



REFORMATION SUNDAY - OCTOBER 25, 2026

PRELUDE

Rob Aaron

“Come to believe, Come to belong, Come to receive, the promise of God”

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

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

Amen

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.

Amen

If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Therefore, let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another.

(Silence for self-reflection)

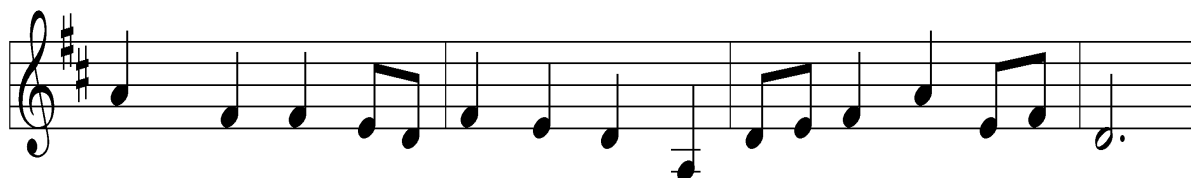
Most merciful God...**We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake 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.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore declare unto you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

GATHERING SONG *"This is My Father's World"*



1 This is my Fa-ther's world, and to my lis-t'ning ears all
 2 This is my Fa-ther's world; the birds their car-ols raise; the
 3 This is my Fa-ther's world; oh, let me not for-get that,



na-ture sings, and round me rings the mu-sic of the spheres.
 morn-ing light, the lil-y white, de-clare their mak-er's praise.
 though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the rul-er yet.



This is my Fa-ther's world; I rest me in the thought of
 This is my Fa-ther's world; he shines in all that's fair. In the
 This is my Fa-ther's world; why should my heart be sad? The

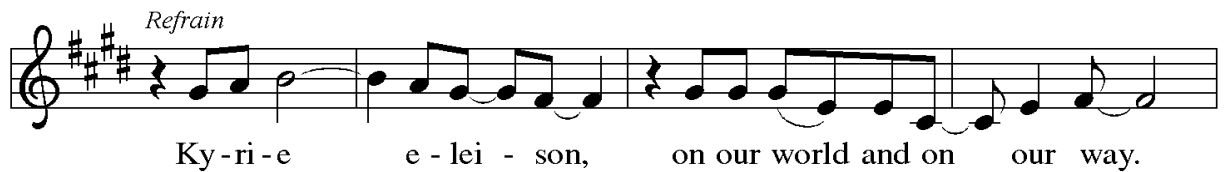


rocks and trees, of skies and seas; his hand the won-ders wrought.
 rus-ling grass I hear him pass; he speaks to me ev-'ry-where.
 Lord is king, let the heav-ens ring; God reigns, let the earth be glad!

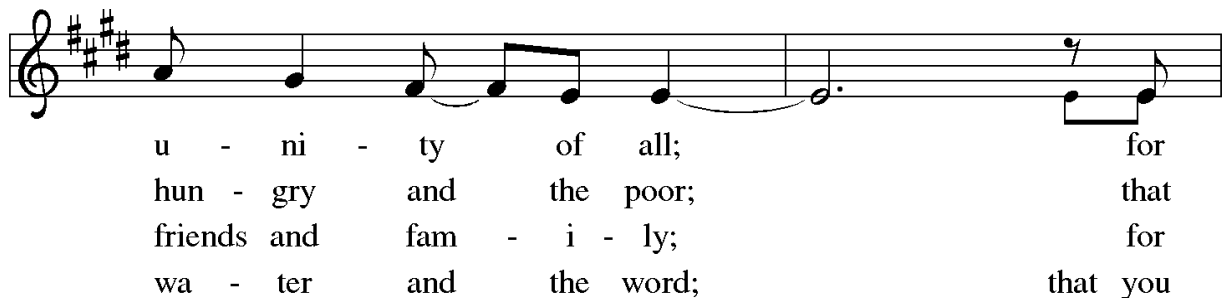
GREETING

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.**

KYRIE ELEISON *(Lord, have mercy)*



- 1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
- 2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
- 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
- 4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray together...**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.**

CHOIR ANTHEM *“Lord Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word”*

CHILDREN’S SERMON

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 31:31-34

³¹ “Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, ³² not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the LORD. ³³ For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares 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. ³⁴ And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.

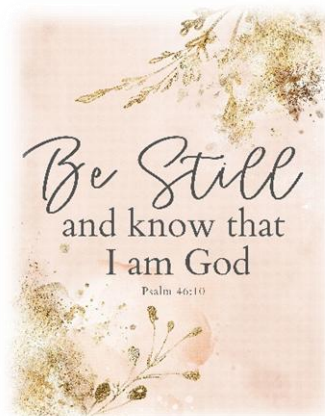
The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 46

- ¹God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
- ²Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,
though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,
- ³though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble at its swelling.
- ⁴There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.
- ⁵God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;
God will help her when morning dawns.
- ⁶The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;
he utters his voice, the earth melts.
- ⁷The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.
- ⁸Come, behold the works of the LORD,
how he has brought desolations on the earth.
- ⁹He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
**he breaks the bow and shatters the spear;
he burns the chariots with fire.**
- ¹⁰“Be still, 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 fortress.



SECOND READING

Romans 3:19-28

¹⁹ Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰ For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

²¹ But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— ²² the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. ²⁶ It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. ²⁷ Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸ For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way,

still you're there right beside me

And nothing will I fear as long as you are near,

please be near me to the end.

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

GOSPEL

John 8:31-36

The holy gospel according to St. John, the 8th chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord!

³¹ So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” ³³ They answered him, “We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, ‘You will become free’?”

³⁴ Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵ The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. ³⁶ So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ!



SERMON

Pastor Gary Heltsley

HYMN OF THE DAY “A Mighty Fortress is Our God”

Luther wrote both the lyrics and the tune to this hymn in 1529. The lyrics are actually a paraphrase of Psalm 46, expressing confidence in the Lord's protection of his people.



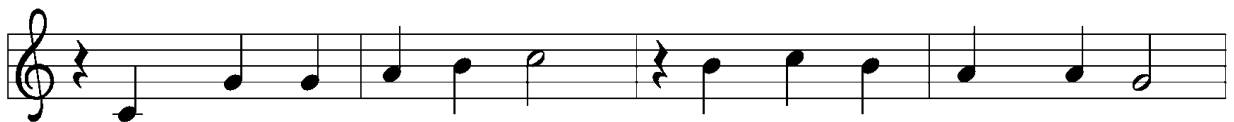
1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -
4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who



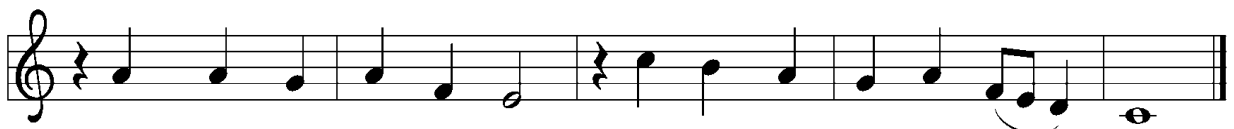
to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
vour us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,



has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P) Let us pray in the name of Jesus to our heavenly Father, for the Church, the world, and one another.

A brief silence

For the renewal of the Church in this and every age; in thanksgiving for Martin Luther and those with him who contended for the Gospel against many and great enemies; and that God would also make us bold to contend for the faith against those who would silence our voices or distract His people from the one true Gospel of the crucified and risen Christ,

Let us pray to the Lord: ***Lord, have mercy.***

For the Holy Christian Church throughout the world and for all who confess Christ, that God would guard and defend us from the temptations of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature,
Let us pray to the Lord: ***Lord, have mercy.***

For our homes and families, that God would keep us in His Word and so make us truly His disciples, freed from errors and at peace; and especially for all fathers and mothers, that God would preserve and encourage them for their godly task to bring up children who honor Him,
Let us pray to the Lord: ***Lord, have mercy.***

Graciously protect and guide the people of this congregation, O Lord, our Help and our Redeemer. Gladden our hearts by filling us with the gifts of your Holy Spirit. Use us to nourish, instruct, and invite our neighbors into your presence.
Let us pray to the Lord: ***Lord, have mercy.***

Exalt yourself among the nations, and speak your holy word to your world, especially to the leaders of our country. Give them wisdom and a teachable spirit. Grant them the desire to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly before you.
Let us pray to the Lord: ***Lord, have mercy.***

We lift before you the needs of all whose lives are shaken and troubled by suffering, especially those we name out loud or silently in our hearts (*allow time for silent and spoken prayers*). Be in their midst and strengthen them. Restore them to health and hope, that they may proclaim the awesome things you have done.
Let us pray to the Lord: ***Lord, have mercy.***

Most holy Lord, we give you thanks for the lives of our beloved dead whom you have redeemed through the precious blood of your dear Son. Grant that we may humbly follow in their footsteps, boldly trust in your promises, faithfully proclaim your Word, and cheerfully serve in your Name. Bring us, through the merits of Jesus, into your Kingdom, where with all the redeemed, we shall glorify you in the unity of your most holy Spirit forever.

Let us pray to the Lord: ***Lord, have mercy.***

P) In the power of the Holy Spirit, we entrust our prayers and petitions into your hands, gracious Father, for the sake of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***



SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING



OFFERTORY *Doxology*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. A-men**

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together...**Loving God, we give you thanks for the generous gifts you have first given us. May that which we offer to you, come joyfully from our hearts and be pleasing in your sight. Amen.**

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

It is indeed right... and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION



THE LORD'S PRAYER *(Sung)*

*Our Father, which 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*

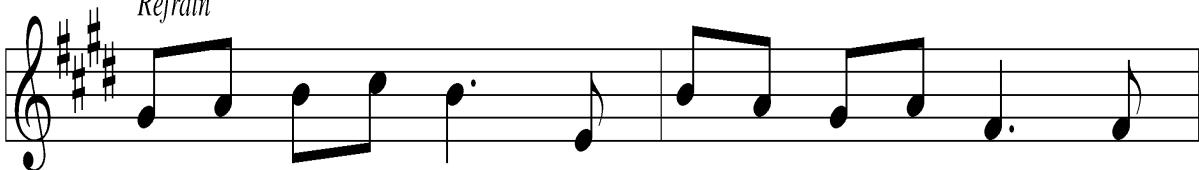
INVITATION TO COMMUNION – We believe and teach that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine/juice, which are his body and blood. All who trust in Christ are welcome at the Lord's Table (*the red liquid is wine; the white liquid is grape juice*).

"Lamb of God"

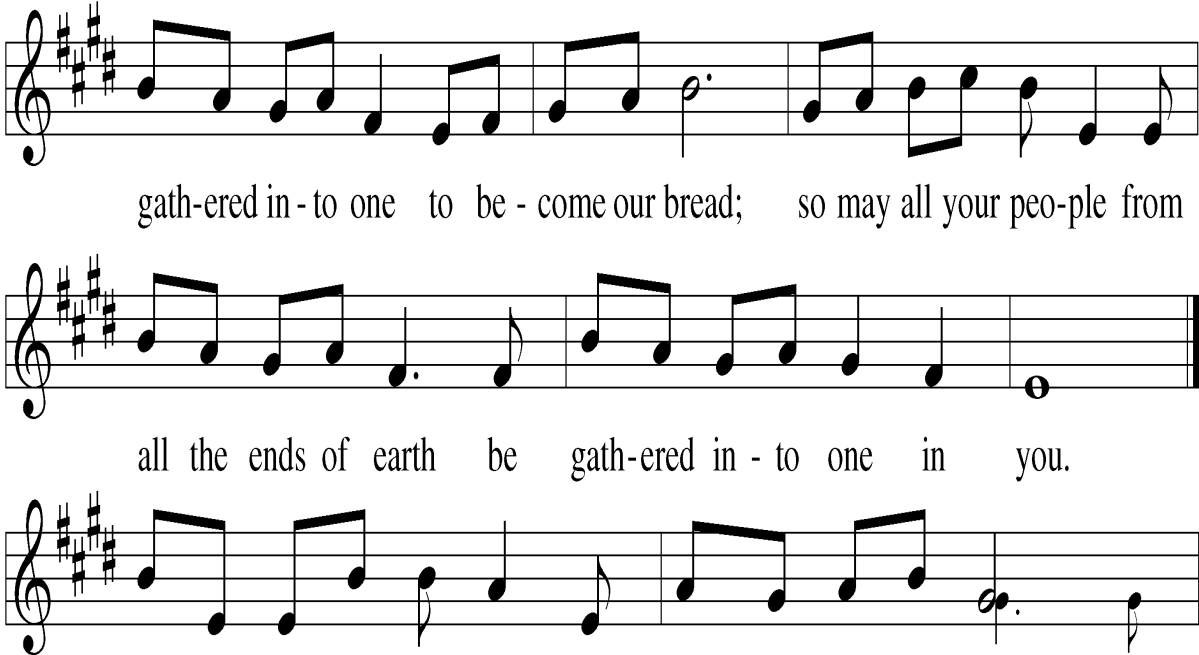
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

“As the Grains of Wheat”

Refrain

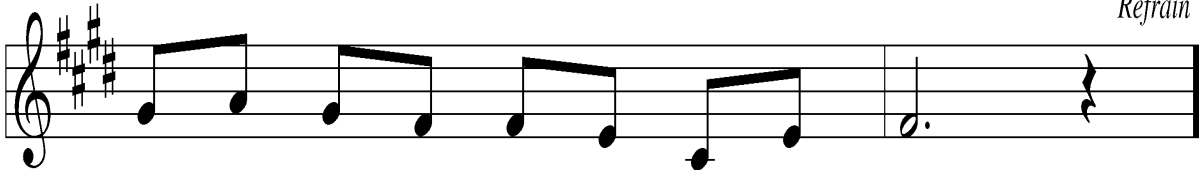


As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.



1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,
2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when

Refrain



may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

“He Touched Me”

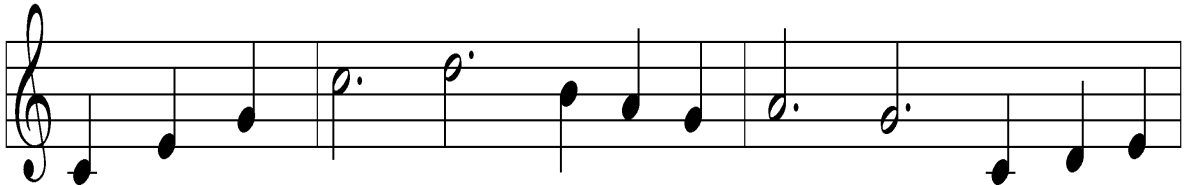
**1) Shackled by a heavy burden
'Neath a load of guilt and shame
Then the hand of Jesus touched me
And now I am no longer the same**

[Chorus]

***He touched me, oh He touched me
And oh the joy that floods my soul!
Something happened and now I know
He touched me and made me whole***

**2) Since I met this blessed Savior
Since He's cleansed and made me whole
Oh I will never cease to praise Him
I'll shout it while eternity rolls *[Chorus]***

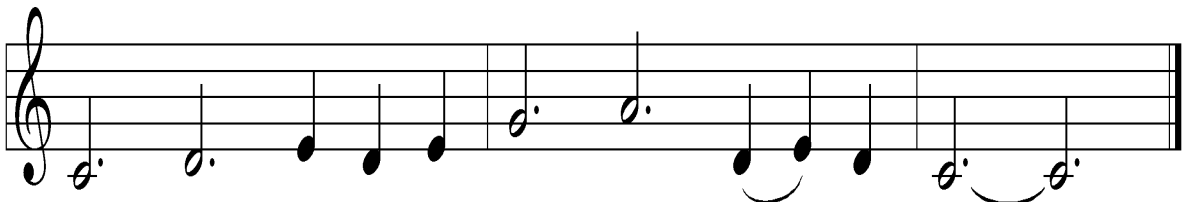
"Baptized in Water"



1 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, cleansed by the
2 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, dead in the
3 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, marked with the



blood of Christ our king: heirs of sal - va - tion, trust-ing his
tomb with Christ our king: one with his ris - ing, freed and for -
sign of Christ our king: born of the Spir - it, we are God's



prom - ise, faith - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.
giv - en, thank - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.
chil - dren; joy - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

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

Let us pray together...**We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you, and in fervent love toward one another, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen***

BLESSING

SENDING SONG

“Beautiful Savior”

The “Beautiful Savior” title is said to have originated with its translation into English by Joseph A. Seiss, a Lutheran pastor of Moravian descent born in 1823.



1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,
2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,
3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,
4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,



Son of God and Son of Man!
robed in flow'rs of bloom - ing spring;
bright the spar - kling stars on high;
Son of God and Son of Man!



Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,
Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,
Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er,
Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,



light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.
than all the an - gels in the sky.
now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, serve the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

Rob Aaron – piano ~ Nancy Martin – choir
Pr. Gary Heltsley – presiding

TODAY'S WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Greeters: Guy & Barb Bralley

Ushers: Mick Baker & Connie Schmidt

Reader: Sue Nichols

Sacristans: Bonnie O'Hanlon & Char Pedersen

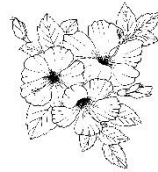
Communion Assistants: Shelley Marion & Mary Severeid

Sunday School Teacher/Asst.: Dixie Carver & Deanna Smith

Teen Sunday School Teachers: Mary Severid & Kathy Rakes

Teen Sunday School Asst.: Catie Hughes

Barista: Barb Evans **Close Up:** Council Member



Altar Flowers: Virginia Eastman

Last Week's Attendance: 95 **Last Week's Offering:** \$2,838.75

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Good morning and welcome to ***NORTH BAY LUTHERAN COMMUNITY CHURCH!*** We hope you find inspiration and fellowship in our worship service. We invite you to stay for fellowship following our service.

We are glad that you're here!

Fellowship Time Today Pumpkin Sunday!

Next Sunday, Nov. 1st – Birthday cake provided by NBLCC.

Neighborhood Bible Study will meet on **Tuesday, Oct. 27th at 12:45 pm.** For more information, please contact Sue Nichols or call the church office.

Dementia Support Group will meet on **Wed., Oct. 28th at 10:00 am.** For more information, please contact Patty Rogers or call the church office.

GriefShare - *GriefShare* is a Christ-centered grief recovery support group where you can find help and healing for the hurt of losing a loved one. The *GriefShare* group class will meet on **Wed., Oct. 28th at 12:30 pm.** Call the office or Pastor Gary if you're interested.

Movie Night – Please join us again on **Wednesday., Oct. 28th @ 6:00 pm** to view Season Three, Episode 6 of “*The Chosen*”. We will gather in the Fellowship Hall to watch this episode and then have an informal discussion and time to share our thoughts. ***All are welcome!***

Pastor's Bible Study - We will meet on **Thursday, Oct. 29th at 4:00 pm,** we will be studying Luke's Gospel led by Pastor Gary. *Everyone is invited to attend.* Please contact the office if you have any questions.

Men's Bible Study - will meet on **Sat., Oct. 31st at 8:00 am** as we continue our study of the book of Exodus.



Daylight Savings Time Ends – *Set your clocks back one hour before bedtime Saturday, October 31st.*

Operation Christmas Child. It is the 2026 season of sending shoeboxes to children around the world in order to spread God's love and the Gospel message to "the ends of the earth." Boxes and brochures are in the Foyer and Fellowship Hall. You may also go online to samaritanspurse.org/buildonline for more information. The filled boxes are due by ***Sunday, November 22nd***.

Coming Soon:

Ladies of North Bay: Our next Gathering will be **Friday, November 6th at 10:00 am.** Our theme is *Comfort, Comfort* based on 2 Cor. 1:3. "*He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others*". We will be sharing comfort through the Shoe Box ministry and learning how Quilts of Valor provides comfort to our Veterans.

If you would like to participate in the shoe Box Ministry, please bring an item for a boy or girl between 2 years to 14 years old. We will pack the boxes with items that you bring. Feel free to bring one or two items or to bring enough to fill a whole Shoe Box.

If you love beautiful quilts and giving thanks for our military service personnel, Cindy Hoover, President of the Washington Chapter of Quilts of Valor, will be our special guest. She will explain their mission of "covering Veterans in comforting and healing Quilts of Valor". She will bring quilts to show and stories to tell of their comforting work. Our morning will also include Devotions, songs, prayer, fellowship and finish with comforting food for lunch. Please join us and bring a friend or neighbor.

Annual Congregational Meeting - We would like to encourage all NBLCC members to attend this important yearly meeting on **Sunday, Nov. 15th** after worship in the Sanctuary. Members will be asked to vote on the 2027 annual budget and to elect council members needed to fill the two open positions. There will also be a proposed amendment to the Church By-Laws allowing for two *additional* Council positions.

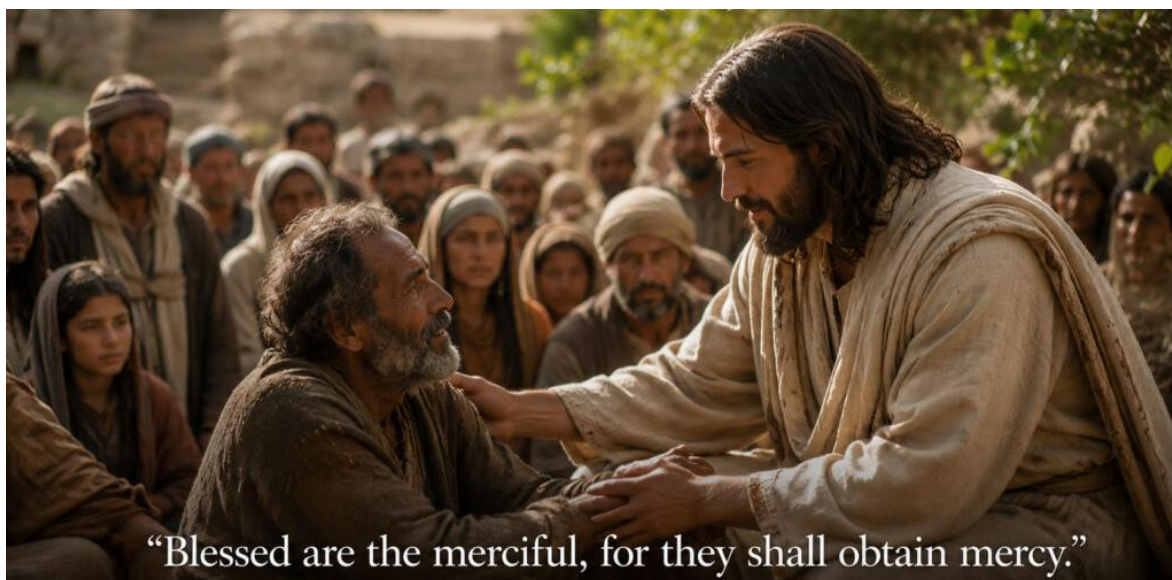
Pastor Gary will be in the office Tuesday through Thursday, 9:30 am until noon.

Office Hours this week are 9:00 am to 1:00 pm Monday through Friday.

Prayers – Please email or call the church with your prayer requests, or if you need pastoral care.

READINGS FOR NOVEMBER 1, 2026

Revelation 7:9-17 ~ Psalm 34:1-10, 22 ~ 1 John 3:1-3
Matthew 5:1-12



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