

THE LUTHERAN REFORMATION  
OF THE CHURCH

November 3rd, 2024



Dr. Martin Luthers „Santorei im Hause“. Nach einem Gemälde von G. Spangenberg.

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MARTIN LUTHER  
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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## ORDER OF SERVICE

### Hymn ----- O Lord, Look Down from Heaven

CW 205

1. O Lord, look down from heav'n, behold, And let your pity waken.  
How few are we within your fold, Your saints by all forsaken;  
True faith seems quenched on ev'ry hand;  
Your Word is not allowed to stand.  
Dark times have us o'ertaken.
2. O God, root out all heresy, And of false teachers rid us  
Who proudly say, "Now where is he Who shall our speech forbid us?  
By right or might we shall prevail; What we determine cannot fail;  
We want no lord and master!"
3. Therefore said God, "I must arise—The poor my help are needing.  
To me ascend my people's cries, And I have heard their pleading.  
For them my saving Word shall fight And fearlessly and sharply smite,  
The poor with might defending."
4. Defend your truth, O God, and stay This evil generation,  
And from the error of its way Keep your own congregation.  
The wicked ev'rywhere abound And would your little flock confound,  
But you are our salvation!

*Stand.*

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.



C: A - men.

- M: If you want to engage profitably in the study of theology and Holy Scripture and do not want to run head-long into a Scripture closed and sealed, then learn, above all things, to understand sin aright.
- C: We are not sinners because we commit sin – now this one, now that one – but we commit these acts because we are sinners before we do so. That is, a bad tree and bad seed produce bad fruit, and from an evil root nothing but an evil tree can grow.**
- M: Today nothing is so common as turning right into wrong and wrong into right by employing all sorts of clever expedients and strange tricks.
- C: The worst enemies we have are lodged in our own heart and in our very flesh and blood. They wake, sleep, and live with us, as an evil guest whom we have invited into our house and now cannot get rid of.**
- M: We are utterly lost; from head to foot there is nothing good in us; we must absolutely become new and different people.
- C: God looks to this natural sin alone. You cannot drive it out with any law, with any punishment, though there were a thousand hells; God's grace alone, which cleanses and renews human nature, will have to sweep it away.**
- M: If God's wrath is to be taken from me and I am to attain grace and forgiveness, this blessing must be earned from Him by someone.
- C: For God cannot be kind and gracious to sin, and cannot remove punishment and wrath, unless sin has been paid for and satisfaction has been rendered.**

M: Now no one, not even an angel in heaven, was able to do away with the eternal, irreparable damage and the eternal wrath of God, which we had earned by our sins, except the eternal Person of God's Son Himself. And this he did by stepping into our place, taking our sins upon Himself, and answering for them as if He were guilty of them Himself.

C: **The Law lays my sins on me, but God takes them from me and lays them on this Lamb. There they lie well, better than on me.**

M: And God means to say: 'I see that sin weighs heavily on you and that you would have to break down under the heavenly burden; but I will relieve you of it, take the sin from off your back, and out of pure grace lay it on the shoulders of this Lamb.' Let this picture be precious to you: It makes Christ a Servant of sins, yea, a Bearer of sins, the lowliest, the most despised of men, who Himself destroys all sin and says: 'I am come to serve others, not to let Myself be served.'

C: **God says: 'I forgive you your sins for nothing, without any merit of your own – not because of your sorrow or because of your work.' For sin cannot be removed by us. Or, to put it this way, satisfaction for sin cannot come through our efforts; it comes through the efforts of the Son of God.**

M: Therefore as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

**Hymn ----- All Glory Be to God Alone**

CW 262

1. **All glory be to God alone, Forevermore the highest one,  
Who did our sinful race befriend And grace and peace to us extend.  
Among mankind may his good will All hearts with deep thanksgiving fill.**

2. We praise you, God, and you we bless; We worship you in humbleness;  
From day to day we glorify The everlasting God on high.  
Of your great glory do we sing, And to your throne our thanks we bring.
3. Lord God, our King on heaven's throne, Our Father, the Almighty One;  
O Lord, the Sole-begotten One, Lord Jesus Christ, the Father's Son,  
True God from all eternity, O Lamb of God—to you we flee.
4. You take the whole world's sin away; Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.  
You take the whole world's sin away; Oh, listen to the prayer we say.  
From God's right hand, oh, send today Your mercy on us, Lord, we pray.
5. You only are the Holy One; O'er all things you are Lord alone.  
O Jesus Christ, we glorify You and the Spirit, Lord most high;  
With him you evermore shall be One in the Father's majesty.

THE WORD

*Salutation*

M: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

*Prayer of the Day*

M: Let us pray.

Gracious Lord, our refuge and strength, pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your Word, protect and comfort them in all temptations, defend them against all their enemies, and bestow on the Church your saving peace; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



*Be seated.*

**First Lesson ----- Jeremiah 18:1–11**

This is the word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: “Get up, and go down to the potter’s house, and there I will reveal my words to you.”

So I went down to the potter’s house, and he was making something on the wheel. But the pot he was forming out of the clay was ruined as he shaped it with his hands, so the potter formed it into a different pot, whatever he saw fit to make.

Then the word of the LORD came to me.

House of Israel, can I not do with you as this potter does? declares the LORD. See, like clay in the potter’s hands, that is what you are in my hands, house of Israel. One time I may say that a nation or a kingdom is to be uprooted, torn down,

and destroyed, but if that nation I spoke about repents of its evil, then I will relent and not bring the disaster I had planned to bring against it. Another time I may say that a nation or a kingdom is to be built and planted, but if they do what is evil in my sight by not listening to my voice, then I will not bring about the good I said I would do for them.

Now therefore say this to the men of Judah and to those who live in Jerusalem. This is what the LORD says. Look! I am forming a disaster against you. I am devising a plan against you. Turn from your evil ways, each of you, and reform your ways and your actions.

**Psalm of the Day ----- Psalm 46**

CW p.84

*Refrain*

**The mighty Lord is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

God is our refuge and strength,\*  
an ever-present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way\*  
and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,

though its waters roar and foam\*  
and the mountains quake with their surging.

*Refrain*

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,\*  
the holy place where the Most High dwells.

God is within her, she will not fall;\*  
God will help her at break of day.

“Be still, and know that I am God;\*”  
I will be exalted among the nations,  
I will be exalted in the earth.”

**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. *Refrain***

**Second Lesson ----- Revelation 14:6,7**

Then I saw another angel flying in the middle of the sky. He had the everlasting gospel to proclaim to those who live on the earth, to every nation, tribe, language, and people. He said with a loud voice:

Fear God and give him glory,  
because the hour of his judgment has come.  
Worship him who made the sky, the earth,  
the sea, and the springs of water.

*Verse of the Day*

*John 8:31,32*

*Tune: CW 217*

C: If my dear Word you truly heed Then  
mine you e'er shall be. And you shall know the  
truth in - deed And it wi - ll make you free.

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*Stand.*

**Gospel ----- Mark 13:5-11**

*After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:*



**C: Glo - ry be to you, O Lord!**

Jesus began by telling them, “Be careful that no one deceives you. Many will come in my name, saying, ‘I am he,’ and will deceive many.

“Whenever you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be troubled. Such things must happen, but the end is not yet. In fact, nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in various places. There will be famines. These are the beginning of birth pains. But be on your guard! People will hand you

over to councils, and you will be beaten in synagogues. You will stand in the presence of rulers and kings for my sake as a witness to them. And the gospel must first be preached to all the nations. Whenever they arrest you and hand you over, do not worry beforehand what you should say. Say whatever is given to you in that hour, because you will not be the ones speaking; instead it will be the Holy Spirit.”

*After the Gospel, the congregation sings:*



**C: Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated.*

**Hymn of the Day ----- Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word**

CW 203

1. Lord, keep us steadfast in your Word;  
Curb those who by deceit or sword  
Would seek to overthrow your Son  
And to destroy what he has done.



2. Lord Jesus Christ, your pow'r make known,  
For you are Lord of lords alone;  
Defend your Christendom that we  
May sing your praise eternally.
3. O Comforter of priceless worth,  
Send peace and unity on earth.  
Support us in our final strife,  
And lead us out of death to life.

**Sermon ----- Jeremiah 18:1–11**

*While Nations Rise and Fall, Be Formed by the Enduring Gospel*

*Stand.*

**Credal Hymn ----- We All Believe In One True God**

CW 271

1. We all believe in one true God, Who created earth and heaven,  
The Father, who to us in love Has the right of children given.  
He in soul and body feeds us; All we need his hand provides us.  
He through snares and perils leads us, Watching that no harm betides us.  
He cares for us by day and night; All things are governed by his might.
2. We all believe in Jesus Christ, His own Son, our Lord, possessing  
An equal Godhead, throne and might, Source of ev'ry grace and blessing,  
Born of Mary, virgin mother, By the power of the Spirit,  
Made true man, our elder brother, That the lost might life inherit,  
Was crucified by sinful men And raised by God to life again.
3. We all confess the Holy Ghost, Who, sweet hope and comfort giving,  
Now with the Father and the Son In eternal light is living,  
Who the Church, his own creation, Keeps in unity of spirit;  
Here forgiveness and salvation Daily come through Jesus' merit.  
All flesh shall rise, and we shall be In bliss with God eternally.

*Be seated.*

*Offering*

*Stand.*

*Prayer of the Church*

*The minister offers the petitions and the congregation responds with “**Hear our prayer.**”*

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Offerings support the spread

of the Gospel here and around the world.

M: Friends in Christ, I urge you all to lift up your hearts to God and pray with me as Christ our Lord has taught us and freely promised to hear us.

M: God, our Father in heaven, look with mercy on us, Your needy children on earth, and grant us grace that Your holy name be hallowed by us and all the world through the pure and true teaching of Your Word and the fervent love shown forth in our lives. Graciously turn from us all false doctrine and evil living whereby Your precious name is blasphemed and profaned. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

M: May Your kingdom come to us and expand. Bring all transgressors and those who are blinded and bound in the devil’s kingdom to know Jesus Christ, Your Son, by faith that the number of Christians may be increased. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

M: Strengthen us by Your Spirit according to Your will, both in life and in death, in the midst of both good and evil things, that our own wills may be crucified daily and sacrificed to Your good and gracious will. Into Your merciful hands we commend [\_\_\_\_\_ and] all who are in need, praying for them at all times: Thy will be done. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

M: Grant us our daily bread, preserve us from greed and selfish cares, and help us trust in You to provide for all our needs. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

M: Forgive us our sins as we also forgive those who sin against us so that our hearts may be at peace and may rejoice in a good conscience before You,

and that no sin may ever frighten or alarm us. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

M: Lead us not into temptation, O Lord, but help us by Your Spirit to subdue our flesh, to turn from the world and its ways, and to overcome the devil with all his wiles. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

M: And lastly, O heavenly Father, deliver us from all evil of both body and soul, now and forever. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

M: We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

*Lord's Prayer*

C: **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.**

THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.



C: **And al - so with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.



C: **We lift them up un - to the Lord.**

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.



C: **It is good and right so to do.**

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who preserves his Church to the end of time when he will come again as king to judge all people and take his own to glory.

Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

*Isaiah, Mighty Seer in Days of Old*

*CW 267*



I - sa - iah, might-y seer in days of old, The Lord of all in spir-it



did be-hold High on a loft - y throne, in splen-dor bright,



With robes that filled the tem-ple courts with light. A-bove the throne were



flam-ing ser - a-phim; Six wings had they, these mes-sen-gers of him.



With two they veiled their fac-es as was right, With two they hum-bly

hid their feet from sight, And with the oth-er two a - loft they soared;  
 One to the oth-er called and praised the Lord: "Ho - ly is God, the  
 Lord of heav'n-ly hosts! Ho - ly is God, the Lord of heav'n-ly hosts!  
 Ho - ly is God, the Lord of heav'n-ly hosts! His glo-ry fills the  
 heav-ens and the earth!" The beams and lin - tels trem-bled  
 at the cry, And clouds of smoke en-wrapped the throne on high.

### Words of Institution

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my † body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my † blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.



C: A - men.

*O Christ, Lamb of God*

*Agnus Dei*



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



grant us your peace. A - men.

*Be seated.*

#### DISTRIBUTION

*In Holy Communion we believe that Jesus gives us his own body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of our sins. We ask that, in keeping with God's Word, only confirmed members who are in confessional unity with our church (WELS and ELS) would come forward to receive this sacrament. If you have any questions or are interested in communicant membership, please speak with the pastor.*

*During the distribution, the congregation sings the following hymns:*

**Hymn ----- Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior**

CW 313

1. Jesus Christ, our blessed Savior, Turned away God's wrath forever;  
By his bitter grief and woe He saved us from the evil foe.
2. As his pledge of love undying, He, this precious food supplying,  
Gives his body with the bread And with the wine the blood he shed.
3. Jesus here himself is sharing; Take heed how you are preparing,  
For if you do not believe, Judgment instead you shall receive.
4. Useless would be Jesus' passion If salvation you could fashion.  
Do not come if you suppose You need not him who died and rose.
5. Christ says, "Come, all you that labor, And receive my grace and favor;  
Those who feel no pain or ill Need no physician's help or skill."
6. Then hold fast with faith unshaken That this food is to be taken  
By the souls who are distressed, By hearts that long for peace and rest.
7. Praise the Father, who from heaven Unto us such food has given  
And, to mend what we have done, Gave into death his only Son.
8. If your heart this truth professes And your mouth your sin confesses,  
Surely you will be his guest And at his banquet ever blest.

**Hymn ----- Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord**

CW 309

1. Draw near and take the body of the Lord,  
And drink the holy blood for you outpoured.  
Offered was he for greatest and for least,  
Himself the victim and himself the priest.

2. He that his saints in this world rules and shields  
To all believers life eternal yields,  
With heav'nly bread makes them that hunger whole,  
Gives living waters to the thirsty soul.
3. Come forward, then, with faithful hearts sincere,  
And take the pledges of salvation here.  
Before your altar, Lord, your servants bow;  
In this your feast of love be with us now.

*After the distribution is finished the congregation stands and sings:*

**Hymn ----- O Lord, We Praise You**

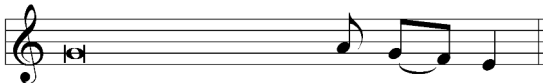
CW 317

1. *(Choir)* O Lord, we praise you, bless you, and adore you,  
In thanksgiving bow before you.  
Here with your body and your blood you nourish  
Our weak souls that they may flourish. O Lord, have mercy!  
May your body, Lord, born of Mary,  
That our sins and sorrows did carry,  
And your blood for us plead  
In all trial, fear, and need: O Lord, have mercy!
2. Your holy body into death was given,  
Life to win for us in heaven.  
No greater love than this to you could bind us;  
May this feast of that remind us! O Lord, have mercy!  
Lord, your love and kindness did move you;  
Let your supper move us to love you.  
All our debt you have paid;  
Peace with God once more is made. O Lord, have mercy!



3. May God bestow on us his grace and favor  
 To please him with our behavior  
 And live together here in love and union,  
 Cherishing our blest communion. O Lord, have mercy!  
 Let not your good Spirit forsake us;  
 Grant that heav'nly-minded he make us.  
 Give your Church, Lord, to see  
 Days of peace and unity. O Lord, have mercy!

M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.



C: And his mercy endures for - ev - er.

M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this Holy Supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.  
 The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
 The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.



C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

*Be seated.*

**Hymn ----- A Mighty Fortress Is Our God**

*(next page)*

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*The Order of Service is based on The Common Service from Christian Worship: A Lutheran  
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*Text of the Confession and Absolution is taken from Ewald Plass, What Luther Says, various  
exerpts.*

*The choral arrangement on stanza 1 of “O Lord, We Praise You” is from Johann Walter’s  
Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, the first Lutheran choir book, published 500 years ago in  
1524.*

*Cover: “Dr. Martin Luther’s ‘Choir at Home’” engraving after Gustav Adolf Spangenberg  
(1828-1891)*

# A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Martin Luther, 1483–1546  
Tr. composite

EIN FESTE BURG (Rhythmic)  
Martin Luther, 1483–1546  
Setting by Jeffrey Blersch



All 1 A might - y for - tress is \_\_\_\_\_ our God, A trust - y  
All 2 With might of ours can naught \_\_\_\_\_ be done, Soon were our  
Choir 3 Though dev - ils all the world \_\_\_\_\_ should fill, All ea - ger  
All 4 The Word they still shall let \_\_\_\_\_ re - main Nor an - y



shield and weap - on; He helps us free from ev - 'ry  
loss ef - fect - ed; But for us fights the val - iant  
to de - vour \_\_\_\_\_ us, We trem - ble not, we fear \_\_\_\_\_ no  
thanks have for \_\_\_\_\_ it; He's by our side up - on \_\_\_\_\_ the



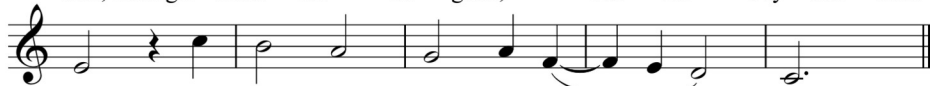
need That hath us now o'er - take \_\_\_\_\_ en. The  
One, Whom God Him - self e - lect \_\_\_\_\_ ed. Ask  
ill; They shall not o - ver - pow'r \_\_\_\_\_ us. This  
plain With His good gifts and Spir - it. And



old \_\_\_\_\_ e - vil foe Now means dead - ly  
ye, \_\_\_\_\_ Who \_\_\_\_\_ is this? Je - sus Christ it  
world's \_\_\_\_\_ prince \_\_\_\_\_ may still Scowl fierce as he  
take \_\_\_\_\_ they \_\_\_\_\_ our life, Goods, fame, child, and



woe; Deep guile and great might Are his dread arms in  
is, Of Sab - a - oth Lord, And there's none oth - er  
will, He can harm us none. He's judged; the deed is  
wife, Though these all be gone, Our vic - t'ry has been



fight; On earth is not his e - qual.  
God; He holds the field for - ev - er.  
done; One lit - tle word can fell \_\_\_\_\_ him.  
won; The King - dom ours re - main - eth.

