



WELCOME TO  
ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH!

The first of all the commandments is:  
'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one.'

*Mark 12:29b*

## **The Festival of the Reformation**

October 25, 2015

### **A Service of the Word**

TLH (hymns 1-660) is the RED book, WS (hymns 701-800) is the TAN book  
(If you have difficulty standing, please feel free to remain seated as needed)

Preservice Devotion: *Psalm 119:33-40 Teach me, O Lord, the way of Your statutes, And I shall keep it to the end. Give me understanding, and I shall keep Your law; Indeed, I shall observe it with my whole heart. Make me walk in the path of Your commandments, For I delight in it. Incline my heart to Your testimonies, And not to covetousness. Turn away my eyes from looking at worthless things, And revive me in Your way. Establish Your word to Your servant, Who is devoted to fearing You. Turn away my reproach which I dread, For Your judgments are good. Behold, I long for Your precepts; Revive me in Your righteousness.*

### **OPENING PRAYER**

Minister (M): O Lord, our Maker, Redeemer, and Comforter, we are assembled in Your presence to hear Your Holy Word. We pray You to open our hearts by Your Holy Spirit that by the preaching of Your Word we may be brought to repent of our sins, to believe on Jesus in life and in death, and to grow day by day in grace and holiness. Hear us for Christ's sake.

**Congreg. (C) Amen.**

# ENTRANCE HYMN

"Christ is Made the Sure Foundation" (WS 758:1-2)

1. Christ is made the sure foun-da-tion, Christ, our head and  
 2. To this tem-ple, where we call you, Come, O Lord of  
 cor-ner-stone, Cho-sen of the Lord and pre-cious,  
 hosts, and stay; Come with all your lov-ing-kind-ness,  
 Bind-ing all the Church in one, Ho-ly Zi-on's  
 Hear Your peo-ple as they pray, And Your full-est  
 help for-ev-er And our con-fi-dence a-lone.  
 ben-e-dic-tion Speak with-in these walls to-day.

## INVOCATION

*Matthew 28:19*

Minister (M) In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
 Congreg. (C) Amen.

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

*1 John 1*

M God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

**C If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.**

M If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

M Let us pray.

**C Almighty God, merciful Father, we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. But we are sorry for our transgressions and pray You, of Your bountiful mercy, to be gracious and merciful unto us.**

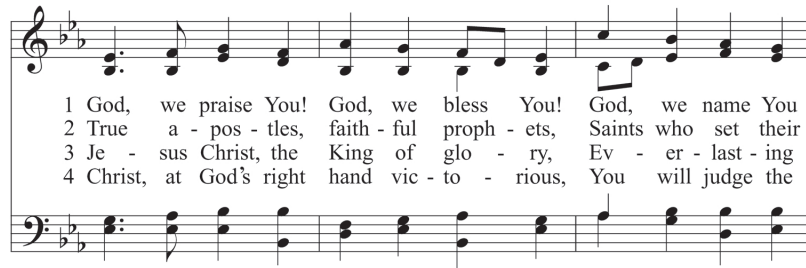
**Forgive us for Jesus' sake, renew us by Your Spirit, and lead us in the way everlasting. Amen.**

M Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for our only, but also for the sins of the whole world. You are forgiven. With boldness and confidence we may approach the throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

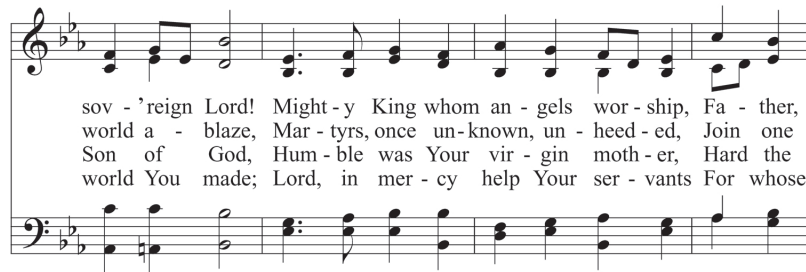
**C Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

# GOD, WE PRAISE YOU

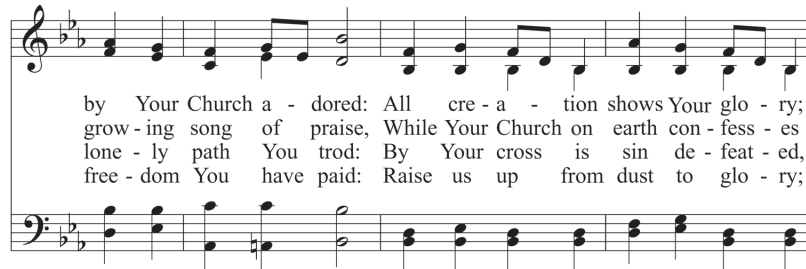
*Te Deum*



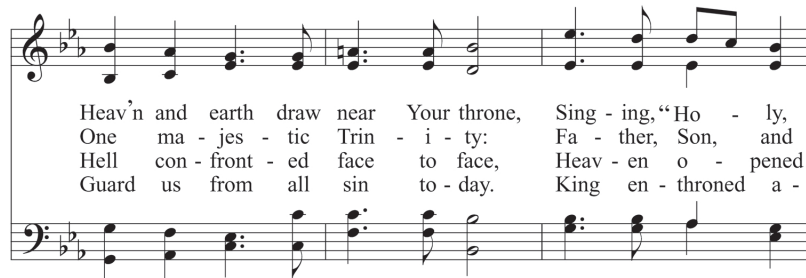
1 God, we praise You! God, we bless You! God, we name You  
 2 True a - pos - tles, faith - ful proph - ets, Saints who set their  
 3 Je - sus Christ, the King of glo - ry, Ev - er - last - ing  
 4 Christ, at God's right hand vic - to - rious, You will judge the



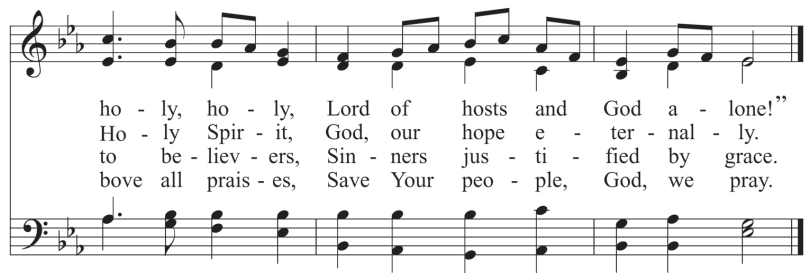
sov - 'reign Lord! Might - y King whom an - gels wor - ship, Fa - ther,  
 world a - blaze, Mar - tyrs, once un - known, un - heed - ed, Join one  
 Son of God, Hum - ble was Your vir - gin moth - er, Hard the  
 world You made; Lord, in mer - cy help Your ser - vants For whose



by Your Church a - dored: All cre - a - tion shows Your glo - ry;  
 grow - ing song of praise, While Your Church on earth con - fess - es  
 lone - ly path You trod: By Your cross is sin de - feat - ed,  
 free - dom You have paid: Raise us up from dust to glo - ry;



Heav'n and earth draw near Your throne, Sing - ing, "Ho - ly,  
 One ma - jes - tic Trin - i - ty: Fa - ther, Son, and  
 Hell con - front - ed face to face, Heav - en o - pened  
 Guard us from all sin to - day. King en - throned a -



ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord of hosts and God a - lone!"  
 Ho - ly Spir - it, God, our hope e - ter - nal - ly.  
 to be - liev - ers, Sin - ners jus - ti - fied by grace.  
 bove all prais - es, Save Your peo - ple, God, we pray.

M The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

#### COLLECT OF THE DAY

M Let us pray, ... one God now and forever,

**C Amen**

#### FIRST LESSON

##### Hebrews 9:11-14

<sup>11</sup> But Christ came *as* High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation. <sup>12</sup> Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. <sup>13</sup> For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh, <sup>14</sup> how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

M This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

#### GRADUAL HYMN

“We Now Implore God the Holy Ghost” (TLH 231)



#### GOSPEL LESSON

M In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.

**C But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.**

##### Mark 12:28-37

<sup>28</sup> Then one of the scribes came, and having heard them reasoning together, perceiving that He had answered them well, asked Him, “Which is the first commandment of all?”

<sup>29</sup> Jesus answered him, “The first of all the commandments is: ‘*Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one.*’ <sup>30</sup>*And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.*’ This is the first commandment. <sup>31</sup>And the second, like it, is this: ‘*You shall love your neighbor as yourself.*’ There is no other commandment greater than these.”

<sup>32</sup> So the scribe said to Him, “Well said, Teacher. You have spoken the truth, for there is one God, and there is no other but He. <sup>33</sup> And to love Him with all the heart, with all the understanding, with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love one’s neighbor as oneself, is more than all the whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.”

<sup>34</sup> Now when Jesus saw that he answered wisely, He said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.”

But after that no one dared question Him.

<sup>35</sup> Then Jesus answered and said, while He taught in the temple, “How is it that the scribes say that the Christ is the Son of David? <sup>36</sup> For David himself said by the Holy Spirit:

‘The Lord said to my Lord,

“Sit at My right hand,

Till I make Your enemies Your footstool.”’

<sup>37</sup> Therefore David himself calls Him ‘*Lord*’; how is He *then* his Son?”

And the common people heard Him gladly.

M This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

CREED ~ The Apostles’ Creed

**C I believe in God the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.  
I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God  
the Father almighty.  
From there 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.**

## HYMN OF THE DAY

**TLH 629** (red hymnal)

*Let Children Hear the Mighty Deeds*

## SERMON

### **Deuteronomy 6:1–9**

“Now this *is* the commandment, *and these are* the statutes and judgments which the Lord your God has commanded to teach you, that you may observe *them* in the land which you are crossing over to possess, <sup>2</sup> that you may fear the Lord your God, to keep all His statutes and His commandments which I command you, you and your son and your grandson, all the days of your life, and that your days may be prolonged. <sup>3</sup> Therefore hear, O Israel, and be careful to observe *it*, that it may be well with you, and that you may multiply greatly as the Lord God of your fathers has promised you—‘a land flowing with milk and honey.’

<sup>4</sup>“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord *is* one! <sup>5</sup>You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.

<sup>6</sup>“And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. <sup>7</sup>You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. <sup>8</sup>You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. <sup>9</sup>You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

## **Hear, O Israel!**

### **A Reformation Repeated in the Ear and Written On the Heart**

1. In the lives of the Jews in Moses’ day
2. In the lives of the Germans in Luther’s day
3. In our lives today

M The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Amen.

*Philippians 4:7*

## CHILDREN'S SONG

“Christ Be My Leader By Night As By Day” (LSB 861)

## GATHERING OF OUR THANK OFFERING

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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

*Brief silence*

For the gift of the eternal Gospel, that it may be so treasured among us that the glory of Christ may never fade in our midst, nor its living comfort to sinners be lost, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For Pastor Michael Eichstadt, our Synod president; Pastor Michael Wilke, our regional visitor; and all pastors, that they may be kept faithful to the Word of truth and proclaim it boldly, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all churches where the teachings of men have obscured the Good News of God's grace in Christ, that the Holy Spirit may mercifully renew them in the truth of God's righteousness freely and completely given for Jesus sake, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the spread of the Gospel to every nation, tribe, language and people, that all people may come to know and live in the freedom of God's Son, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the spread of the Gospel in our homes and families, that fathers would diligently teach the Word of God to their children and in every facet of life set forth a good example for them to follow, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the leaders of our nation, that they may be given God's wisdom to rule us justly and serve the Lord as defenders of His truth, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For faith to use our freedom in Christ to serve our neighbor in our daily callings, that we might bear fruit in keeping with our new lives as God's children to the glory of our Father, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who are burdened in body or mind [especially, \_\_\_\_\_],  
that the Lord would mercifully sustain them in their trials and grant them  
health and healing in accord with His will, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord,  
have mercy.**

For those whose hearts grieve for departed loved ones, that they may be  
comforted with the truth that those whom the Son sets free remain in the  
Father's house forever, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For God's faithful servants of old who faithfully spoke His truth,  
remembering especially this day His chosen servant Martin Luther, let us give  
thanks to God; and that by His grace, we may one day also stand with this  
great cloud of witnesses, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

Into Your hands, dear Father, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting  
in Your mercy through Jesus Christ in the Holy Spirit, so we also join to pray,

**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!**

#### BENEDICTION

*Numbers 6:24-26*

**M** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon  
you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon  
you and give you peace.

**C Amen.**

#### CLOSING HYMN

**TLH 283** (red hymnal)

*God's Word Is Our Great Heritage*

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**Welcome!** We wish a warm welcome to our guests this morning. It  
is our mission to share the good news that God gave His only Son  
that whoever believes in Him has eternal life (John 3:16-17). May  
that good news go with you. Feel free to sign our guest book in the  
entry way. For more information about our church see the visitor



comment cards and brochures in the entry way or visit our website at  
AscensionBatavia.org. We hope to see you again!

**Participating in this Service of the Word**

Music: P. Louderman      Lead Usher: R. Louderman  
Minister: Pr. David Pfeiffer