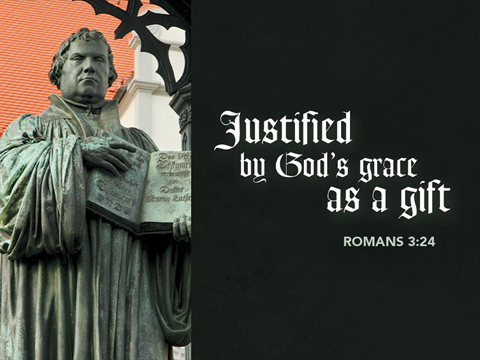
**Grace Lutheran Church**

493 Forest Avenue, Glen Ellyn IL 630.469.1555

[www.graceglenellyn.org](http://www.graceglenellyn.org)

**Reformation Day October 31, 2021**

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***+ Proclaim Christ + Build Community +***

***+ Serve Our Neighbors +***

**Introduction**

*Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God’s grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.*

**Gathering**

**The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.**

**Welcome/Announcements**

***Helpful Reminders for those joining in person:***

* *Maintain 6’ distance between family groups*
* *Remain in your pews for communion.*
* *You may place your offering in the box in the narthex.*

**Prelude**

*\*Please stand as you are able and turn to face the font.*

**\*Confession and Forgiveness**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, **☩** one God, whose teaching is life, whose presence is sure, and whose love is endless. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God our comforter: **like lost sheep, we have gone astray. We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity. We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression. We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed. Free us from our sin, gracious God. Listen when we call out to you for help. Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves. Amen.**

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. By the gift of grace in **☩** Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous. Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins. **Amen.**

**\*Entrance Hymn** ELW#515 Break Now the Bread of Life

Table

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**\*Greeting**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

**\*Hymn of Praise** Glory Be to God in Heaven

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**\*Prayer of the Day**

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** *Be seated.*

**Word**

**God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.**

**First Reading Jeremiah 31:31-34**

*The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the Lord means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the Lord will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.*

31The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. 32It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. 33But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 34No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm**   **Psalm 46**

1God 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;**  
3though its waters rage and foam, and 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.**  
5God is in the midst of the city; it shallnot be shaken; God shall help it at thebreak of day.  
6**The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;** **God speaks, and the earth melts away.**   
7The 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 upon the earth;**  
9behold 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.”**  
11The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob **|** is our stronghold.

**Second Reading Romans 3:19-28**

*Paul’s words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ’s death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.*

19Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. 20For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.  
  
  21But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, 22the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, 23since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; 24they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; 26it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.  
  27Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. 28For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

**\*Gospel Acclamation**  ELW #519 Open Your Ears, O Faithful People

st. 1

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The holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

**\*Gospel John 8:31-36**

*Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.*

31Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; 32and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” 33They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free’?”  
  34Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. 35The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. 36So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

### The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ. *Be seated.*

**Sermon** The Rev. Melody Eastman

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

**\*Hymn of the Day** ELW #657 Rise, O Sun of Righteousness

sts. 1,2,5

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**\*Prayers of Intercession**

Set free from sin and death and nourished by the word of truth, we join in prayer for all of God’s creation.

*A brief silence.*

We pray for all who long for a word of truth and for the radical grace that flows from the cross. Inspire congregations to freely and boldly proclaim your love for all people with persistence and hope. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for your creation, for mountains, rivers, streams, cities, homesteads, and neighborhoods. Write in our hearts a new love and care for creation. Give us the will to curb wasteful habits and to hold accountable those who neglect the vulnerable. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for all who aspire to public office and for all who will vote on Tuesday at local polling places. Pour wisdom and understanding upon all who govern so that communities of justice and peace may thrive. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for all who long for healing in mind, body, or spirit especially Cathy, Rich, Dorothy, Dolores, Norma, Carol and those we name before you now. . . Strengthen hospitals, clinics, counseling centers, nursing homes, and recovery centers to be holy spaces of renewal that all might live the abundant life you intend. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for all who seek to grow in faith and love of you. Guide teaching and learning in confirmation, small groups, Sunday school, youth groups, schools, seminaries, and universities. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

We give thanks for all the saints and reformers who have gone before us who dwell in your holy habitation. Give us courage through their example to challenge unjust systems and work toward life-giving reformation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Confident that you hear us, O God, we boldly place our prayers into your hands; through Jesus Christ, our truth and life. **Amen.**

**\*Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

*Please share the peace with others in your household, or by making a sign of peace to those on Zoom. Please remain standing.*

**Meal**

**God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.**

**\*Offering Prayer**

God of abundance,

you cause streams to break forth in the desert

and manna to rain from the heavens.

Accept the gifts you have first given us.

Unite them with the offering of our lives

to nourish the world you love so dearly;

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

**\*Great Thanksgiving**

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**\*Preface**

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**\*Sanctus**  ELW 413 Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!

sts. 1,4

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**\*Thanksgiving at the Table**

O God most mighty, O God most merciful,

O God our rock and our salvation,

hear us as we praise, call us to your table, grant us your life.

When the earth was a formless void,

you formed order and beauty.

When Abraham and Sarah were barren,

you sent them a child.

When the Israelites were enslaved,

you led them to freedom.

Ruth faced starvation, David fought Goliath,

and the psalmists cried out for healing,

and full of compassion,

you granted the people your life.

You entered our sorrows in Jesus our brother.

He was born among the poor, he lived under oppression, he wept over the city.

With infinite love, he granted the people your life.

In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,

and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his death, we cry out Amen. [**Amen**.]

Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen. [**Amen**.]

Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen. [**Amen**.]



O God, you are Breath: send your Spirit on this meal.

O God, you are Bread: feed us with yourself.

O God, you are wine: warm our hearts and make us one.

O God, you are Fire: transform us with hope.

*You may lower your communion kit.*

O God most majestic, O God most motherly, O God our strength and our song,

you show us a vision of a tree of life with fruits for all and leaves that heal the nations. Grant us such life, the life of the Father to the Son,

the life of the Spirit of our risen Savior, life in you, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**\*The Lord’s Prayer** Ecumenical Version

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

**\*Invitation to Communion**

All who hunger and thirst, come. The table is ready. ***Be Seated.***

*If you have difficulty opening your communion, please signal an usher for assistance.*

*Peel up the clear top seal over the wafer, and hold the wafer up when you are ready.*

This is the Body of Christ, given for you. *(Eat the bread.)* **Amen.**

*Peel up the second foil seal over the juice, and hold your cup up when you are ready.*

This is the blood of Christ, shed for you. *(Drink the wine/juice.)* **Amen.**

*After communion you may place the packaging in the bowl in your pew. The ushers will dispose of these following the service.*

**Agnus Dei**  ELW #499 O Lord, We Praise You

sts. 1,3

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*\*Please stand as you are able.*

**\*Post-Communion Blessing**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.**Amen.**

**\*Prayer after Communion**

Lord of life, in the gift of your body and blood

you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation.

Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy,

bearing witness to the abundance of your love

in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

**Sending**

**God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.**

**\*Blessing**

People of God, you are Christ’s body, bringing new life to a suffering world.

The holy Trinity, **☩** one God, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

**\*Sending Hymn** ELW #505 A Mighty Fortress is Our God

sts. 1,2,4

1 A mighty fortress is our God,

a bulwark never failing;

our helper frees us from the flood

of mortal ills prevailing.

For still our ancient foe,

forsworn to work us woe,

with guile and dreadful might

is armed to wage the fight:

on earth there is no equal.

2 If we in our own strength confide,  
our striving turns to losing;  
the righteous one fights by our side,  
the one of God’s own choosing.  
You ask who this may be:

Christ Jesus, it is he,

the Lord of hosts by name.  
 No other God we claim!  
 None else can win the battle.

*Continued on next page*

4 God’s Word shall stand above the pow’rs,  
shall end all their thanksgiving.  
The Spirit and the gifts are ours,  
for God with us is living.  
Let goods and kindred go,  
this mortal life also;  
though all of these be gone,  
they yet have nothing won.  
The kingdom’s our forever!

**\*Sent to the World**

Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you. **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

*After the postlude, those who have joined via Zoom may unmute your mics*

*and share a greeting with your fellow worshippers.*

From Sundays and Seasons

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**Assisting in Worship Today**

Ministry Associate Becky Ficarella

Minister of Music Bradford Thompson

Altar Guild Cheryl Huizenga

Lector Rob Granner

Usher Jeff Nelson

Zoom Mark Hamilton, Jon & Cathy Milleville

**Current Prayer Requests**

*Please keep these people in your prayers and reach out to our sisters and brothers in Christian love. Names will be left on the list for two weeks, unless you indicate that they should remain in our prayers for a longer period.*

**Name Relationship Prayer For**

Family of Jim Sladek Member Comfort in Grief

James Plant, Son of Rodger & Victoria Plant, Grandson of Diane Plant New Life 10/7

Rich Davison Member Healing & Strength

Cathy Milleville Member Healing & Strength

Dorothy Tracy Member Healing & Strength

Lori Garabrandt Relative of Chuck Miller and Lois Pertle Healing & Strength

Chris Danly Son of Mark & Pat Danly Healing & Strength

**Prayers for our homebound Members**

Dolores Nosal, Carol Petersen, Norma Petersen

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**Worship Volunteers:** We have made it through the first few months of gathering in person with a core group of Lectors, so we are reaching out to see if there are any others who are willing to help with Lector duties in November and December this year. We are currently having all Lectors sit with their own family during the service and only coming forward to do the readings from the lectern. We are not using robes or assisting with communion. Please contact Susan Jacobson so she can add your name to the list moving forward. [susan.lb.jacobson@gmail.com](mailto:susan.lb.jacobson@gmail.com)

**Versiti Blood Drive on November 4:** We LOVE our donors! And we are hoping that due to our URGENT need – we can entice YOU to donate! Please sign up to give at our blood drive sponsored by:  [GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH](https://donate.illinois.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/5597316). Signup online or call the church office to schedule.

**https://donate.illinois.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive\_schedule/5597316**

or **Click on the QR Code on the Blood Drive flyer or Grace’s Website**

Thursday, November 4 (2:30 pm - 7:00 pm)  
*Bring a friend!* *Appointments are preferred; walk-ins welcome! Photo ID and masks are required for ALL donors and VERSITI staff.*

**Monday Evening Bible Study: Mondays at 7:00pm, the group will begin review of a new, as yet unpublished, book from Dr. George Byron Koch.  The topic is the Jewish roots of Christianity.**  Kindly contact Mark Hamilton or Vince Hardt if you have not participated before so that we may add you to our Email list.

**Pill Bottle Project:** Calling all volunteers! After being shut down for over a year, we will meet weekly on **Tuesdays from 6-7:30pm** in the upstairs kitchen next to the gym. If you would like to volunteer, just show up! **Please note: at this time we are not accepting any pill bottles as it will take over a year to get through the current inventory we have.** If you have any questions, please contact Mark Hamilton at (630) 841-2941 / [mark.hamilton@ifs.com](mailto:mark.hamilton@ifs.com)

**Bell Choir rehearsal Wednesdays at 7pm!** Come join us for an hour of fun, super low-pressure music-making! Not free on Wednesday evenings? You’re still welcome to join us on Sunday mornings at 8:40! Don’t know how to read music, we can work on that, too! No matter your skill level, there’s room for you!  Get excited, my friends! The fun starts now **:)**

**Grace’s Adult Vocal Choir:** This is currently on hold due to the concern of our choir members gathering to sing together maskless at this time.

**Got Capital Gains?** Did you know that stock donations allow you to both claim a deduction at the appreciated value AND allow you to avoid capital gains taxes on these assets?  Further, consolidating donations in a tax year could lead to increased ability to deduct charitable contributions in a given tax year.  Consult your tax advisor for details, but **if you’d like more information on how to go about donating stock, reach out to the church office**.

**Contributions to Grace:** You may continue to mail your contributions for the General Fund and the Mortgage Reduction Fund to the church office; have your bank mail your contribution to the church office (this works great); or contribute on-line through Grace’s website (Grace/you pay fees). Please know, pandemic or no, our mission continues! Thank you for your continued support of our ministries at Grace Lutheran.

**Sr. Center Chair Exercise**: The exercise class meets Mondays at 10:00am, Tuesdays at 10:00am, and Thursdays at 11:00am. Registration is required as the number of attendees will be limited. Please contact Sue Davison at 630-858-6343 to register. (Monday’s class will not be held from October 18 - December 6 as Sue Davison will be working on Open Enrollment for Medicare Part D. Monday’s class will resume on December 13.)

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**Every Member a Minister and Missionary!**

**Phone: 630-469-1555 Emergency Pastoral Contact: 630-674-2887**

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