 **Kerkhoven Lutheran Church**

 **Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

**Living and trusting in god’s amazing grace we welcome all to worship, learn and serve in celebration of Christ’s love.**

 **Reformation Day**

 **October 31, 2021 9:00 AM**

*On Reformation Sunday we remember with thanksgiving the events of the sixteenth-century Reformation. We rightly celebrate the Reformation not when we glory in the events of the past, but rather when we pray, “Come, Holy Spirit!” The church is always in need of reform, always in need of dying again in Christ through repentance and being raised from the dead, so that it might be truly free.*

**Prelude**

**GATHERING**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS ELW p. 94**

In the name of the Father,

and of the Son,

and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN “A Mighty Fortress” ELW #504**

1 A mighty fortress is our God,

 a sword and shield victorious;

 he breaks the cruel oppressor's rod

 and wins salvation glorious.

 The old satanic foe

 has sworn to work us woe!

 With craft and dreadful might

 he arms himself to fight.

 On earth he has no equal.

 2 No strength of ours can match his might!

 We would be lost, rejected.

 But now a champion comes to fight,

 whom God himself elected.

 You ask who this may be?

 The Lord of hosts is he!

 Christ Jesus, mighty Lord,

 God's only Son, adored.

 He holds the field victorious.

3 Though hordes of devils fill the land

 all threat'ning to devour us,

 we tremble not, unmoved we stand;

 they cannot overpow'r us.

 Let this world's tyrant rage;

 in battle we'll engage!

 His might is doomed to fail;

 God's judgment must prevail!

 One little word subdues him.

4 God's Word forever shall abide,

 no thanks to foes, who fear it;

 for God himself fights by our side

 with weapons of the Spirit.

 Were they to take our house,

 goods, honor, child, or spouse,

 though life be wrenched away,

 they cannot win the day.

 The kingdom's ours forever!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*

Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

**GREETING**

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**

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.**

**Children’s Choir**

 **WORD**

### **First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34**

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.

### The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 46 Reading Responsively**

###  1God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.**2Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;**

### 3though its waters roar and foam, 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 moved; God will help it when the morning dawns.**6The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts.**

###  7The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.**8Come, behold the works of the LORD; see what desolations he has brought on the earth.**

### 9He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire. **10"Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth."**

### 11The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

### **Second Reading: Romans 3:19-28**

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.

### The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation “Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil” ELW #512**

Lord, let my heart be good soil,

 open to the seed of your word.

 Lord, let my heart be good soil,

 where love can grow and peace is understood.

 When my heart is hard, break the stone away.

 When my heart is cold, warm it with the day.

 When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.

 Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart,

 Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Text: Handt Hanson, b. 1950

### Text © 1985 Prince of Peace Publishing, Changing Church, Inc., admin. Augsburg Fortress.

### **Gospel:   John 8:31-36**

### 31Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; 32and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." 33They 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'?"34Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. 35The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. 36So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.

### The Gospel of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON Truth and Freedom Pastor Tim Larson**

**HYMN OF THE DAY “The Church’s One Foundation” ELW #654**

1 The church's one foundation

 is Jesus Christ, her Lord;

 she is his new creation

 by water and the word.

 From heav'n he came and sought her

 to be his holy bride;

 with his own blood he bought her,

 and for her life he died.

2 Elect from ev'ry nation,

 yet one o'er all the earth,

 her charter of salvation

 one Lord, one faith, one birth:

 one holy name she blesses,

 partakes one holy food,

 and to one hope she presses,

 with ev'ry grace endued.

3 Though with a scornful wonder

 this world sees her oppressed,

 by schisms rent asunder,

 by heresies distressed,

 yet saints their watch are keeping;

 their cry goes up: "How long?"

 And soon the night of weeping

 shall be the morn of song.

4 Through toil and tribulation

 and tumult of her war,

 she waits the consummation

 of peace forevermore;

 till with the vision glorious

 her longing eyes are blest,

 and the great church victorious

 shall be the church at rest.

5 Yet she on earth has union

 with God, the Three in One,

 and mystic sweet communion

 with those whose rest is won.

 Oh, blessed heav'nly chorus!

 Lord, save us by your grace,

 that we, like saints before us,

 may see you face to face.

**apostles’ creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,**

**creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,**

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

**born of the virgin Mary,**

**suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

**was crucified, died, and was buried;**

**he descended to the dead.\***

**On the third day he rose again;**

**he ascended into heaven,**

**he is seated at the right hand of the Father,**

**and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy catholic church,**

**the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body,**

**and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**THANKSGIVING**

**OFFERING INTERLUDE**

**OFFERTORY**  **“As the Grains of Wheat”** **ELW #465**

Offering plates will be brought to the altar during The Offertory.

*Refrain* As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill

 were gathered into one to become our bread;

 so may all your people from all the ends of earth

 be gathered into one in you.

1 As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst,

 may we share the presence of your love. *Refrain*

2 Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come

 when all creation shares this feast with you. *Refrain*

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Each portion of the prayers ends with “Hear us, O God”. Congregation response: “**Your mercy is great”.**

**LORD’S PRAYER**

**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.**

**SENDING**

**BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious you;
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. **Amen.**

**SENDING SONG “Lift High the Cross” ELW #660**

*Refrain*  Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim

 till all the world adore his sacred name.

1 Come, Christians, follow where our captain trod,

 our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. *Refrain*

2 All newborn servants of the Crucified

 bear on their brows the seal of him who died. *Refrain*

3 O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,

 as thou hast promised, draw us all to thee. *Refrain*

4 So shall our song of triumph ever be:

 praise to the Crucified for victory! *Refrain*

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827-1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874-1956

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**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

**Thanks be to God.**

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**SERVING THIS MORNING**

Pastor – Timothy P. Larson

Musicians – Alison Nelson and Mariah Rudningen

Lector - Scott Mitteness

Ushers – Scott and Jenell Mitteness

Acolytes –

Greeter-

***PRAYER CONCERNS:*** *(Periodically these prayer concerns will be moved to the prayer concerns list in the newsletter)* Phyllis Meyer, Lee Meyer, Doris Bakken, Haile Nichols, Keith Lundberg, Andrea Raths, Kathy Schol, Dennis Doering, Calvin Carls

**Stewardship Snippet Reformation Sunday, Mark 12:33 –**To love God with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength, and to love one's neighbor as oneself --this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices. *Church stewardship is often preoccupied with money, but what does God really want? Today’s Gospel explains it succinctly: Truly loving God and neighbor is worth more than offerings and sacrifices. When we achieve this kind of love, giving generously comes much more easily.*

*--Rob Blezard Copyright © 2021, Rev. Robert Blezard. Reprinted by permission.*

**Fellowship Hour:** Please join us for a Confirmation Reception honoring our 2021 KLC Confirmation Class following the 9:00 am worship service this morning in the Fellowship Hall.

**This Week . . . November 1 - 7, 2021**

**Wednesday, November 3**

5:00 pm & 6:00 pm Luther League raking leaves

6:00 pm Gr. 6-8 Confirmation

 7:00 pm Gr. 9-10 Confirmation

8:00 pm Special Council Meeting to discuss and approve compensation package for pastoral candidate

**Next Sunday, November 7, 2021**: **All Saints Sunday**

9:00 am Worship Service with Holy Communion and Remembrance of Saints. Service is both in person and Live Streamed

10:00 am Special KLC Congregational meeting to Approve Letter of Call and Compensation Package for potential pastoral candidate.

10:00 am Sunday School

10:00 am Coffee Fellowship in the Fellowship Hall (Birthday celebration for Florence Smith)

**Rite of Confirmation:**  This morning at the 10:45 am worship service the following members of the KLC Confirmation Class will affirm their baptism at the Confirmation service.

**2021 KLC Confirmation Class**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Julia Carlson | Masyn Olson | Easton Wenisch |
| Jaiden Henjum | Isaac Rudningen | Isaac Wirth |
| Katie Klaphake | Jacob Walsh | Christian Ziehl |

**Congregational Meeting:** The KLC Council has called a special congregational meeting for Sunday November 7, immediately following the worship service in the Fellowship Hall to vote on issuing a Letter of Call to a pastoral candidate and review and approve a compensation package for this candidate.

**Special Council Meeting:** The KLC Council will meet on Wednesday, November 3, 8:00 pm to discuss and approve the compensation package for the pastoral candidate.

**Request from Ridgewater Campus Ministry Center:** PLEASE PARTNER WITH US!

Due to changes in long term financial support of Lutheran Campus Ministry, we are VERY SHORT on funds. Financial gifts to Lutheran Campus Ministry are used for rent and expenses of the property and building, support of ministries and student needs, Chaplain salary and supplies for lunches and programs. **YOUR FINANCIAL GIFT WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED** and put to immediate use. A receipt will be sent to you. Thank you! Please send your gift to: Reverend Amy Juel, Lutheran Campus Ministry Chaplain, PO Box 41, Maynard, MN 56260. More ways to get involved! \*Volunteer to cook and serve a Wednesday meal. \*Collect non-perishable foods, hygiene products, household goods for the Give Away Pantry. \*Donate new or gently used warm winter wear (coats, hats, mittens, etc.) \*Receive a special financial offering for LCM at your church or service organization meeting. \*Invite Chaplain Amy to your church group or service organization meeting (via Zoom or in person). Please pray for our students, professors, staff, and Ridgewater Community.

**Excess Items:** The Board of Properties and Grounds along with several other KLC organizations and committees have been assessing the amount of unused items that are just being stored in different rooms in the church. The decision has been made that an attempt will be made to downsize and dispose of many of these items. If you have donated or borrowed items to KLC please check with members of the Board of Properties or the church office if you wish to have your items returned. A plan is being developed to display or list items that are no longer needed and offer them to members or dispose of them in the very near future. Watch bulletins, newsletter and Facebook for more information.

**Altar Guild:** The Altar Guild is in need or 2 additional people to work with another team member to prepare the sanctuary for worship each week. For more information contact Barb Norton: barb@theinwell.com or 320-894-2128. Thank you.

**KLC Worship Services are also available for viewing on YouTube!**

**KLC Office Hours for the Week of November1 -5:** Church office hour will be Monday – Wednesday & Thursday 9:00 -3:00 pm, Tuesday hours Noon – 5:00pm . The church office is closed on Friday. If you have questions or need assistance please call: Ann Hanson – 320-894-4464, if no answer please leave a message or send a text.

**KLC Website:** We again have a website. It can be found at <https://www.kerkhovenlutheranchurch.com/>

**On-Line Giving:** It is now possible to give your offering or a donation to KLC on-line at: <https://secure.myvanco.com/YNJM> This link will now be available on our Kerkhoven Lutheran Facebook page and is available on our new website (see link above).



**CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2021**

**Julia Kay Carlson**

 Birth Date: December 2, 2004

Baptismal Date: January 16, 2005

 Parents: Lane Carlson and Brenda Carlson

 Sponsors: Ross and Beth Carlson, Rick and Cyndi Berg

 Mentor: Ashley Weddington

 Bible Verse: Jeremiah 29:11 “For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.”

**Jaiden Lee Henjum**

 Birth Date: December 2, 2004

Baptismal Date: February 13, 2005

 Parents: Allison & Jeremy Miller

Sponsors: Kathy Evenson, Scott and Roberta Lewis

Bible Verse: Philippians 4:13 “I can do all things through him who strengthens me.”

**Katherine Jane Klaphake**

 Birth Date: November 9, 2004

 Baptismal Date: June 25, 2006

 Parents: Dana Wenisch and Robert Klaphake

 Sponsors: Michael Klaphake and Paula Weber

Bible Verse: Romans 8:18 “I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us.”

**Masyn James Olson**

Birth Date: July 8, 2004

Baptismal Date: October 24, 2004

Parents: Tony and Tara Olson

Sponsors: Jeff and Stacey Otte and Kayla Olson

Bible Verse: Matthew 19:26 “But Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but for God all things are possible."

**Isaac Wayne Rudningen**

Birth Date: June 18, 2004

Baptismal Date: August 8, 2004

 Parents: Wayne and Angie Rudningen

 Sponsors: Todd and Kayla Rudningen

 Mentor: Eric Rudningen

Bible Verse: Matthew 22:14 “For many are called, but few are chosen."

**Jacob Michael Walsh**

Birth Date: November 16, 2004

Baptismal Date: January 23, 2005

 Parents: Jason and Courtney Walsh

 Sponsors: Michelle and Scott Glasgow and Jeff Walsh

Bible Verse: Philippians 4:13 “I can do all things through him who strengthens me.”

**Easton Jay Wenisch**

Birth Date: May 11, 2005

Baptismal Date: October 30, 2005

 Parents: Chris Wenisch, Cindy VanBuren

 Sponsors: Wendie Bright & Charlie Carlson

Bible Verse: Romans 5:8 “But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.”

**Isaac Michael Wirth**

Birth Date: June 11, 2004

Baptismal Date: August 22, 2004

 Parents: Michael and Melanie Wirth

 Sponsors: Keith and Tiffany Collins

Bible Verse: Philippians 4:13 “I can do all things through him who strengthens me.”

**Christian Andrew Ziehl**

Birth Date: December 9, 2004

Baptismal Date: February 8, 2005

 Parents: Wes and Katie Ziehl

 Sponsors: Dan and Nikki Niemeyer

Bible Verse: Deuteronomy 31:6 "Be strong and courageous.  Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you."