

Spirit of Grace ELCA UMC



October 30th
Reformation Sunday

- Gathering -

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

We gather in the presence of God
to encounter Love that sets free.
**We do not come seeking crumbs of justice
but a way of life that liberates.**

Together, we practice courage
in resisting evil and rejecting the temptations of complicity and complacency.
The Spirit leads us in power and truth.

Our faith is placed in Love Eternal
who lifts broken spirits and brings new life from places of ruin.
With hope that is neither narrow nor fragile, we come to follow Christ.

Confession & Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who is eager to forgive
and who loves us beyond our days.
Amen.

Dear friends, together let us acknowledge our failure to love this world as Jesus does.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of mercy and forgiveness,

we confess that sin still has a hold on us.

We have harmed your good creation.

We have failed to do justice,

love kindness,

and walk humbly with you.

Turn us in a new direction.

Show us the path that leads to life.

Be our refuge and strength on the journey,

through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.

Amen.

Beloved of God:

your sins are forgiven † and you are made whole.

God points the way to new life in Christ,

who meets us on the road.

Journey now in God's abiding love

through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Opening Hymn

Listen, God is Calling – ELW 513
verses 1-3

Greeting & Prayer of the Day

The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Gracious God, we pray for your holy catholic church. Fill it with all truth and peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in anything it is amiss, reform it; where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in need, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Special Music

“Matins” – *Spirit of Grace Bell Choir*

- Word -

First Reading: Romans 3:19-28

Now we know that what the Law says is said to those under the Law. Therefore, let every mouth be silenced, and let all of humankind be open to God's judgment. This is because we are not justified in the sight of God by keeping the Law: law only makes us aware of sin.

But now the judgment of God has been manifested apart from the Law, even though both Law and prophets bear witness to it; the justice of God works through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. There are no exceptions: everyone has sinned; everyone falls short of the glory of God. Yet everyone has also been undeservedly justified by the gift of God, through the redemption wrought in Christ Jesus. God presented Christ as a propitiatory sacrifice, for the atonement of all who have faith in Christ's blood. And God did so to manifest divine justice – because God showed forbearance by remitting sins committed in the past, in order to demonstrate divine justice in the present – so that the Most High might be both a just judge and the One who justifies those who believe in Jesus.

Word of God, Word of Life
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 46

God is our refuge and strength,
who from old has helped us in our distress.
**Therefore we fear nothing –
even if the earth should open up in front of us
and mountains plunge into the depths of the sea,**
even if the earth's waters rage and foam
and the mountains tumble with its heaving.

**There's a river whose streams
gladden the city of God,
the holy dwelling of the Most high.**
God is in its midst, it will never fall –
God will help it at daybreak.
Though nations are in turmoil and empires crumble,
God's voice resounds, and it melts the earth.

**YHWH Sabaoth is with us –
our stronghold is the God of Israel!**

Come, see what YHWH has done –
God makes the earth bounteous!
**God has put an end to war
from one end of the earth to the other,
breaking bows, splintering spears,
and setting chariots on fire.**
“Be still, and know that I am God!
I will be exalted among the nations;
I will be exalted upon the earth.”

**YHWH Sabaoth is with us –
our stronghold is the God of Israel!**

Gospel: John 8:31-36

The Holy Gospel according to John the 8th chapter.

Jesus said to those who believed in him,
“If you live according to my teaching,
you really are my disciples;
then you’ll know the truth,
and the truth will set you free.”
“We’re descendants of Sarah and Abraham,” they replied. “Never have we been
slaves of anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You’ll be free’?”

Jesus answered them,
“The truth of the matter is,
everyone who lives in sin
is the slave of sin.
Now a slave doesn’t always remain part of a household;
an heir, however, is a member of that house forever.
So if the heir – the Only Begotten – makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rev. Miranda Bermes-Goller

Hymn of the Day

The Church of Christ in Every Age – ELW 729
verses 1, 3, 5

Affirmation of Faith – *Nicene Creed*

Please stand as you are able as we confess our faith in God together using the words of our common 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:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
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.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He 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.**

Joys & Concerns

If you have any joys, concerns, or prayer requests to share, please type them into the comment section of the livestream so that we may lift them up together as a community.

Prayers of the People

United in Christ and guided by the Spirit, we pray for the church, the creation, and all in need.

A brief silence.

God our liberator, we pray for your earth. Bring new life to overused land and contaminated rivers. Reform and reorient our relationship with the environment, that we faithfully care for all of your creation.

Hear us, O God,

Your mercy is great.

God our fortress, we pray for the church. Write your law of love on the hearts of your people, that we remain steadfast in our witness to your grace.

Hear us, O God,

Your mercy is great.

God, our refuge and strength, we pray for our nation. Grant wisdom and discernment to all citizens this election season, as we seek to elect leaders who will do your work of justice and peace for all peoples.

Hear us, O God,

Your mercy is great.

God, our very present help in trouble, we pray for those in need. Show mercy to refugees and all fleeing from danger. Shelter all without homes. Calm all who are facing illness, surgery, or a new diagnosis.

Hear us, O God,

Your mercy is great.

God of peace, we pray for victims of war and violence across the world. Send your Spirit to show us how to turn swords into plowshares, that nations might work together to create a culture of peace.

Hear us, O God,

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior.
Amen.

Offering

*At this time, if you are willing and able, please consider giving to Spirit of Grace Church to support our ongoing ministry.
Checks can be mailed to 1140 Tucker Road, Hood River OR, 97031.
Online Donations can be made through the link below:
[Spirit of Grace Church](#)*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Gracious God, in your great love, you richly provide for our needs. Make of these gifts we offer and return to you a banquet of blessing, and make us ready to share with all in need; through Jesus Christ, who extends an abundant welcome to all.
Amen.

The Disciple's Prayer

Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us, using the language or translation that you are most familiar with – the language of your heart. Together, we pray:

**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.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

- Sending -

Announcements

Sending Song:

A Mighty Fortress is Our God – ELW 504
verses 1, 2, 4

Benediction & Dismissal

God, who gives life to all things
and frees us from despair,
bless you with truth and peace.
And may the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
guide you always in faith, hope, and love.
Amen.

Go in peace, the Spirit of God is alive in you!
Thanks be to God!



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Church Office Hours
Closed on Fridays

Pastor Miranda Bermes-Goller
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Prayer of the Day:

Hymn of the Day:

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