

October 25, 2020
Reformation Sunday
21st Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE

Dr. Brenda Clark

"Come Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove"

R Thompson

WELCOME

Rev. Rachel Vione

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive) *from Psalm 90*

Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

Before the mountains were brought forth,
or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

You turn us back to dust, and say, "Turn back, you mortals."

For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past, or like a watch in the night.

You sweep them away; they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning;

in the morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers.

Turn, O Lord! How long? Have compassion on your servants!

Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

*HYMN NO. 321

"The Church's One Foundation" v.1 & 5

AURELIA

VERSE 1:

The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
She is his new creation by water and the Word.
From heaven he came and sought her to be his holy bride.
With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

VERSE 5:

Yet she on earth hath union with God, the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.
Oh, happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,
like them, the meek and lowly, may live eternally.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Lord, we come to you with questions that are not genuine, seeking only your affirmation of our behavior and opinions. We assume our own righteousness and quickly condemn others in your name, forgetting that our ways are not your ways, our judgment not your judgment. We do not take time to examine our hearts and seek your will. We jump to conclusions and neglect a life of prayerful discernment. Help us, gracious God, to humble ourselves before you and listen. Give us the courage to hear your corrective word and act upon it in ways that reveal our love for our Savior, Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray.

silent prayers of confession

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE AND PRAYER

PRESENTATION OF SECOND GRADE BIBLES

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 2:1-12

Deacon Tiffany Thomas

When he returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. ² So many gathered around that there was no longer room for them, not even in front of the door; and he was speaking the word to them. ³ Then some people^[a] came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. ⁴ And when they could not bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him; and after having dug through it, they let down the mat on which the paralytic lay. ⁵ When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven." ⁶ Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, ⁷ "Why does this fellow speak in this way? It is blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" ⁸ At once Jesus perceived in his spirit that they were discussing these questions among themselves; and he said to them, "Why do you raise such questions in your hearts? ⁹ Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Stand up and take your mat and walk'? ¹⁰ But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—he said to the paralytic— ¹¹ "I say to you, stand up, take your mat and go to your home." ¹² And he stood up, and immediately took the mat and went out before all of them; so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Home”

Rev. Rachel Vione

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (in union)

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

OFFERING

ANTHEM

“The House of the Lord”

Dale Peterson

Dana, Ariana, Andrew Warren, & Marie Matenopolous

*DOXOLOGY

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

***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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.***

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“A Mighty Fortress is Our God”

R. Thompson

Special thanks to Andrew Warren and Marie Matenopolous for their musical contributions in the worship service today.

Reformation Sunday—Presbyterians celebrate the tradition that grounds their faith on Reformation Sunday. It is always the last Sunday in October, marking the occasion in 1517 when Martin Luther posted his 95 theses on the door at Wittenberg, Germany. These theses which criticized the sale of indulgences by church officials, are considered the beginning of the Protestant Reformation—a movement that emphasized individual relationships with God and salvation through faith alone.

Please pray for members and friends of our congregation

For all those who are suffering as a result of the coronavirus, essential employees who go to work so we can be safe and healthy, those who are persecuted for their faith, those who protest peacefully, Lou Schmidt, Alison VanDis (Nancy Hogan's niece), Alex Martin (Mary Blondrage's nephew), Donald Sheetz (Bob Van Deusen's cousin), Rusty Feld (Leah Fink's nephew), Justin Yoskowitz, the Pastor Nominating Committee, Aaron Thomas, Bob White, Brian Brewer (Faustine White's son), Charlene Cosman, the family of: Rose Marie Doty (Leah Fink's sister), those in Healthcare facilities- Atria: Ann Deery, our partner congregations: Nueva Paz, Cuba and Iglesia Evangelica Presbiteriana Nueva Vida, Malverne; the Presbytery of Long Island and its staff; the Synod of the Northeast, the Presbyterian Church (USA), its Louisville staff, its missionaries worldwide.

Please keep the family of former church member, Larry Kusko , who passed away recently in your thoughts and prayers.

Thank you to Joe & Nancy Winkler and Kevin McKerr for making this service possible