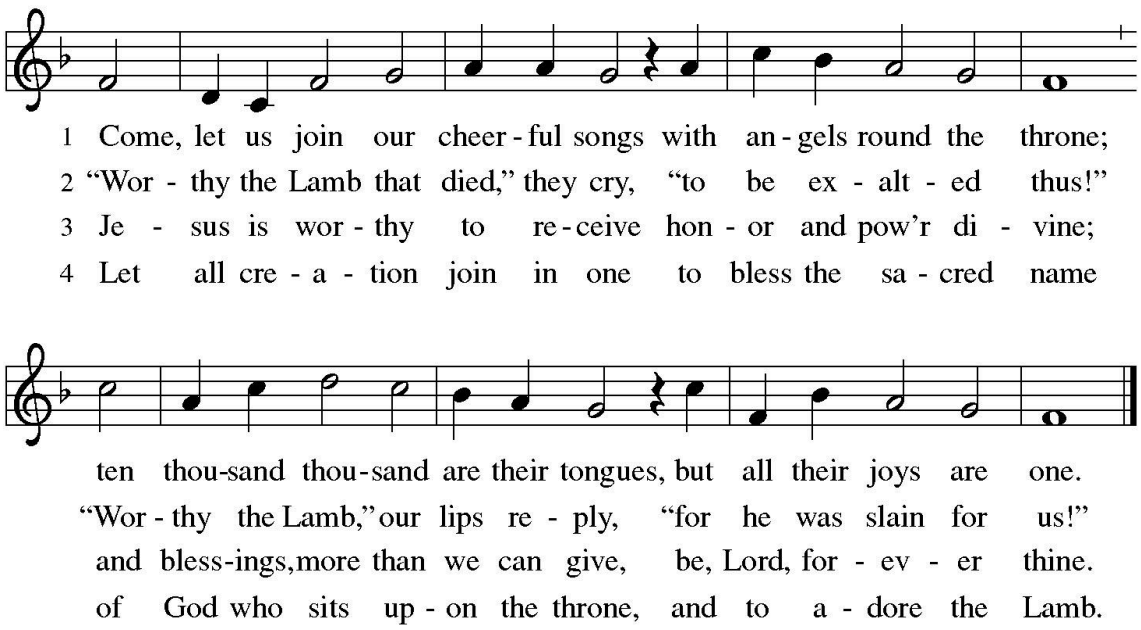
Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
Music: ERHALT UNS, HERR, J. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543

*<u>Greeting</u>

P: The grace … with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

*Hymn of Praise



* Prayer of the Day

Word

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 46

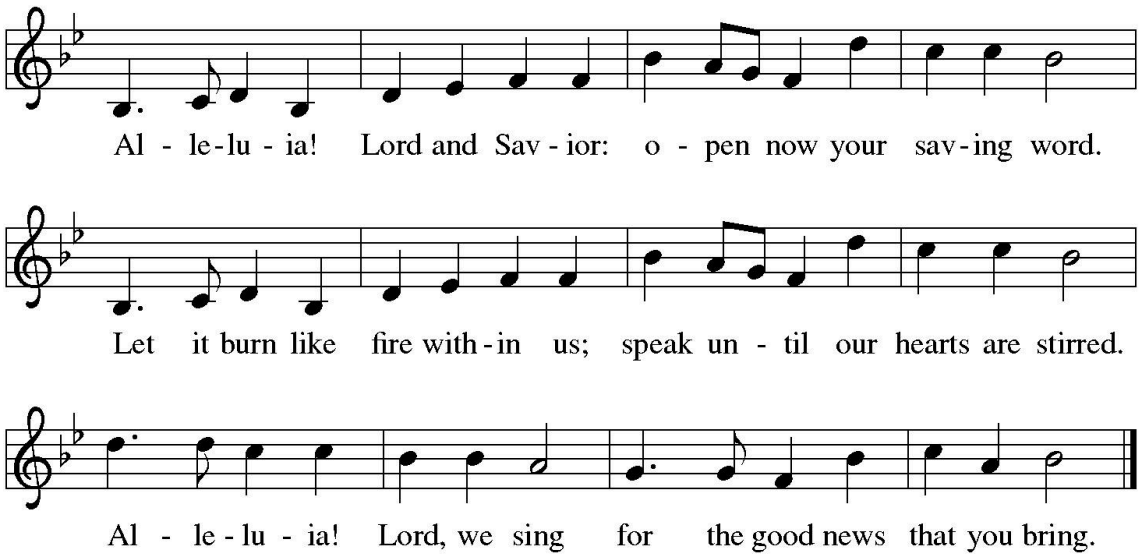
1 God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
**2 Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**
3 though its waters rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.
**4 There is a river whose streams make glad the cit y of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.**
5 God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;

God shall help it at the break of day.
6 The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth melts away.
7 The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.
8 Come now, regard the works of the Lord,
what desolations God has brought up on the earth;
9 behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.
10 "Be still, then, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth."
11 The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Second Reading: Romans 3:19-28

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation



*Gospel: John 8:31-36
The holy Gospel according to...
Glory to you, O Lord.

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon

*Hymn of the Day

The Church of Christ, in Every Age



Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000
Music: WAREHAM, William Knapp, 1698–1768
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*Creed

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.

*Prayers

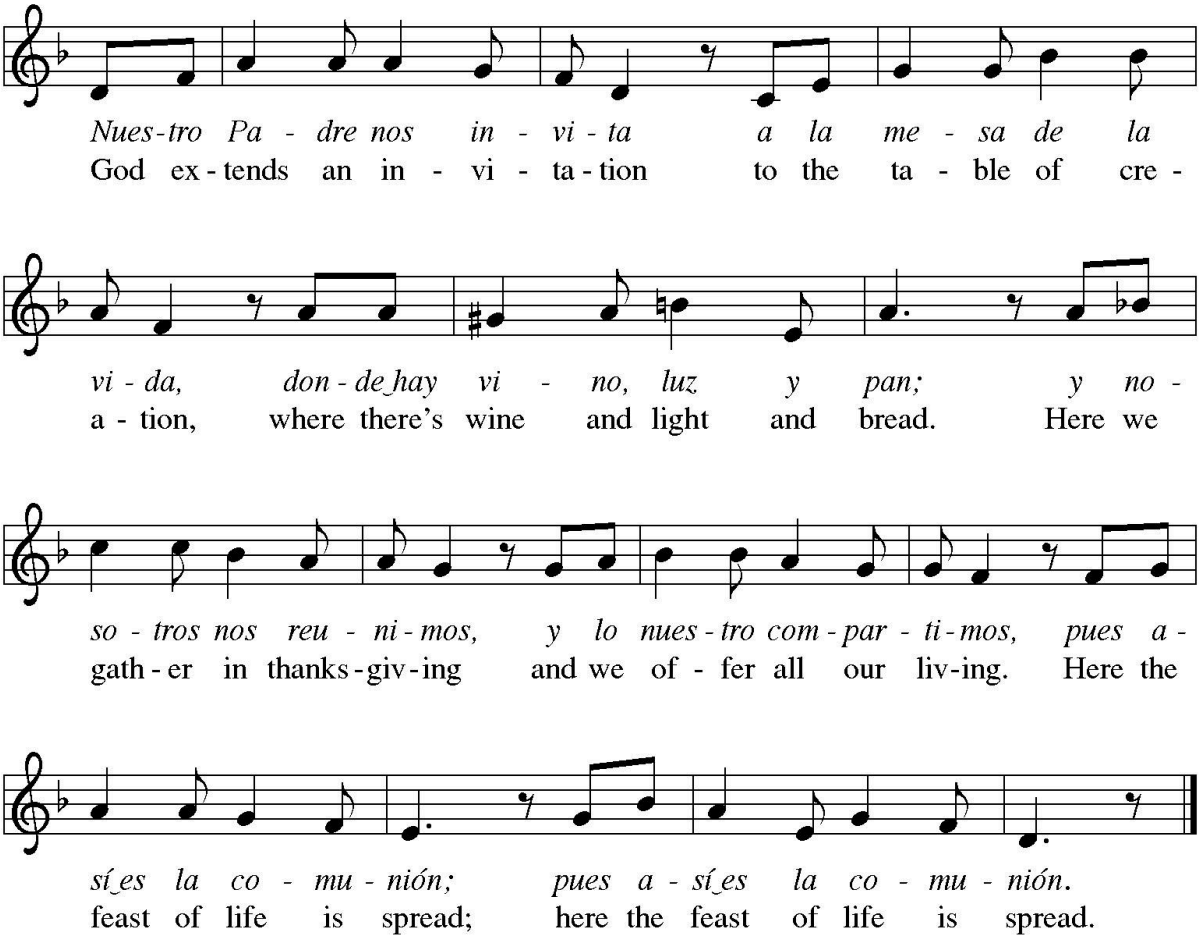
… hear us, O God,
C: your mercy is great.

*Peace

Meal

*Offertory

God Extends an Invitation
Nuestro Padre nos invita



Text: Miria T. Kolling; English and Spanish tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923
Music: NUESTRO PADRE, Miria T. Kolling
Spanish and English text © 1998 Augsburg Fortress.
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*Offering Prayer

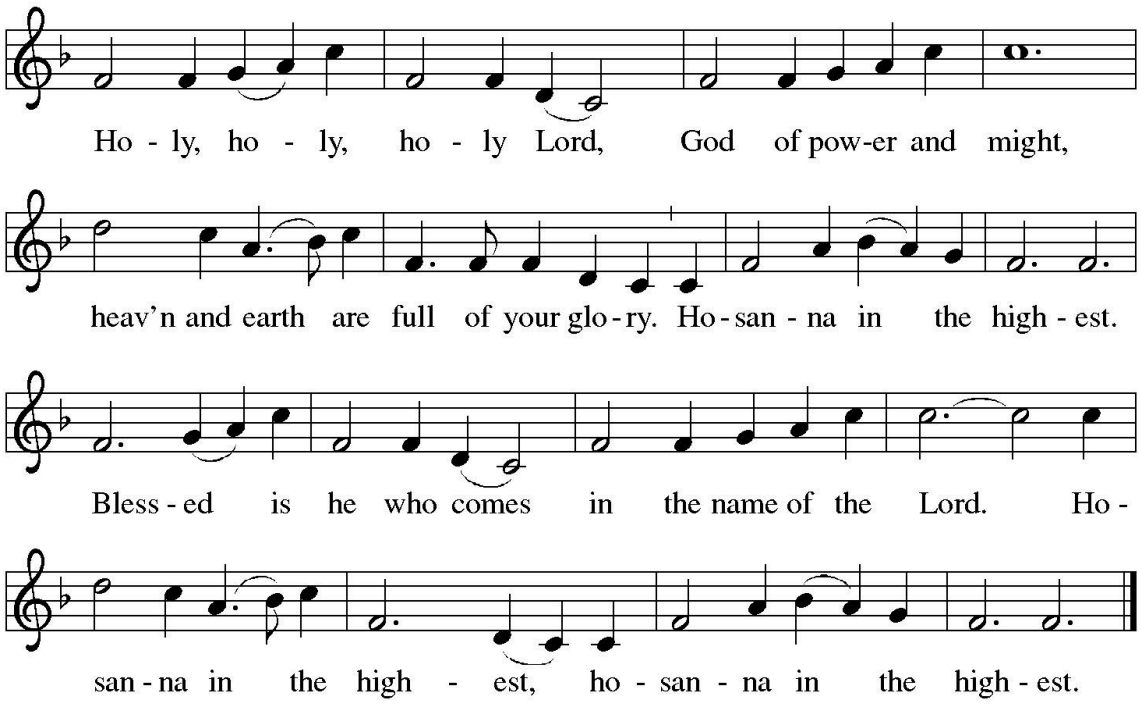
*Great Thanksgiving
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right… join their unending hymn:

*Sanctus



*Eucharistic 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.

Lamb of God



Communion Hymn

How Firm a Foundation



Text: J. Rippon, *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt.
Music: FOUNDATION, Early American

*Post-communion prayer

Sending

*Blessing

*Sending hymn:

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther
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*Dismissal
Go in peace. Be led forth in peace.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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