

WE are Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA)

918 South Litchfield Road, Goodyear, AZ

Office: 623-932-2394

Website: www.christevangelical.org

Pastor: Jeff Gallen (cell phone: 623:341-3712)

Welcome and thank you for coming to worship!

We welcome all visitors this morning to our service of Word and Sacrament.

ALL are invited to receive the bread and the wine. Please know that at CELC this common meal is for all who feel moved to receive. This sacrament is God's gift to all, and is not tied to membership, doctrine or creed.

Reformation Sunday

October 25, 2020

9:00am

Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom give to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

-Service of Word and Sacrament-

The Gathering

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

(All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.)

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation. **Amen.**

A: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination

Faithful God,
have mercy on us.
**We confess that we are captive to sin
and cannot free ourselves.**
**We turn from your loving embrace
and go our own ways.**
**We pass judgment on one another
before examining ourselves.**
We place our own needs before those of our neighbors.
We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves.
**Make us humble, cast away our transgressions,
and turn us again to life in you
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God hears the cries of all who call out in need,
and through his death and resurrection,
Christ has made us his own.
Hear the truth that God proclaims:
Your sins are forgiven in the name of ✠ Jesus Christ.
Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness
to do God's work in the world. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN: ELW 504 "A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD"



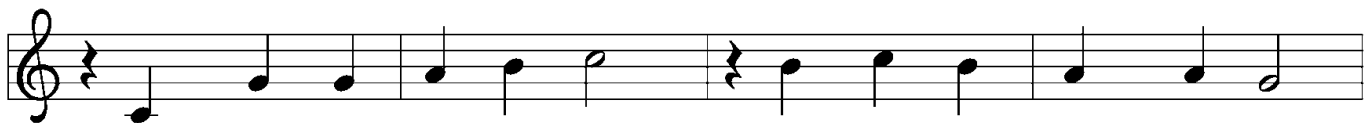
1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -
4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who



to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
ject - ed. But now a cham-pion comes to fight, whom
your us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,



has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

PASTORAL GREETING

P 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.

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 Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Word

FIRST READING: JEREMIAH 31:31-34

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the LORD means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the LORD will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.

31The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. 32It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. 33But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 34No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

PSALM: PSALM 46

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold. (Ps. 46:7)

1God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

**2Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**

3though its waters rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

**4There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

5God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;

God shall help it at the break of day.

6The nations rage, and the | kingdoms shake;

God speaks, and the earth melts away.

7The Lord of hosts is with us;

the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

8Come now, regard the works of the Lord,

what desolations God has brought upon the earth;

9behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;

who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

10“Be still, then, and know that I am God;

I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”

11The Lord of hosts is with us;

the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

SECOND READING: ROMANS 3:19-28

Paul’s words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and 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.

Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

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.

The holy gospel according to St. John, the 8th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

31 Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; 32 and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” 33 They 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’?”

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

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON: REV. JEFF GALLEN

AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:

A God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Let us together affirm our faith.

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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

Renew and inspire the church in the freedom of the gospel, O God. Where the church is in error, reform it. Where the church speaks your truth, strengthen it. Where the church is divided, unify it. Ignite in us the working of the Holy Spirit. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

As the earth changes, as mountains shake and the waters roar, may we care for this planet as a holy habitation for all living things. Sustain all peoples and lands recovering from natural disasters of any kind. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Guide areas of the world divided or traumatized by conflict, especially in our own land. Free all from slavery and human trafficking, and protect all in harm's way. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Release those living in bondage to debts, chronic pain, or addiction. Grant healing touch to those who are ill (especially). Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In this family of faith we give thanks for courageous voices that have remained firm in their commitment to the one who frees us from sin and death. Centered in your grace, unify us in the hope of the gospel. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Receive these prayers, O God, and those too deep for words; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

P: And because you are one with us, O Christ, enable us to share your life with the world

by sharing our own lives with the world. And so we pray, in the words you have taught us:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.
Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

The Meal

OFFERTORY / OFFERTORY MUSIC

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Let us pray.
Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.
You have set before us these gifts of your good creation.
Prepare us for your heavenly banquet,
nourish us with this rich food and drink,
and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world,
through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P In the night in which he was betrayed...

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks...

Remembering his love for us on the way,
at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith.
Christ has died.
Christ has risen.
Christ will come again.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet table
where Christ gives himself as food and drink.
These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

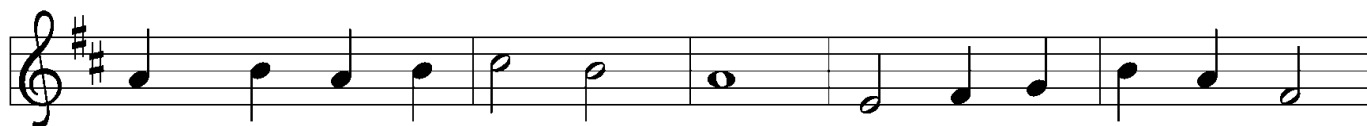
LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
Have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
Grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN ELW 515 *"BREAK NOW THE BREAD OF LIFE"*



1 Break now the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, as once you
2 Bless your own word of truth, dear Lord, to me, as when you
3 You are the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, your ho - ly



broke the loaves be - side the sea. Be - yond the sa - cred page
blessed the bread by Gal - i - lee. Then shall all bond-age cease,
word the truth that res - cues me. Give me to eat and live



I seek you, Lord; my spir - it waits for you, O liv - ing Word.
all fet - ters fall; and I shall find my peace, my All - in - All!
with you a - bove; teach me to love your truth, for you are love.

PASTORAL BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P

Let us pray,
We give you thanks, gracious God,
that you have once again fed us with food beyond compare,
the body and blood of Christ.
Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven,
into your beloved vineyard
to wipe away the tears of all who hunger and thirst,
guided by the example of the same Jesus Christ
and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

The Sending

BENEDICTION:

P

Mothering God,
Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life. Amen.

SENDING SONG: ELW 548 *"RISE, O CHURCH, LIKE CHRIST ARISEN" 1, 2, & 4 (NEXT PAGE)*

DISMISSAL:

P

Being gift driven and Spirit-led...
We go remembering that we are a Christian fellowship reaching out to all people so they
might experience God's love for them.

Go in peace. Remember the poor.
Thanks be to God.

Copyright © 2015 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS000811.

CCLI license #1852763

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

1	Rise,	O	church,	like	Christ	a	-	ris	-	en,	
2	Rise,	trans	-	formed,	and	choose	to	fol	-	low	
3	Rise,	re	-	mem	-	ber	well	the	fu	-	ture
4	Ser	-	vice	be	our	sure	vo	-	ca	-	tion;

from		this	meal	of	love	and	grace;
af	-	ter	Christ,	though	wound	- ed,	whole;
God		has	called	us	to	re	- ceive;
cour	-	age	be	our	dai	- ly	breath;

may		we	through	such	love	en	-	vi	-	sion	
bro	-	ken,	shared,	our	lives	are		hal	-	lowed	
pres	-	ent	by	God's	lov	-	ing	nur	-	ture,	
mer	-	cy	be	our	des	-	ti	-	na	-	tion

whose we are, and whose, our praise.
to re - lease and to con - sole.
Spir - it - ed then let us live.
from this day and un - to death.

Al	-	le	-	lu	-	ia,	al	-	le	-	lu	-	ia;
Al	-	le	-	lu	-	ia,	al	-	le	-	lu	-	ia;
Al	-	le	-	lu	-	ia,	al	-	le	-	lu	-	ia;
Al	-	le	-	lu	-	ia,	al	-	le	-	lu	-	ia.

God, the won - der of our days.
Christ, our pres - ent, past, and goal.
Spir - it, grace by whom we live.
Rise, O church, a liv - ing faith.