THE FIRST SUNDAY OF END TIMES

November 5, 2017

Worship Focus Lord, Keep Us – Standing Firm in Gospel Freedom



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THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Service of Word and Sacrament

Christian Worship, p. 26

Service of Word and Sacrament © Northwestern Publishing House 1993.

"Thank the Lord" Tune: Richard Hillert. © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Augsburg Fortress

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Text: Enchiridion...zum Schwartzen Horn, Erfurt, 1527, abr.; tr. W. Gustave Polack, 1890–1950, alt. Tune: O HERRE GOTT, DEN GOTTLICH WORT (447-447 D lambie) Enchiridion...zum Schwartzen Horn, Erfurt 1527.

INVOCATION

Minister The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the

fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

Congregation And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS AND ABSOLUTION

- **M** God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.
- C Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve Your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord have mercy on me a sinner.
- M God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given His only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

LORD HAVE MERCY (Kyrie)

M For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.



M For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.



M For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.



M Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:



PRAYER AND PRAISE

M The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

Junior Choir By Faith

The children will sing verses 1-3 and the first refrain.

The congregation is invited to sing verses 4 and 5, along with the refrain.

- By faith we see the hand of God
 In the light of creation's grand design,
 In the lives of those who prove His faithfulness,
 Who walk by faith and not by sight.
- By faith our fathers roamed the earth
 With the power of His promise in their hearts,
 Of a holy city built by God's own hand,
 A place where peace and justice reign.

Refrain: We will stand as children of the promise;

We will fix our eyes on Him, our soul's reward. Till the race is finished and the work is done,

We'll walk by faith and not by sight.

- By faith the prophets saw a day
 When the longed for Messiah would appear
 With the power to break the chains of sin and death
 And rise triumphant from the grave.
- 4. By faith the church was called to go
 In the pow'r of the Spirit to the lost
 To deliver captives and to preach good news
 In ev'ry corner of the earth.

Refrain

5. By faith this mountain shall be moved And the pow'r of the Gospel shall prevail, For we know in Christ all things are possible For all who call upon His name.

Refrain

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M Let us pray. Gracious Lord, our refuge and strength, pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your Word, protect and comfort them in all temptations, defend them against all their enemies, and bestow on the Church your saving peace; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



THE WORD

FIRST LESSON Daniel 6:10-12, 16-23

Daniel exemplifies boldness of confession in the face of opposition.

DANIEL 6:10 Now when Daniel learned that the decree had been published, he went home to his upstairs room where the windows opened toward Jerusalem. Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God, just as he had done before. ¹¹ Then these men went as a group and found Daniel praying and asking God for help. ¹² So they went to the king and spoke to him about his royal decree: "Did you not publish a decree that during the next thirty days anyone who prays to any god or man except to you, O king, would be thrown into the lions' den?"

The king answered, "The decree stands--in accordance with the laws of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be repealed."

¹⁶ So the king gave the order, and they brought Daniel and threw him into the lions' den. The king said to Daniel, "May your God, whom you serve continually, rescue you!"

¹⁷ A stone was brought and placed over the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet ring and with the rings of his nobles, so that Daniel's situation might not be changed. ¹⁸ Then the king returned to his palace and spent the night without eating and without any entertainment being brought to him. And he could not sleep.

¹⁹ At the first light of dawn, the king got up and hurried to the lions' den. ²⁰ When he came near the den, he called to Daniel in an anguished voice, "Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to rescue you from the lions?"

²¹ Daniel answered, "O king, live forever! ²² My God sent his angel, and he shut the mouths of the lions. They have not hurt me, because I was found innocent in his sight. Nor have I ever done any wrong before you, O king."

²³ The king was overjoyed and gave orders to lift Daniel out of the den. And when Daniel was lifted from the den, no wound was found on him, because he had trusted in his God.

PSALM 46 Senior Choir

Refrain

Be exalted, O God, in the earth. Be exalted, O God, in the earth. You are my fortress. I give you my best. Be exalted, O God, in the earth.

- 1. God is our refuge; God is our strength. Be exalted, O God, in the earth. In times of trouble God is our defense. Be exalted, O God, in the earth. Refrain
- 2. Through the earth gives way, we will not fear. Be exalted, O God, in the earth. You promised protection; your spirit is near. Be exalted, O God, in the earth. Refrain

Be exalted, O God. Be exalted, O God. Yours is the power; yours is the glory. Be exalted, O God, in the earth.

SECOND LESSON Galatians 5:1-6

Stand firm in your Gospel freedom!

GALATIANS 5:1 It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

² Mark my words! I, Paul, tell you that if you let yourselves be circumcised, Christ will be of no value to you at all. ³ Again I declare to every man who lets himself be circumcised that he is obligated to obey the whole law. ⁴ You who are trying to be justified by law have been alienated from Christ; you have fallen away from grace. ⁵ But by faith we eagerly await through the Spirit the righteousness for which we hope. ⁶ For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any value. The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Therefore will we not fear though the earth be removed And though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea.

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

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost, As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

GOSPEL Matthew 10:16-23

Christ promises his Spirit as the source of strength during persecution.

MATTHEW 10:16 I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves.

¹⁷ "Be on your guard against men; they will hand you over to the local councils and flog you in their synagogues. ¹⁸ On my account you will be brought before governors and kings as witnesses to them and to the Gentiles. ¹⁹ But when they arrest you, do not worry about what to say or how to say it. At that time you will be given what to say, ²⁰ for it will not be you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.

²¹ "Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child; children will rebel against their parents and have them put to death. ²² All men will hate you because of me, but he who stands firm to the end will be saved. ²³ When you are persecuted in one place, flee to another. I tell you the truth, you will not finish going through the cities of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

After the reading of the Gospel the congregation responds:



HYMN OF THE DAY

201 - A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. composite.

Tune: EIN FESTE BURG (87 87 55 56 7) Martin Luther, 1483–1546, alt.

SERMON

Galatians 5:1-6

Stand Firm in Your Freedom

CONFESSION OF FAITH – THE NICENE CREED

C We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

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

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian 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.

FRIENDSHIP REGISTER and GATHERING OF OFFERINGS

MUSICAL OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- **M** Lord, our refuge and strength, we gather to worship and praise you for your ongoing work of reformation in your Church.
- C Lord, to you alone be glory.
- **M** God of grace, in unfathomable love you pitied us sinners and sent your Son as our substitute to deliver us from sin, guilt, death, darkness, and despair.
- C For your grace, Lord, to you alone be glory.
- **M** By your grace you sent your Spirit to call us to repentance. Your powerful gospel rescued us from rebellion and fills us with faith in you, the true and living God.
- C For saving faith, Lord, to you alone be glory.
- M In these last days, Lord Jesus Christ, protect your little flock. We are like sheep living among fierce wolves. Satan stalks us like a roaring lion. Defend us from false teachers who twist your Word to satisfy the latest longing.
- C For wisdom and watchfulness under attack, hear our prayer, O Lord.
- M Never in the history of the world has your Holy Word been so accessible. We lack only the zeal to treasure your restored truth with lives of faithful Bible study.
- C For the noble character to search the Scriptures daily, hear our prayer, O Lord.
- **M** As we celebrate the Reformation that restored your pure gospel to your Church, we also celebrate our common confession of the pure gospel in Word and sacrament.
- C For this unity of faith, we give you thanks, O Lord.
- **M** We remember the faithful confessors of this and former generations, who have passed down to us your Word of Truth.
- C For these faithful servants, we give you thanks, O Lord.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

- **M** In thanksgiving for the many and amazing blessings restored to your Church through the Reformation, we now commit ourselves to your care.
- C Be our mighty fortress, our trusty shield and weapon, O Lord. Amen.

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THE LORD'S PRAYER

C 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.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE and PROPER PREFACES

M The Lord be with you.



M Lift up your hearts.



M Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



M Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He protects and preserves his Church in every age and gives us confidence to lift up our heads and watch for Jesus with joy. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (Sanctus)



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

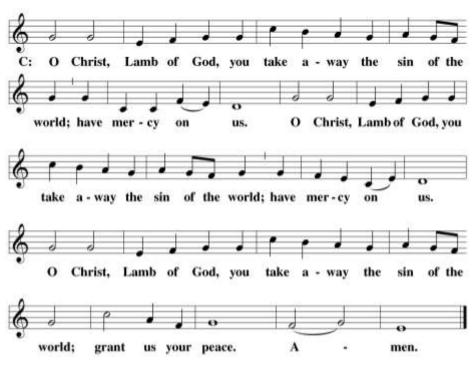
M Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M The peace of the Lord be with you always.



O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD (Agnus Dei)



DISTRIBUTION

The Scriptures teach that the celebration of the Lord's Supper connects us intimately with Christ and with one another as Christians who are united around a common confession of faith. Therefore, we ask that only those who are members of Calvary or churches within our fellowship come forward to receive the Lord's Supper.



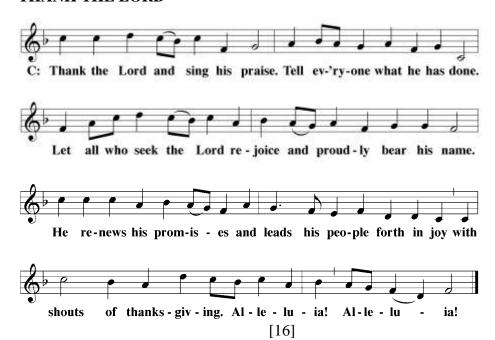


Text: Johann Franck, 1618–77, abr.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, st. 1-2, 4-5, alt.; The Lutheran Hymnal, St. Louis, 1941, st. 3.

Tune: JESU, MEINE FREUDE (665 665 34 86) Johann Crüger, 1598-1662.

THANKSGIVING

THANK THE LORD



PRAYER AND BLESSING

M Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



M Brothers and sisters, go in peace.

Live in harmony with one another.

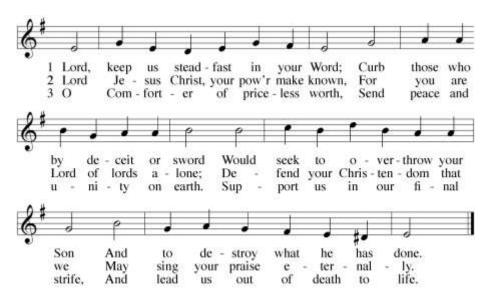
Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.



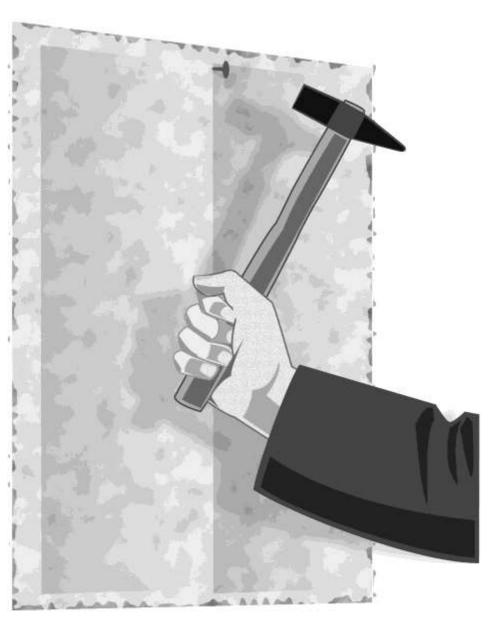


Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. composite.

Tune: ERHALT UNS, HERR (LM) Klug, Geistliche Lieder zu Wittemberg, Wittenberg, 1543, alt.

After worship, please feel free to stay and greet your neighbors.

Sola Gratia
Grace Alone
Sola Fide
Faith Alone
Sola Scriptura
Scripture Alone



REFORMATION

