



## **Reformation Sunday October 25, 2020**

*Serving us in worship today:*

*Message: Andrew Cave; Lay Reader: Fran Braun;*

*Music: Annette Stout, Roxanne Heckmann; Children's Church: Vanita Hodge*

*Ushers: Terry Freeman, Kristy Serold, Vanita Hodge, Joan & Ron Vanbeek*

*AV: Andrew Kuehne, Diane Gwyther*

### **Welcome to Worship!**

Welcome to Faith Lutheran Church, a people who love and follow Jesus Christ our Lord! We are blessed and honored that you chose to be with us today!

As we worship inside today, we encourage you to fellowship with other believers while maintaining a safe distance and observing our COVID-19 protocols. Children's Church for ages pre-K through third grade will meet their leader during the hymn of the day. Please keep your mask on during the service and as you are ushered out. We ask that you join in fellowship OUTSIDE and do not congregate in the Narthex before or following the service.

### **WELCOME AND PRAYER**

*Fran Braun*

*Please stand as you able.*

### **OPENING HYMN: "A Mighty Fortress" LBW #229 Verses 1 & 4**

- 1) A mighty fortress is our God,  
a sword and shield victorious;  
He breaks the cruel oppressor's rod  
and wins salvation glorious.  
The old satanic foe,  
Has sworn to work us woe!  
With dread craft and might  
He arms himself to fight.  
On earth he has no equal.
  
- 4) God's Word forever shall abide,  
no thanks to foes, who fear it;  
For God himself fights by our side  
with weapons of the Spirit.

Were they to take our house,  
goods, honor, child, or spouse,  
Though life be wrenched away,  
They cannot win the day.  
The Kingdom's ours forever!

## **BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:**

*The sign of the cross may be made in remembrance of your Baptism.*

**A:** In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** Amen.

**A:** Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C:** Amen.

**A:** *If we claim we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and not living in the truth. But if we confess our sins to him, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all wickedness. (1 John 1: 8-9, NLT)*

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

**A:** Most Merciful God,

**C:** We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

**A:** In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all of our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

**C:** Amen.

**HYMN OF PRAISE:** *"Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks"* WOV #671 Verses 1 & 5

*Refrain*

Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord;  
alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.

1. Jesus is Lord of all the earth;  
he is the king of creation. *Refrain*

5. Come, let us praise the living God,  
joyfully sing to our Savior. *Refrain*

*You may be seated.*

**FIRST READING: Galatians 2:16-21**

<sup>16</sup>Yet we know that a person is made right with God by faith in Jesus Christ, not by obeying the law. And we have believed in Christ Jesus, so that we might be made right with God because of our faith in Christ, not because we have obeyed the law. For no one will ever be made right with God by obeying the law.”

<sup>17</sup> But suppose we seek to be made right with God through faith in Christ and then we are found guilty because we have abandoned the law. Would that mean Christ has led us into sin? Absolutely not! <sup>18</sup> Rather, I am a sinner if I rebuild the old system of law I already tore down. <sup>19</sup> For when I tried to keep the law, it condemned me. So I died to the law—I stopped trying to meet all its requirements—so that I might live for God. <sup>20</sup> My old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. <sup>21</sup> I do not treat the grace of God as meaningless. For if keeping the law could make us right with God, then there was no need for Christ to die.

A: Here ends the reading.

**SECOND READING: EPHESIANS 2:1-9**

Once you were dead because of your disobedience and your many sins. <sup>2</sup> You used to live in sin, just like the rest of the world, obeying the devil—the commander of the powers in the unseen world. He is the spirit at work in the hearts of those who refuse to obey God. <sup>3</sup> All of us used to live that way, following the passionate desires and inclinations of our sinful nature. By our very nature we were subject to God’s anger, just like everyone else.

<sup>4</sup> But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so much, <sup>5</sup> that even though we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God’s grace that you have been saved!) <sup>6</sup> For he raised us from the dead along with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ Jesus. <sup>7</sup> So God can point to us in all future ages as examples of

the incredible wealth of his grace and kindness toward us, as shown in all he has done for us who are united with Christ Jesus.

<sup>8</sup> God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. <sup>9</sup> Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it.

A: Here ends the reading.

*Please stand for the Holy Gospel*

### **HOLY GOSPEL: JOHN 8:31-36**

<sup>31</sup> Jesus said to the people who believed in him, "You are truly my disciples if you remain faithful to my teachings. <sup>32</sup> And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

<sup>33</sup> "But we are descendants of Abraham," they said. "We have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean, 'You will be set free'?"

<sup>34</sup> Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave of sin. <sup>35</sup> A slave is not a permanent member of the family, but a son is part of the family forever. <sup>36</sup> So if the Son sets you free, you are truly free."

A: The Gospel of the Lord.

*You may be seated.*

### **HYMN OF THE DAY: "Amazing Grace" LBW 448 Verses 1 & 4**

*(Children meet for Children's Church)*

- 1) Amazing Grace! How sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, by now am found,  
Was blind but now I see
  
- 4) The Lord has promised good to me;  
his word my hope secures;  
he will my shield and portion be  
as long as life endures.

**MESSAGE:** *"The Reformation Is for You!"*

**Andrew Cave**

**OFFERTORY:** *"Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful..."* (LBW Pg. 86)

*(Please see next page.)*

♪ Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.  
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them the prayers we offer. Grace our table  
with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come. ♪

A: Let us pray. Merciful Father,

C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us-ourselves,  
our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for  
the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION with THE LORD'S PRAYER

## CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

## BENEDICTION

Andrew Cave

## CLOSING HYMN: "Onward Christian Soldiers" LBW #509 Verses 1 & 4

1 Onward, Christian soldiers,  
marching as to war,  
with the cross of Jesus  
going on before.  
Christ, the royal master,  
leads against the foe;  
forward into battle,  
see, his banners go!

### *Refrain*

Onward, Christian soldiers,  
marching as to war,  
with the cross of Jesus  
going on before.

4 Onward, then, you faithful,  
join our happy throng;  
blend with ours your voices  
in the triumph song.  
Glory, laud, and honor  
unto Christ the king.  
We through countless ages  
with the angels sing: *Refrain*

A: Go In Peace To Love And Serve The Lord! C: Thanks be to God!

## **FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR**

Have been given to the glory of God Faith Lutheran Church.

## **"WORDS OF FAITH" BROADCAST SUNDAYS AT 8 AM ON KWED 1580 AM RADIO**

This week has been sponsored to the glory of God by Mark and Sharon Westerholm in celebration of their 35<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary and of their grandchildren, Dax, Addie, Boone and Ava-Jane.

## **WEEKLY ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS:**

Month to Date (October): **\$32,852.75**; YTD Offerings and Misc. **\$402,727.66**  
(2020 budgeted offerings is **\$549,000**)

## **PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:**

Julie Sagebiel	Judy Saunders	Nora Lavelett
Carolyn Sagebiel	Walt Fruehling	Kathy Ersch
Ric Landvatter	Dot Day	Gladys Fruehling
Teresa Kiel	Sue Blumberg	Pat Sagebiel
Debbie Lehmann	Ronnie Foreman	Dorothy Burris
Donald Jackson	Robert Vogel	Charlie Koehler
Lisa Owen	Tootsie Rodgers	

## **THIS WEEK AT FAITH**

*(COVID safety protocols are followed at all church events)*

<b>Tuesday, Oct. 27</b>	<b>Men's Bible Study/Breakfast</b>	<b>7:30 AM (Ed. Wing)</b>
<b>Tuesday, Oct. 27</b>	<b>STPCC Training</b>	<b>8:00 – 12:00 (AC)</b>
<b>Wednesday, Oct. 28</b>	<b>FLY</b>	<b>6:00-8:00 PM (LEC)</b>
<b>Wednesday, Oct. 28</b>	<b>Joyful Noise</b>	<b>6:00-6:30 PM (Choir Rm)</b>
<b>Wednesday, Oct. 28</b>	<b>Hand Bells</b>	<b>6:00 PM (Sanc.)</b>
<b>Wednesday, Oct. 28</b>	<b>Chancel Singers</b>	<b>7:00 PM (Sanc.)</b>

## **PRAYERS REQUESTED**

For the family of Faye Talley. Faye passed through death into eternal life on Sunday, October 11, here in Seguin. Graveside services were held last week. Please remember her daughters Sarah Ramos and Terri Hinson and the rest of her family in your prayers in the days and weeks to come.

## **COMMUNITY FOOD DISTRIBUTION VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

GRMC and the City of Seguin are hosting a food distribution on Thursday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, from 9:30 to 11:30 am at the Seguin Events Complex parking lot. Register NOW - online at <https://nbfoodbank.org/cvresponse/> or call 830-327-6000. Registration deadline is at noon on Wednesday, Nov. 4<sup>th</sup>. *Maybe a Faith group of volunteers could get together to help? Volunteers are needed!* Register to volunteer at the link and phone number above.

## **FLOWERS and WORDS OF FAITH CHART**

The following dates are open on our 2020 Altar Flower and WOF sponsor chart. If you would like to provide flowers or sponsor any of these dates, please call the church office or sign up on the bulletin board in the hallway across from the communications office.

**FLOWERS:** December 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> **WOF:** November 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>

## **SERVICE OF HOPE AND HEALING**

Faith will be holding a special service on **Tuesday, November 3, at 6:30 PM**. We hope you will join us as we come together as a congregation for a 20-30 minute time of prayer and reflection. Our Ministry Teams/Committees will meet immediately following the service.

## **CHRISTIAN CUPBOARD**

Thank you to those of you who have been dropping off items for the Christian Cupboard. The October items are pasta and pasta sauce/kits. This week's update is **105 items** as of October 21.



## **TRUNK OR TREAT UPDATE - TODAY**

Our community Trunk or Treat is today, **Sunday, October 25**, from **4:00 – 6:00 PM** in the **EAST** side parking lot. It will be a **DRIVE THROUGH** event where we will still have our members decorate trunks and handout candy, but the visitors will drive past us as we hand them candy at their car. This has been a wonderful ministry the last two years, and we hope you find it in your heart to help us continue to share with our members and the community! Come join in the fun!

## **GVCCC ANNUAL BBQ CHICKEN FUNDRAISER- TODAY**

The annual BBQ Fundraiser will be held on **Sunday, October 25**, from **10:00 AM -1:00 PM**. Bar-B-Que **chicken halves will be sold for \$8.00** each and can be picked up via a drive through in the alley behind Faith Lutheran. This is the perfect time to stock up for a family or small group get together! You can even stock your freezer for chicken spaghetti, King Ranch casserole, or chicken salad! The Guadalupe Valley Christian Counseling Center appreciates your support!

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL and CHILDREN'S CHURCH LEADERS**

Our Children's Ministry team is looking for **Sunday school teachers** for our Pre K – Kindergarten **AND** for **volunteers to lead Children's Church occasionally**. Please let Lisa Owen know if you would like to help out in this **important ministry**.

## **PRESCHOOL NEWS**

The preschool staff would like to thank all of the volunteers who have provided snacks for our little ones over the years. Because of the preschool's increased enrollment and food and nutrition guidelines we have to follow, the preschool committee has decided to ask not only for snack contributions, but monetary contributions as well. The staff would then use the contributions to purchase the needed food items. We feel the staff is better equipped to know the quantities, brands, and sizes of the specific items needed.

If you would like to help our preschool, we would like you to check the option you prefer below, and return the form to the church office or to Sharon Stollewerk at the preschool. Thank you in advance for always supporting this wonderful ministry!

\_\_\_\_\_ I would prefer to purchase and contribute needed snack items *as specified* by the preschool director. (379-7074) (Prepackaged snack items/bags or cans of fruit etc.) You may drop off at preschool at your convenience.

\_\_\_\_\_ I would prefer to make a monetary donation for the purchase of needed snack items for the preschool.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

*(Please print)*

## *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

Martin Luther once wrote: "Next to the Word of God, the noble art of music is the greatest treasure in the world." When the Protestant Reformation began, Luther was determined to restore worship to the German Church. He worked with skilled musicians to create new music for Christians, to be sung in the vernacular. He helped revive congregational singing and wrote many hymns.

"Ein' feste Burg ist unser Gott" ("A Mighty Fortress Is Our God") is probably the one hymn that most symbolizes the Protestant Reformation. In it, Martin Luther proclaims his confidence in God and rallies all Christians to war against evil. Basing his words on Psalm 46, he states "We will not fear, for God has willed His truth to triumph through us." Those persecuted and martyred for their convictions during the Reformation sang these words. Luther was aware of our intense struggle with Satan and in difficult and dangerous times, he would often resort to singing this song. Written in 1529, this hymn is difficult to translate because the original German is so vivid. There are over 80 English versions available, including the one done by Frederic Hodge, the most popular in America.

The first line of "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" is inscribed on the tomb of Martin Luther at Wittenberg. And its powerful words and tune continue to live. The hymn was sung at the funeral of President Dwight D. Eisenhower at the National Cathedral in Washington DC, March 1969. And it was also included in the National Service of Prayer and Remembrance, held shortly after the September 11, 2001 attacks against America.

1 A mighty fortress is our God,  
a sword and shield victorious;  
he breaks the cruel oppressor's rod  
and wins salvation glorious.  
The old evil foe,  
sworn to work us woe,  
with dread craft and might  
he arms himself to fight.  
On earth he has no equal.

2 No strength of ours can match his might!  
We would be lost, rejected.  
But now a champion comes to fight,  
whom God himself elected.  
Ask who this may be:  
Lord of hosts is he!  
Jesus Christ, our Lord,  
God's only Son, adored.  
He holds the field victorious.

3 Though hordes of devils fill the land  
all threat'ning to devour us,  
we tremble not, unmoved we stand;  
they cannot overpower us.  
This world's prince may rage,  
in fierce war engage.  
He is doomed to fail;  
God's judgment must prevail!  
One little word subdues him.

4 God's Word forever shall abide,  
no thanks to foes, who fear it;  
for God himself fights by our side  
with weapons of the Spirit.  
If they take our house,  
goods, fame, child, or spouse,  
wrench our life away,  
they cannot win the day.  
The kingdom's ours forever!

### **Psalm 46**

<sup>1</sup> God is our refuge and strength,  
always ready to help in times of trouble.  
<sup>2</sup> So we will not fear when earthquakes come  
and the mountains crumble into the sea.  
<sup>3</sup> Let the oceans roar and foam.  
Let the mountains tremble as the waters  
surge! *Interlude*  
<sup>4</sup> A river brings joy to the city of our God,  
the sacred home of the Most High.  
<sup>5</sup> God dwells in that city; it cannot be destroyed.  
From the very break of day, God will protect it.  
<sup>6</sup> The nations are in chaos,  
and their kingdoms crumble!  
God's voice thunders,  
and the earth melts!  
<sup>7</sup> The Lord of Heaven's Armies is here among us;  
the God of Israel is our fortress. *Interlude*  
<sup>8</sup> Come, see the glorious works of the Lord:  
See how he brings destruction upon the world.  
<sup>9</sup> He causes wars to end throughout the earth.  
He breaks the bow and snaps the spear;  
he burns the shields with fire.  
<sup>10</sup> "Be still, and know that I am God!  
I will be honored by every nation.  
I will be honored throughout the world."  
<sup>11</sup> The Lord of Heaven's Armies is here among us;  
the God of Israel is our fortress.