

Reformation Celebration Service

First Lutheran Church of Boston

Sunday, October 25, 2009

4:00 pm

Please note: congregants sing Hymns from the Lutheran Service Book. See instructions in the bulletin.

(P=Pastor, A=Assisting Minister, C=Congregation, L=Lector)

Prelude Music: (3.50 p.m.)

Ein Feste Burg

Martin Agricola (1486-1556)

Ein Feste Burg ist unser Gott.

Anonymous setting from the early 17th century

Herr wie lange

Thomas Stolzer (-1480-1526)

*Der Tag der ist so freudenreich
Nun bitten wir den Heiligen Geist-*

Johann Gottfried Walther (1684-1748)

P Welcome to the Reformation Celebration

Organ Hymn Prelude: Herr Jesu Christ.

George Böhm (1661-1733)

Stand

Processional Hymn: Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now

Stanza 1: all Stanza 2: women only

Stanza 3: men only Stanza 4: all

Lutheran Service Book # 902

Opening Sentences

Congregation responds in monotone

P In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P 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.

P Great is the Lord, and most worthy of praise,

C In the city of God, His holy mountain.

P Walk about Zion, go around her, count her towers, consider well her ramparts, view her citadels, that you may tell of them to the next generation.

C God is our refuge and strength, an ever present help in trouble.

P The Lord Almighty is with us;

C The God of Jacob is our fortress. Amen

Hymn: Kyrie, God Father

Chanted in unison

Lutheran Service Book # 942

Hymn Prelude: Allein Gott in der Höh sei ehr

Stanza 1: all

Stanza 2: men only

Stanza 3: women only Stanza 4: all in harmony

Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)

Hymn: All Glory Be to God on High

Lutheran Service Book # 947

Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you

C And also with you.

P Let us pray: Almighty God, to whom all hearts be open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love Thee, and worthily magnify Thy Holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

C Amen

Sil.

First Reading

Revelation 14:6-7 (Reformation Day)

⁶Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people. ⁷And he said with a loud voice, "Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come, and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 100

(Sung in German)

Heinrich Schütz (1585-1672)

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

Serve the Lord with gladness!

Come into His presence with singing!

Know that the Lord, He is God!

It is He who made us, and we are His:

we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.

Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise!

Give Thanks to Him: bless His name!

For the Lord is good,

His steadfast love endures forever,

and His faithfulness to all generations.

Epistle Reading

Romans 3:19–28 (Reformation Day)

¹⁹Now 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. ²⁰For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

²¹But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: ²³for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom 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. ²⁶It 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.

²⁷Then 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. ²⁸For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Gospel Procession: *Ein Feste Burg*

Johann Gottfried Walther

A The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 8th Chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord!**

Holy Gospel

John 8:31–36 (Reformation Day)

³¹So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” ³³They answered him, “We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, ‘You will become free?’” ³⁴Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. ³⁶So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.”

A This is the Gospel of the Lord

C **Praise to You, O Christ!**

Gospel Recession: *Ein Feste Burg*

Stephanus Mabu

Sit

Sermon: *Abiding Words*

(John 8:31)

Hymn Prelude: *Wir glauben all an einen Gott*

Samuel Scheidt (1587–1654)

Stand

We All Believe in One True God

Sit.

During the offering, please fill out the red booklets in the pew. If you are a guest, we would love to send you a note of thanks. May God bless our worship together!

Offering: Octo Tonorum Melodiae

Thomas Stolzer (-1480-1526)

Please kneel, if you are able

Prayer of the Church

P Friends in Christ, I urge you all to lift up your hearts to God and pray with me as Christ our Lord has taught us and freely promised to hear us.

God, our Father in heaven, look with mercy on us, Your needy children on earth, and grant us grace that Your holy name be hallowed by us and all the world through the pure and true teaching of Your Word and the fervent love shown forth in our lives. Graciously turn from us all false doctrine and evil living whereby Your precious name is blasphemed and profaned. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P May Your kingdom come to us and expand. Bring all transgressors and those who are blinded and bound in the devil's kingdom to know Jesus Christ, Your Son, by faith that the number of Christians may be increased. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Strengthen us by Your Spirit according to Your will, both in life and in death, in the midst of both good and evil things, that our own wills may be crucified daily and sacrificed to Your good and gracious will. Into Your merciful hands we commend all who are in need, praying for them at all times: Thy will be done. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Grant us our daily bread, preserve us from greed and selfish cares, and help us trust in You to provide for all our needs. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Forgive us our sins as we also forgive those who sin against us so that our hearts may be at peace and may rejoice in a good conscience before You, and that no sin may ever frighten or alarm us. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Lead us not into temptation, O Lord, but help us by Your Spirit to subdue our flesh, to turn from the world and its ways, and to overcome the devil with all his wiles. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P And lastly, O heavenly Father, deliver us from all evil of both body and soul, now and forever. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

Stand

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Our Father Who Art in Heaven *Chanted in unison*

Lutheran Service Book # 957

Responsory

L This is our God for ever and ever; He will be our guide even to the end.

C **God is our refuge and strength, an ever present help in trouble.**

L The Lord Almighty is with us;

C **The God of Jacob is our fortress. Amen**

Sit

Nunc Dimittis

(Sung in Latin)

Hieronymus Praetorius (1560-1629)

*Lord, now you let your servant depart in peace according to your Word.
For my eyes have seen your salvation,
which You have prepared before the face of all people,
a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of your people Israel.*

Stand

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord
look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C **Amen**

Chorale Prelude: Ein feste Burg

Lupus Hellinck (1494-1541)

Recessional Hymn: A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Stanza 3: men only

Lutheran Service Book # 656

Sit

Organ Postlude: Ein Feste Burg

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

P Go in Reformation peace and joy- serve the Lord!

C **Thanks be to God!**

Soli Deo Gloria!