

Choral Service of Holy Communion
(Based on Luther's German Mass)
Reformation Sunday
October 29, 2023

Welcome, Announcements and Explanations

Entrance Rites

A Mighty Fortress

There are two versions of this hymn. The original version, written by Luther, is very rhythmic. (See LBW 228) The repeated notes at the beginning bring to mind the hammer blows of nailing the 95 Theses to the church door. The second version smoothed out the melody, was written some 200 years after Luther, and is the version most of us know and what we'll sing this morning.

**A mighty fortress is our God, A bulwark never failing;
Our helper he amid the flood Of mortal ills prevailing:
For still our ancient foe Doth seek to work us woe; His craft and power are great,
And, armed with cruel hate. On earth is not his equal.**

**Did we in our own strength confide Our striving would be losing;
Were not the right Man on our side, The Man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus it is he; Lord Sabaoth his Name,
From age to age the same, And he must win the battle.**

**And though this world, with devils filled, Should threaten to undo us;
We will not fear, for God hath willed His truth to triumph through us:
The prince of darkness grim, We tremble not for him: His rage we can endure,
For lo! His doom is sure, One little word shall fell him.**

**That word above all earthly powers, No thanks to them, abideth;
The Spirit and the gifts are ours Through him who with us sideth;
Let goods and kindred go, This mortal life also; The body they may kill:
God's truth abideth still, His kingdom is forever.**

Apostolic Greeting

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

Kyrie (From the Greek meaning Lord)

Ⓐ In peace, in peace let us pray to the Lord. Ⓐ For the

ⓐ Lord, have mer - cy.

peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the

Lord. Ⓐ For the peace of the whole world, the well - be - ing of the

ⓐ Lord, have mer - cy.

Church of God, and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the

Lord. Ⓐ For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their

ⓐ Lord, have mer - cy.

wor - ship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

ⓐ Lord, have mer - cy.

Ⓐ Help, save, com - fort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.

ⓐ A - men

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we pray for your Holy Church. **Send your Holy Spirit to renew us. Keep us steadfast in your Word, protect and comfort us in times of trial, defend us against all enemies of the Gospel. Where we are corrupt, purify us; where in error, direct us; where amiss, reform us; where right, strengthen us; where in need provide for us; where divided, reunite us. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

The Word

Revelation 14:6-7

Romans 3:19-28

KC Jam: "Love the Lord" / Children's Moment

Verse: God's Word is Our Great Heritage

Please Stand

LBW #239

**God's Word is our great heritage And shall be ours forever;
To spread its light from age to age Shall be our chief endeavor.
Through life it guides our way; In death it is our stay.
Lord, grant while time shall last Your Church may hold it fast Throughout all generations.**

John 8:31-36

Sermon: "We are Children of Luther! So what!"

Our Response to the Word

"Lord, Keep us Steadfast in Your Word"

Please Stand

LBW #230

Apostle's 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 the Church

Passing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always! **And also with you!**

Offering

Choir Anthem: "How Firm a Foundation"

Offertory: Create in Me

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

spir-it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres-ence, and

take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the

joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you!

Lift up your hearts!

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you,

And also with you!

We lift them to the Lord!

It is right to give our thanks and praise!

O Lord, Holy Father, through the great Shepherd of your flock, Christ our Lord;
Who after his resurrection sent forth his apostles to preach the Gospel and teach all nations,
And promised to be with them always, even to the end of the age.
And so, with the patriarchs and prophets, with the apostles and Martin Luther,
And with all the company of heaven, we praise your name. **Amen**

The Lord's Prayer: Our Father Thou in Heaven Above

This hymn is called a Catechism Chorale, based on Luther's Catechism. The old musical masters felt the Lord's Prayer was too sacred to be put to music. In keeping with that tradition, Luther explains the meaning of the Lord's Prayer but doesn't put the prayer itself to music.

This is considered one of Luther's finest hymns.

1 Our Fa - ther, Thou in heav'n a - bove, Who bid - dest us to
2 Thy name be hal - lowed. Help us, Lord, In pu - ri - ty to
3 Thy king - dom come. Thine let it be In time and in e -

dwell in love, As breth - ren of one fam - i - ly, To
keep Thy Word, That to the glo - ry of Thy name We
ter - ni - ty. Let Thy good Spir - it e'er be nigh Our

cry in ev - 'ry need to Thee, Teach us no thought - less words to
walk be - fore Thee free from blame. Let no false doc - trine us per -
hearts with grac - es to sup - ply. Break Sa - tan's pow'r, de - feat his

say, But from our in - most heart to pray.
vert; All poor, de - lud - ed souls con - vert.
rage; Pre - serve Thy Church from age to age. A - men.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of four systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a basso continuo line (bass clef). The music is in 4/4 time and the key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lyrics are printed below the vocal line. The first system contains the first three lines of the prayer. The second system contains the next three lines. The third system contains the next three lines. The fourth system contains the final three lines, including the word 'Amen'.

4 Thy gracious will on earth be done As 'tis in heaven before Thy throne;
Obedience in our weal and woe And patience in all grief bestow.
Curb flesh and blood and every ill That sets itself against Thy will.

5 Give us this day our daily bread And let us all be clothed and fed.
From war and strife be our Defense, From famine and from pestilence,
That we may live in godly peace, Free from all care and avarice.

(Continued)

- 6 Forgive our sins, Lord, we implore, Remove from us their burden sore,
As we their trespasses forgive Who by offenses us do grieve.
Thus let us dwell in charity And serve our brother willingly.

- 7 Into temptation lead us not. When evil foes against us plot
And vex our souls on every hand, Oh, give us strength that we may stand
Firm in the faith, a well-armed host, Through comfort of the Holy Ghost!

- 8 From evil, Lord, deliver us; The times and days are perilous.
Redeem us from eternal death, And when we yield our dying breath,
Console us, grant us calm release, And take our souls to Thee in peace.

- 9 Amen, that is, So shall it be. Confirm our faith and hope in Thee
That we may doubt not, but believe What here we ask we shall receive.
Thus in Thy name and at Thy word We Say: Amen; Oh, hear us Lord!

Words of Institution

Lamb of God

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

Thankful Hearts and Voices

Thank-ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry -
one what God has done. Let all who
seek the Lord re - jice, re - jice and
bear Christ's ho - ly name. Send us, O God, with your
prom - is - es, and lead us forth in joy
with shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Post Communion Prayer

God of abundance, with the Bread of Life and Cup of Salvation you have united us with Christ making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Sending

Benediction

The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The God of all grace bless you now and forever. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit. **Amen.**

"Built on a Rock, the Church Shall Stand"

LBW #365

Dismissal

Grow in faith! **Impact the world!**