



Next Sunday, we will celebrate All Saints. Although the feast day itself is tomorrow (November 1), we will commemorate those Saints who have died (including and especially our loved ones) and those who are becoming saints (Logan Mateo Calvino-Gross will be baptized). Thus, our worship next week is both a solemn and joyous occasion.

UPCOMING ADULT EDUCATION EVENT

On Wednesday, November 17 and Wednesday, November 24, starting at 7 p.m. and ending at 9 p.m., the Rev. Dr. Donald Grayston will be our adult education presenter.

The two-part series called "Understanding Fundamentalism" will start out with Dr. Grayston outlining the basic teaching of fundamentalism; draw out some implications about how fundamental religious teachings relate to immigration; and then proceed to an examination of what we (as Christians) believe and how we are or can or should reasonably and realistically accommodate the "fundamental" and "fundamentalist" beliefs and practices of others from different religious traditions.

Among a number of hats he wears and activities he is involved in, Don Grayston is an ordained Anglican priest and a former professor of Religious Studies at Simon Fraser University. He is familiar to many of us from January, 2009, when he spent that month leading worship and providing pastoral care while Pr. Hergy was away on holiday.

This Week

Monday, November 1
Council meeting, 6:30 pm

Thursday, November 4
Choir, 7:30 pm

Next Sunday, November 7
Sunday School, 9:15 am

All Saints Worship 10:30 am

Chocolate Mint Girl Guide Cookies

\$4/box

Cookie profits support Girl Guides of Canada at the provincial and local levels.

Members of the 6th Vancouver Pathfinder Unit will sell cookies today after the service.



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

VANCOUVER, BC

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA



REFORMATION DAY
OCTOBER 31, 2010

REFORMATION SUNDAY
OCTOBER 31, 2010
Holy Communion, Setting Seven

Worshippers may wish to light a votive candle in memory of a loved one or for meditation. This may be done at any time before or during the liturgy except during community prayers, readings or homily. Since the number of candles is limited and to avoid mishaps, parents and caregivers are asked to be attentive when allowing children to light one.

INTRODUCTION

On this day we celebrate the heart of our faith: the gospel of Christ—the good news—that makes us free! We pray that the Holy Spirit would continue to unite the church today in its proclamation and witness to the world. In the waters of baptism we are made one body; we pray for the day that all Christians will also be one at the Lord's table.

Reformation Day

By the end of the seventeenth century, many Lutheran churches celebrated a festival commemorating Martin Luther's posting of the Ninety-five Theses, a summary of abuses in the church of his time. At the heart of the reform movement was the gospel, the good news that it is by grace through faith that we are justified and set free.

PRESERVICE MUSIC

*In Adam We Have All Been One
A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

Alex Wyton
Don Hustad

GATHERING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PROCESSIONAL HYMN #504 *“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”*, v. 3—organ only

GREETING/KYRIE

p. 175

“GLORIA”

p. 176

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. 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 Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

demonstrated clearly in the gift of Jesus Christ and the gift of forgiveness and freedom won for all by means of his life, death and resurrection.

A number of the reforms Luther sought in his day were adopted by both Lutherans and Roman Catholics in the years following his death—meaning that there is no longer the same great divide between Protestant and Roman Catholic denominations as was the case in the 16th century. Indeed, Lutherans comfortably define themselves as “Evangelical Catholics”—that is, members of the one, holy, catholic (universal) church whose primary focus and contribution to the rest of the church is the emphasis on the “Evangel” (the gospel). And the gospel is summarized by the wondrous grace of God which, by trust and in faith, we proclaim in Word, Sacrament and service—speaking and acting a message of good news which sets people free from the burden of sin and set free for a life of good works prompted by the Holy Spirit.

Over 500 years after his death, Martin Luther is recognized by all as man whose genius and influence continue to be felt today. He was a prolific writer (his literary output runs to more than 100 volumes), a composer of numerous hymns, the father of a bustling household (he married an ex-nun and together they had six children), the translator of the Hebrew and Greek Scriptures into German and the subsequent standardization of the German language. Given all of that, he was not only a theological giant but a secular figure of significant importance to medieval Europe whose medieval contributions still resonate in our time.

While some scholars today contend that Luther’s incredible energy and creativity were, in part, products of a manic-depressive personality, and while most Lutherans, consciously or unconsciously, remain unaware of his anti-Semitism, his use of vulgar language and his inclination to believe that the world was filled with angels and devils, it is Luther’s conviction of the grace and mercy of God being paramount in faith and in life that Christians—especially Lutheran Christians—remember and give thanks for today. Thus, while Reformation Day is an “in-house” festival, believers everywhere, in every denomination and land, in every race and tongue, sing Luther’s words and therefore Luther’s faith, and so give praise to God for the gift of this man of God, renewer of the church, doctor and teacher of theology and, above all, proclaimer of the good news of grace, faith and word.

³though its waters ¹rage and foam,
 and though the mountains tremble ¹with its tumult.
⁴**There is a river whose streams make glad the cit- ¹y of God,
 the holy habitation of ¹the Most High.**
⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall ¹not be shaken;
 God shall help it at the ¹break of day.
⁶**The nations rage, and the ¹kingdoms shake;
 God speaks, and the earth ¹melts away. R**
⁷The LORD of ¹hosts is with us;
 the God of Jacob ¹is our stronghold.
⁸**Come now, regard the works ¹of the LORD,
 what desolations God has brought up- ¹on the earth;**
⁹behold the one who makes war to cease in ¹all the world;
 who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear,
 and burns the ¹shields with fire.
¹⁰**Be still, then, and know that ¹I am God;
 I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted ¹in the earth."**
¹¹The LORD of ¹hosts is with us;
 the God of Jacob ¹is our stronghold. R

SECOND READING: Romans 3:19–28

Paul's words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and the other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ's death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For "no human being will be justified in his sight" by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.
²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.
²⁷Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

Response after the reading: **Thanks be to God.**

OFFERING/OFFERTORY *Te Deum* Marc-Antoine Charpentier

OFFERTORY PRAYER (*All rise*)

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING p. 180

“HOLY, HOLY, HOLY” p. 181

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (Prayer over the gifts)
 “... until He comes. **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**”
 “... great and promised feast. **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**”
 “... all your Saints in light. **Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**”

THE LORD’S PRAYER p. 182

FRACTION (*as the bread is broken*)
 The gifts of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

“LAMB OF GOD” p. 182

It is Christ himself who invites all the baptized members of God’s family—and all our guests—to come to his table where he gives his body and blood, along with the gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation under the forms of bread and wine. After receiving the bread into the open, upraised palm, all may drink from the first (common) cup or, if desired, have an individual glass filled from the second (pouring) cup.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION
 # 674 **“Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ”** (*refrain repeated each time*)
Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring Johann Sebastian Bach

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (*All rise*)

SENDING

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN #645 **“Christ Is Made the Firm Foundation”**
V. 3—organ/instruments only

DISMISSAL
 Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE *Alleluia* Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

**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.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

God hears the cry of the poor and is near to all in need. Let us pray for our neighbours, our world, and ourselves, trusting in God's mercy and love. *A brief silence.*

We thank you, God, for the gift of your holy catholic church, and we pray for its continual reform. Keep us open to the movement of your Spirit, and center our lives around your gift of grace. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We thank you, God, for the gift of your creation, and we pray for its care and protection. Forgive us for our carelessness with the earth and transform our lives of consumption to lives of gratitude. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We thank you, God, for the gift of freedom. Give wisdom and understanding to voters and those whom they elect, that our nation would be guided in your ways of peace and integrity. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We thank you, God, for the gift of health, and we pray for those who long for healing (*especially*). Calm their souls with the knowledge that you are God, and comfort them with your presence. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We thank you, God, for the gift of this family of faith, and we pray for continued vitality in all our ministries, that future generations might come to share in the freedom of your Son. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We thank you, God, for our sisters and brothers who now rest in you (*especially*). We pray that their faith will always accompany us on our journeys. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

All this we ask, gracious God, together with all that is known to you alone, in the name of your risen and anointed Son, through the power of your life-giving Spirit. **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

CHOIR ANTHEM

“African Psalm”

Patrick M. Liebergen

CHILDREN’S TIME

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*Sing verse before and after reading*)

p. 179

HOLY GOSPEL: John 8:31–36

Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

Response after announcement: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

³¹Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." ³³They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?"

³⁴Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.

Response to the reading: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

HOMILY (*Silence for reflection follows*)

HYMN OF THE DAY

878 *“Soli Deo Gloria”*, v. 2—women, v. 4—men

NICENE CREED

**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 truly 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.**