

**Communion Reformation Sunday  
October 25, 2020**

**Gather**

**Call to Worship**

**Thanksgiving for Baptism (ELW p 97)**

**Rev. Peter Bowmer**

PP: In the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the water of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give You thanks, O God, for in the beginning Your Spirit moved over the waters and by Your Word You created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood You delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea You led Your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river Your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and Your Word You claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of Your promise and servants of all.

We praise You for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise You for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with Your Spirit, and renew our lives with Your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To You be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Message - "Baptism"**

**Rev. Peter Bowmer**

**Opening Song — "Earth and All Stars" ELW 731**

*Earth and all stars! Loud rushing planets! Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Hail Wind and rain! Loud blowing snowstorm! Sing to the Lord a new song!  
God has done marvelous things, I too sing praises with a new song!*

*Trumpet and pipes! Loud crashing cymbals! Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Harp, lute and lyre! Loud humming cellos! Sing to the Lord a new song!  
God has done marvelous things, I too sing praises with a new song!*

*Engines and steel! Loud pounding hammers! Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Limestone and beams! Loud building workers! Sing to the Lord a new song!  
God has done marvelous things, I too sing praises with a new song!*

*Knowledge and truth! Loud sounding wisdom! Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Daughter and Son! Loud praying members! Sing to the Lord a new song!  
God has done marvelous things, I too sing praises with a new song!*

**Greeting & Litany -**

**Pastor Rebecca West-Estell**

PR. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the Communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C. And also with you.**

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

**C. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.**

**WT:**

*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.*

PR. There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

**C. God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help it when the morning dawns.**

**WT:**

*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.*

PR. The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter; God speaks and the earth melts.

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

PR. Come, behold the works of the Lord!

**C. God makes wars cease to the end of the earth; God breaks the bow, shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.**

**Wt.**

*And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,  
we will not fear, for God has 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.*

PR. Be still, and know that the Lord is God!

**C. God is exalted among the nations; God is exalted in the earth.**

PR. The Lord of hosts is with us;

**C. The God of Jacob is our refuge.**

WT.

*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.*

**Prayer of the Day -**

**Pastor Rebecca West-Estell**

PR. 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. **C. Amen.**

**Word**

**Readings -**

**Rev. Chris Hanley**

**Jeremiah 31:31-34** New International Version

“The days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah. It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them,” declares the LORD. “This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time,” declares the LORD. “I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. No longer will they teach their neighbor, or say to one another, ‘Know the LORD,’ because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest,” declares the LORD. “For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.”

**Romans 3:19-28** New International Version

Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God. Therefore no one will be declared righteous in God's sight by the works of the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of our sin.

But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, <sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished—he did it to demonstrate his righteousness at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.

Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded. Because of what law? The law that requires works? No, because of the law that requires faith. For we maintain that a person is justified by faith apart from the works of the law.

## **Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia. If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free. Alleluia. (John 8:31-32)**

### **John 8:31-36** New International Version

To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." They answered him, "We are Abraham's descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?"

Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

## **Message - "Reformation"**

**Intern Student Pastor Rebecca West-Estell**

### **Song — "Canticle of Turning" ELW 723**

*My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great,  
And my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait.  
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight, and my weakness you did not spurn,  
So from east to west shall my Name be blest. Could the world be about to turn?*

*My heart shall sing of the day You bring. Let the fires of Your justice burn.  
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn!*

*Though I am small, my God, my all, you work great things in me,  
And your mercy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be.  
Your very name puts the proud to shame, and to those who would for You yearn,  
You will show Your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is about to turn.*

*My heart shall sing of the day You bring. Let the fires of Your justice burn.  
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn!*

*From the halls of power to the fortress tower, not a stone will be left on stone.  
Let the king beware for Your justice tears ev'ry tyrant from his throne.  
The hungry poor shall weep no more, for the food they can never earn;  
there are tables spread, ev'ry mouth be fed, for the world is about to turn.*

*My heart shall sing of the day You bring. Let the fires of Your justice burn.  
Wipe away all tears, for the Dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn!*

*Though the nations rage from age to age, we remember who holds us fast:  
God's mercy must deliver us from the conqueror's crushing grasp.  
This saving word that our forebears heard is the promise which holds us bound,  
'Til the spear and rod can be crushed by God, who is turning the world around.  
My heart shall sing of the day You bring. Let the fires of your justice burn.  
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn!*

*My heart shall sing of the day You bring. Let the fires of Your justice burn.  
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, And the world is about to turn!*

## Response

### **Affirmation of Baptism**

#### **Presentation -**

**Rev. Peter Bowmer**

I present Names, who desire to make public affirmation of their baptism.

PP: Let us pray. Merciful God, we thank You for these sisters and brothers, whom You have made Your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called them to Yourself, enlightened them with the gift of Your Spirit, and nourished them in the community of faith. Uphold Your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom You have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ. **C:Amen.**

#### **Profession of Faith -**

**Rev. Chris Hanley**

PC: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God? If so say "I renounce them." **Confirmands: "I renounce them."**

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God? **Confirmands: "I renounce them."**

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God? **Confirmands: "I renounce them."**

Do you believe in God the Father? **C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God? **C: I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit? **C: 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.**

#### **Affirmation -**

**All Pastors**

Pastors: You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in Holy baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth? **Confirmands: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.**

**Affirmation by Assembly -**

**Pastor Rebecca West-Estell**

PR: People of God, do you promise to support these sisters and brothers and pray for them in their life in Christ? **C: We do, and we ask God to help us.**

Pastors: Let us pray. We give thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit You give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

Stir up in     Name     the gift of Your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in Your presence, both now and forever. **C: Amen**

Let us rejoice with these sisters and brothers in Christ. **C: We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

**Message - "Confirmation"**

**Rev. A.N. Mary Adelsberger**

**Gifts**

**Prayers of People -**

**Rev. Peter Bowmer**

PP: With confidence in God's grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

Renew and inspire the church in the freedom of the gospel, O God. Where the church is in error, reform it. Where the church speaks your truth, strengthen it. Where the church is divided, unify it. Ignite in us the working of the Holy Spirit. Lord, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

As the earth changes, as mountains shake and the waters roar, may we care for this planet as a holy habitation for all living things. Sustain all peoples and lands recovering from natural disasters of any kind. Lord, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

Guide areas of the world divided or traumatized by conflict, especially in our own land. Free all from slavery and human trafficking, and protect all in harm's way especially our **Military Members:** Ryan Woods, Henry Kozak, Dustin Pawloski, and Reid Leslie. Lord, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

Release those living in bondage to debts, chronic pain, or addiction. Grant healing touch to those who are ill especially our **Homebound:** Bob Rank, Kathy Schoembs, Sam Schlegel, Phyllis Ballas, Joanne Hummel, Doris Buchholz (hospice care), Darlene Calcamuggio (hospice care), Pat Reiber; and those in need of **Healing:** Cindy Bunch, Don & Karen Steinert, Claudia Sauer, Katie Maly, Sue Herr, Walt Carlson, Sheila MacKay Davidson, Marcene Jackson, Leslie Bean, Don Gurwell, Diane Swartz, Dave Gilbert, Char Bachmayer, Diane Denhof, Fred Schaefer, Michael Curtis, Laurie Collins, all suffering with Covid 19 - especially President Trump and the First Lady. . Lord, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

In this family of faith we give thanks for courageous voices that have remained firm in their commitment to the one who frees us from sin and death especially Bishop Beaudoin and staff, Bishop Eaton and staff, Memorial Church Staff, Student Katie Leslie, Intern Rebecca West-Estell, Monroe Corridor Parish, Hope Learning Academy teachers and families and all teachers and students in all schools. Centered in your grace, unify us in the hope of the gospel. Lord, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

Even in death, you free us and give us a place in your house. Comfort the family of Darlene Calcamuggio, Barbara Keller, David Smith, Braylen Noble, and Eijah Northcutt We give thanks for our ancestors who have shown us truth and freedom, especially Martin Luther and those who work for the renewal of the church. In your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

Listen as we call on you, O God, and enfold in your loving arms all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**

### Meal

**Message - "Communion"**

**Rev. Chris Hanley**

**Communion -**

**Rev. Chris Hanley**

**The Great Thanksgiving & Words of Institution**

P. The Lord be with you. **C. And also with you.**

P. Lift up your hearts. **C. We lift them to the Lord.**

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C. It is right to give our thanks and praise**

**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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

**Distribution—**

**All Pastors**

**Prayer -**

**Rev. Chris Hanley**

PC. Lord God of hosts, the Refuge of every sinner and the Strength of all who put their trust in you, we praise you for having made us partakers of the blessings of your Reformation. Without any merit on our part, you have sent your Holy Spirit into our hearts and brought us to faith in your dear Son, Jesus Christ. You have made known to us the perfect merit of Christ. You have directed our faith to rest on the exceedingly great and precious promises of your Gospel. You have revealed the beauty of your grace, which rescued us from a just condemnation and assured us of certain salvation in Christ. Grant us your grace that we may receive your forgiveness with thanksgiving. Use us as your witnesses in bringing the message of pardon in Christ to people everywhere. Open our eyes to a better understanding of your Word and a deeper appreciation of your grace that our faith in Christ Jesus may grow and flourish with the fruits of righteous living. **C. Amen.**

## Send

### **Blessing**

PM. Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, preserve us as you have your holy church throughout the ages. For the gift of the blessed Gospel we praise God's name. For the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection from the dead and life eternal in Christ, we thank our God. We treasure the rich heritage handed down from our fathers in the faith. Bless you as you go forth and forevermore. Amen.

### **Song Quartet and Ringers "Edelweiss"**

May the Lord, Mighty God, bless and keep you forever.  
Grant you peace, perfect peace, courage in every endeavor.  
Lift up your eyes now and see God's face, feel His grace forever.  
May the Lord, Mighty God, Bless and keep you forever.

PR. Go in peace and praise the Lord! **C. Thanks be to God.**