

THE REFORMATION OF THE CHURCH

Annual Polka Service – Saturday, October 30, 2021 – 5:30 p.m.

St. Matthew Lutheran Church

4101 Washington Street NE

Columbia Heights, MN 55421

+ CONNECT +

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC:

“Above the Mountain” (*Erika Waltz*)

High above the mountain tops the angels sing

Praise the Lord for He is King

And we answer from this humble church below

Praise the Lord...forever so.

Chorus:

All the world with joyful heart

Singing praise of love...

Blessings sent from above...

It is right in thanking Him and praising Him

A-men-- A-men

In this humble church the Angels join in praise

Glory be to God our King

Through His love we ask of Him to be with us

To the end...Lord, Jesus Christ

Repeat Chorus

“Beloved Be Faithful”

Beloved be faithful, beloved be true

Our God, He is with us

He’s there for you

He offers us wisdom, He offers us strength

Too tough will be no task

If we’ll only ask

Refrain:

There’ll be toil and tears, There’ll be sin and stress

That will test and make us strong

There’ll be love and joy, There’ll be tenderness

In God’s family we belong

Beloved be faithful, beloved be true

Beloved be faithful as God is to you

Instrumental and then sing refrain

“Blessed Assurance”

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!

Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!

Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

Refrain:

This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight,
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels descending, bring from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love. Refrain

Perfect submission, all is at rest,
I in my Savior am happy and blest.
Watching and waiting, looking above,
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love. Refrain

RINGING OF THE BELL AND OPENING PRAYER

GATHERING SONGS:

“We Come Together” (*Beer Barrel Polka*)

We come together, to worship,
Give thanks to the Lord.
We pray together, with family,
Our friends, and the Lord.
This celebration unites us together today.
Bless us as we come together, singing praises to You.

“Let Us Sing” (*Wooden Heart*)

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.

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:

P: The Word of God announces both His punishment and His pardon, His judgment and His
grace. The Law of God, summarized in the Ten Commandments, reminds us of our continual
need for the Lord’s forgiveness. As we gather for worship, let us first pray to the Lord,

confessing our sins to Him and calling upon Him to have mercy upon us. With humble hearts, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Heavenly Father, Your Word of truth confronts us in our sin. It convicts us of the bad things we have thought, said, and done, and of the good things we have failed to think, say, and do. Forgive our sins against You and our sins against one another. Through Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy upon us and forgive us. By the power of His death on the cross and His resurrection from the grave, reunite our lives to Your life. Equip us by Your Holy Spirit to love and to serve others as You have first loved and served us. Amen.

P: Jesus says to each of us, "If you abide in My word, you are truly My disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." Friends in Christ, let us abide in Jesus' Word, which brings us the freedom of His forgiveness.

FORGIVENESS IS ANNOUNCED

P: So if the Son sets you free,

C: You will be free indeed!

SONG OF PRAISE: "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**

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

L: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

L: Let us pray.

C: **Lord God, you have given all Holy Scriptures for our learning. Lead us to hear them, read, note, learn, and inwardly digest them. Encourage and support us by your holy word, so that we may always hold on to the joyful hope of eternal life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ. For he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen.**

GREETING TIME

+ 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!**

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 46

L: The LORD Almighty is with us;

ALL: The God of Jacob is our fortress.

L: God is our refuge and strength,

C: **An ever-present help in trouble.**

L: Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,

C: **Though its waters roar and foam 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;

C: **He lifts his voice, the earth melts.**

L: The LORD Almighty is with us;

ALL: 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; he burns the shields with fire.

ALL: He says, “Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.”

L: The LORD Almighty is with us;

ALL: The God of Jacob is our fortress.

RESPONSE: “Do Lord”

Refrain

Do Lord, Oh, do Lord, Oh, do remember me!

Do Lord, Oh, do Lord, Oh, do remember me!

Do Lord, Oh, do Lord, Oh, do remember me!

Look away beyond the blue!

You’re my light and my salvation, I won’t be afraid!

You’re the stronghold of my life,

By You all things were made.

Foes attack me, hassle me, but I will never fade,

For I move in the strength of the Lord. Refrain

Though a host encamp against me, I will never fear!

Even though a war surrounds me

You are always near

One thing I have asked of you

That I will seek for sure

Is to live in the house of the Lord. Refrain

You will hide me in your shelter in the day of strife;

You’ll conceal me in your tent

Or set me on the height

Now my head is lifted up above the storms of night,

So I’ll sing to the name of the Lord. Refrain

Glory be to God the Father and to God the Son;

Glory be to God the Spirit, ever Three in One.

As it was in the beginning till our race is won.

We can live in the light of the Lord. Refrain

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!

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: "Fall On Your Face" (*Rock of Ages*)

**I became a child of God,
From my youth I loved His Word;
Saved by grace I now am free,
Jesus died upon my tree;
From my sin He made me pure,
Turned me from its charm and lure.**

**God, my Father, told His Son
You are now my chosen One;
You must die for sin alone,
And for man's guilt must atone,
Sin and death are crushed today,
Christ has taken them away.**

**When I take my final breath,
And my eyelids close in death,
I will see my Savior's face,
I will know His love and grace;
Joy and bliss will all be mine,
In a land that knows no time!**

**Yes, my friend, you must act now,
On your face so humbly bow;
Tell your sin and pardoned be,
Know God's Son and you will see
How God's sweet love paved the way.
Trust the Lord on this great day!**

**So I praise the Lord today,
For I know I'm on the way;
On a path that's heaven bound,
Filled with glory and a crown;
There my Savior I shall see,
Live with Him eternally!**

MESSAGE: "Following Jesus into Freedom" – Pastor Bill Hugo

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: "Memorial Acclamation" (*Blue Skirt Waltz*)

We proclaim your Death, O Lord,
You conquered hate and sin.
Your resurrection we profess,
Until You come again.
Lord Jesus, come again.
Make all creation new;
Come bring Your people back home
Glory and praise to You!

BENEDICTION

CLOSING MEDLEY:

“May the Good Lord Bless and Keep You”

**May the good Lord bless and keep you,
Whether near or far away.**

May you find that long awaited, golden day, today.

**May your troubles all be small ones,
And your fortunes ten times ten.**

**May the good Lord bless and keep you,
Till we meet again.**

Chorus:

**May you walk with sunlight shining;
And a bluebird in every tree.**

**May there be a silver lining,
Back of every cloud you see.**

**Fill your dreams with sweet tomorrows,
Never mind what might have been.**

**May the good Lord bless and keep you,
Till we meet again.**

**May the good Lord bless and keep you,
Whether near or far away.**

May the joy you give to others shine on you today.

**May your heart stay tuned to the music,
Ever warm the hearts of men.**

**May the good Lord bless and keep you,
Till we meet again.**

Repeat Chorus

“Some Day, My Lord” (*Somewhere, My Love*)

**Some day, My Lord, we will meet face to face,
Not on this earth, but in another place.**

**When darkness comes, You will be at my side,
Seeing me through whatever ills betide.**

**Some day, I'll hear the angels sing,
Some place, where there is eternal spring.**

**Till then, my Lord, watch o'er me with your grace
Until the time when we meet face to face.**

+ + +

Lay Minister: Jim Geslin

Chuck Thiel and His Jolly Ramblers have released “It’s a Family Tradition”, featuring Generations 2-3-4 of the Thiel family, in August 2020. 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.