

THE REFORMATION OF THE CHURCH

Annual Polka Service

Saturday, October 24, 2020 – 5:30 p.m.

St. Matthew Lutheran Church

4101 Washington Street NE

Columbia Heights, MN 55421

Welcome to worship at St. Matthew! To friends who know us, we renew our welcome; to visitors, we extend it sincerely; and to those seeking a church home, we offer fellowship with a living Redeemer. Come again!

Assisted hearing devices are available from the ushers.

If you have a prayer request, please write it out and then submit it to the pastor or the lay minister before the service begins. Other prayer requests can be made by calling the church office at 763-788-9427.

Parents with small children are encouraged to sit near the front in order to better see and participate during the service. If you desire other facilities, a cry room is located in the back of the worship area and bathrooms with changing tables (including back-up supplies) and infant seats are located behind the worship area (two right turns as you pass the double doors out of the worship area – just past the water fountain).

Thank you for turning off all electronic equipment (cell phones, items that receive internet signal, etc.). These items interfere with our sound system.

+ CONNECT +

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC:

“We Welcome You All Today” (*In Heaven There Is No Beer*)

We welcome you all today,

As we in song do pray.

God’s people all are we,

Our hearts are full of love for you to see.

Refrain: Alle, Alleluia! Alle, alleluia!

Alle, Alleluia! Rejoice and sing praise to our God!

We welcome you all today,

And Lord, we’d like to say,

We pray that this will be,

A special liturgy for you and me. Refrain:

“The People of God Come Rejoicing In”

Chorus: The people of God come rejoicing in,

Renewed and restored and redeemed from sin.

We lift up our hearts as our prayers begin;

Your people come to sing alleluia.

We come to celebrate Your love for us

With dancing melody,

Recalling all Your promises and all we hope to be;

We’re Your adopted sons and daughters now,

Forgiven, loved and free,
And so Your people sing alleluia.

Chorus: The people of God come rejoicing in,
Renewed and restored and redeemed from sin.
We lift up our hearts as our prayers begin;
Your people come to sing alleluia.

RINGING OF THE BELL

GATHERING SONGS:

“Gathered Together” (*Julida Polka*)
Gathered together, loving each other
Singing and praying, Lord God our Father
Bless us and guide us; teach us, unite us.
These things we ask Lord, please God forgive us.

Chorus: Holy God, Holy God, Father, Spirit, Son
Holy God, Holy God, three persons all in one.
Prayers and sacrifice, Your blood, it was the price.
Holy God, Holy God, You’re the one for us.

Accept our gifts Lord and our salutations.
In your name offered from this congregation.
We all are brothers praying for others
For our salvation to Your heavenly home. Repeat Chorus:

“Happy Song” (*Happy Wanderer*)
Within my heart there is a hope
A joy that I must share,
I have a God who’s very great
He’s with me everywhere.

Chorus: Praise the Lord, clap your hands,
Shout for joy, sing a song of glory
Raise your voice on high, raise it high
And tell the world of God.

A loving God He is to me
He holds me when I cry
He feeds and clothes and cares for me
Each daily need supplies. Chorus:

Upon a cross on Calvary
He took away my sin
He put on me His righteous robe
To heaven invites me in. Chorus:

Within my heart the spirit dwells
He calls me back each day

From worldly worries, snares and cares
He points the heavenly way. Chorus:

Oh join me now to praise my God
Creator, Savior, He,
And Holy Spirit, Triune God
The great Lord, One in Three. Chorus:

INVOCATION:

L: Our worship begins the way our lives in Christ begin in baptism: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C: Amen.

CONFESSION OF OUR SINS:

L: Waken our hearts, O Lord, our God;
C: **Make them ever watchful to serve You and Your purposes.**

L: Trouble us with the smallness of our vision and work.
C: **Trouble us with the greatness of Your command to make disciples of all nations.**

L: Trouble us with Your great love for sinners and our own slowness to make You our greatest love.
C: **Trouble us with the brevity of our lives and time, talent and treasure not invested in eternity.**

L: Comfort us by drawing us to Yourself with the cords of Your unfailing mercy.
C: **Comfort us, O Lord, with the assurance of our salvation and unending glory with You when we suffer and are afflicted.**

L: Rekindle in us a renewed desire for the coming of Your glorious kingdom
C: **When all wrongs will be made right, when everything that is broken will be made whole, and when we will trade a cross for a crown.**

ALL: In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

--Adapted from the Prayers of Martin Luther

SONG OF CONFESSION: "Release Me"

Please release me from my sin.
And welcome! Jesus, come on in!
For only You can cleanse my soul,
Release me from sin to sin no more.

Let me walk on sacred ground,
And be the lost sheep You have found.
Just lead me on through heaven's door;
Release me from sin to sin no more.

Send Your spirit from above,
And teach me Your sweet ways of love.
I seek for all You have to store;
Release me from sin to sin no more.

FORGIVENESS IS ANNOUNCED

SONG OF PRAISE: “Praise the Lord” (*Edelweiss*)
Unto those who believe, Jesus Christ is precious,
He’s the same yesterday, this day, and forever.
He’s the Way, the Truth, the Life,
Peace and joy He bringeth.
He has said, “Trust in Me,
Lo, I am with you forever.”

Precious Name, Precious Name,
Precious Name of Jesus.
Saving Name, Saving Name,
Name that has brought me salvation.
Pardon, peace, and power is mine,
Through the Name of Jesus,
Precious Name, Precious Name,
Precious Name of Jesus.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord.
Praise the Lord, Hallelujah!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Praise the Lord, Hallelujah!
Wonderful is Your holy Name,
Praise Your Name forever,
Lord of Lords, King of Kings,
Prince of Peace forever.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

L: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

L: Let us pray.

C: **Almighty God, by the preaching of your servants the reformers, you made the light of the gospel shine clearly. Grant that we may know its saving power, faithfully defend it against all enemies, and joyfully proclaim it, for the salvation of people and the glory of your Name; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

+ NURTURE +

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

FIRST LESSON: Revelation 14:6-7

Then I saw another angel flying in midair, and he had the eternal gospel to proclaim to those who live on the earth—to every nation, tribe, language and people. He said in a loud voice, “Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come. Worship him who made the heavens, the earth, the sea and the springs of water.”

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

EPISTLE LESSON: Romans 3:19-28

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, 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.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 46

L: God is our refuge and strength,

C: An ever-present help in trouble.

L: Therefore we will not fear,

C: Though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,

L: Though its waters roar and foam

C: And the mountains quake with their surging.

L: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,

C: The holy place where the Most High dwells.

L: God is within her, she will not fall;

C: God will help her at break of day.

L: Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall; he lifts his voice, the earth melts.

C: The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

L: Come and see what the LORD has done, the desolations he has brought on the earth.

C: He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth.

L: He breaks the bow and shatters the spear;

C: He burns the shields with fire.

L: He says,

ALL: "Be still, and know that I am God;

L: I will be exalted among the nations,

C: I will be exalted in the earth."

ALL: The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

HOLY GOSPEL:

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, chapter eight.

C: Glory to You, O Lord!

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."

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ!

SONG OF THE DAY: "Amazing Grace"

**Amazing grace! How sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind but now I see.**

**'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!**

**Through many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come;
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.**

**When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we first begun.**

MESSAGE – Pastor Keith Brutlag

CONFESSION OF FAITH: Apostles' Creed *(What a Friend We Have In Jesus)*

**I believe in God the Father, Maker of the earth and sky
And His only son Christ Jesus,
Who responded to man's cry
Made true man by God the spirit,
He was born of Mary pure
Suffered under Pontius Pilate, all our many ills to cure**

**Crucified, and dead and buried,
With the dead he found his place
But He rose again with power,
On the morn of Easter Day
Now gone back once more to heaven,
Reigns he on His Father's right
Till to judge the dead and living,
He shall come in glory bright**

**I believe in God the spirit,
In one church here and beyond
Joining all the saints together,**

**In one fellowship and bond
I believe in God's forgiveness, I believe that I shall rise
And I look for life unending, in my home in paradise**

+ EMPOWER +

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:

(Prayer response – P: Lord, in your mercy, C: Hear our prayer.)

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

C: 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SONG OF THANKSGIVING: "Battle Hymn of the Kingdom"

We will know Him in the body and the blood

That we now eat;

We will know Him in the heirs of God

Who at His table meet;

So with all the saints whoever lived we joyfully repeat:

God's Son has set us free!

Glory! Glory, Hallelujah! Glory! Glory, Hallelujah!

Glory! Glory, Hallelujah! God's Son has set us free!

In this meal we find the love that will transform

Our weary life;

We will see and taste Christ here among us,

Grace to cover strife;

And our Lord is now exalted in this meal

Of glorious love --

Our Lord is living on!

Glory! Glory, Hallelujah! Glory! Glory, Hallelujah!

Glory! Glory, Hallelujah! Our Lord is living on!

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the Lord,

My God and King!

I have tasted of His goodness

And my heart is called to sing;

My faith made strong, my lips declare,

He's Lord and He's my King! Dear Jesus live in me!

Glory! Glory, Hallelujah! Glory! Glory, Hallelujah!

Glory! Glory, Hallelujah! Dear Jesus live in me!

BENEDICTION

CLOSING MEDLEY:

“I’ll Fly Away”

**Some glad morning when this life is o’er, I’ll fly away;
To a home on God’s celestial shore, I’ll fly away.**

**Refrain: I’ll fly away, O glory, I’ll fly away;
When I die, hallelujah, by and by, I’ll fly away**

**When the shadows of this life have gone, I’ll fly away;
Like a bird from prison bars has flown, I’ll fly away. Refrain:**

**Just a few more weary days and then, I’ll fly away;
To a land where joys shall never end, I’ll fly away. Refrain:**

“Let Us Sing”

**Let us sing, Let us sing, Let us sing to Christ our King,
Sing to Christ our King, As we thank Him for this day.**

God is good, God is Kind,

God will give us peace of mind,

Give us peace of mind, If we follow in His way.

There are no strings upon His love,

And He asks only your love in return.

God is good, God is kind,

God will give us peace of mind,

Give us peace of mind, If we follow in His way.

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Chuck Thiel and His Jolly Ramblers have just released “It’s a Family Tradition”, featuring Generations 2-3-4 of the Thiel family. The Jolly Ramblers have also recorded five Gospel CD’s. “Beautiful, My Savior Be,” “I Am the Vine,” “The Message of Salvation,” “The Love of Christ Proclaim,” “Share Christ with Your Neighbor,” and all other Jolly Ramblers’ recordings, are available for purchase after tonight’s service.

Jolly Ramblers’ appearance dates and times are subject to change without notice. Check our website jollyramblers.com for our schedule, tours, history, recordings, videos, contact information and more.

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WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

Lay Ministers: Larry Betzold & Bob Nehring

Ushers: Davis Team

Altar Guild: Pat & Duane Rosenberg