



ST. STEPHEN
Evangelical Lutheran Church



Reformation Sunday

October 27, 2024

*Congregation is invited to stand as able

Please be aware that video cameras are in use during our hybrid (combined) Worship Service and that images are being shared with the online participants.

The Hymns of Martin Luther

A Reformation Sunday Celebration

♪ Singing was one of the earliest traits of people of Lutheran faith – and one of the sharpest weapons of the Reformation. Martin Luther himself wrote and composed catchy tunes, which the Protestants belted out as protest songs. The German Reformer was a talented musician, who loved melodious voices and instruments. His musical work certainly gave a strong impetus to the culture of singing and orchestra music in Germany. Today we will continue this wonderful tradition by learning about some things about Luther and singing some of his hymns.



Luther’s Morning Prayer

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Our First Hymn “Dear Christians, One and All Rejoice” *ELW #594*
(Verses 1-4)



“Next to the Word of God, music deserves the highest praise. The gift of language combined with the gift of song was given to man that he should proclaim the Word of God through Music.”



“Music is a discipline, and a mistress of order and good manners, she makes the people milder and gentler, more moral and more reasonable.”

Luther’s Daily Prayer

Behold, Lord, an empty vessel that needs to be filled. My Lord, fill it.

I am weak in faith; strengthen thou me.

I am cold in love; warm me and make me fervent that my love may go out to my neighbor.

I do not have a strong and firm faith; at times I doubt and am unable to trust thee altogether.

O Lord, help me. Strengthen my faith and trust in thee.

In thee I have sealed the treasures of all I have.

I am poor; thou art rich and didst come to be merciful to the poor.

I am a sinner; thou art upright.

With me there is an abundance of sin; in thee is the fullness of righteousness.

Therefore, I will remain with thee of whom I can receive but to whom I may not give.

Amen.

Psalm 46

**¹ God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.**

**² Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea,**

**³ though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.**


**⁴ There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

**⁵ God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;
God will help it when the morning dawns.**

**⁶ The nations are in an uproar; the kingdoms totter;
he utters his voice; the earth melts.**

- 7 The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.**
- 8 Come, behold the works of the Lord;
see what desolations he has brought on the earth.**
- 9 He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
he breaks the bow and shatters the spear;
he burns the shields with fire.**
- 10 “Be still, and know that I am God!
I am exalted among the nations;
I am exalted in the earth.”**
- 11 The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.**


Our Third Hymn “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” *ELW #503*



“Beautiful music is the art of the prophets that can calm the agitations of the soul; it is one of the most magnificent and delightful presents God has given us.”

**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.**

Our Fourth Hymn “Our Father, God in Heaven Above” *ELW # 746*



“My heart, which is so full to overflowing, has often been solaced and refreshed by music when sick and weary.”

Our Fifth Hymn “Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word” *ELW #517*



“A person who...does not regard music as a marvelous creation of God, must be a clodhopper indeed and does not deserve to be called a human being; he should be permitted to hear nothing but the braying of asses and the grunting of hogs.”

Our Final Hymn “Reformation Hymn” (2017) On Screen

5 Solas of the Reformation

Sola Scriptura (Scripture alone)

Sola Fide (Faith alone)

Sola Gratia (Grace alone)

Solus Christus (Christ alone)

Soli Deo Gloria (Glory to God)

Luther’s Evening Prayer

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands, I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.



“I, Doctor Martin Luther, wish all lovers of the unshackled art of music grace and peace from God the Father and from our Lord Jesus Christ! I truly desire that all Christians would love and regard as worthy the lovely gift of music, which is a precious, worthy, and costly treasure given to mankind by God. The riches of music are so excellent and so precious that words fail me whenever I attempt to discuss and describe them.”

