Reformation Sunday

October 25, 2026

As we gather:

Jesus told his followers, "You will be hated by everyone because of me" (Matthew 10:22). So, the time between Christ's first and second coming is going to be perilous for believers. A good example: Martin Luther. All that priest wanted was to share the pure gospel with the world. For trying to do just that, both political and religious leaders wanted to end his life.



The Festival of the Reformation emphasizes our unfailing reliance on the Word of God. We give unflinching testimony to that Word even in the face of persecution. Today we pray that the Lord would keep us steadfast in the faith.

Here I Stand!

SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS
www.dulutheran.org

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church

Pastor Todd Engel: Cell (651) 309-7311 · Office (218) 722-4364 · Email pastor@dulutheran.org

WELCOME!

WORSHIP SERVICE

The goal of our worship is to praise God and enrich your faith through his Word. To make your experience today easier, the worship folder you're holding has the entire order of service. The pieces marked [M] are spoken by the minister, and the parts marked **[C]** are to be spoken or sung by the congregation. If you prefer to use a physical hymnal or wish to see the songs in four-part harmony, there are hymnals available in the pew stands.

FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

Our congregation enjoys the "worshiping family." Each service includes a children's message which teaches God's truth to your kids. Parents with small children are an essential part of God's kingdom. That's why children are never considered an inconvenience to our worship. We also want your family to be comfortable. There is a cry room outside the main doors to the right if you need a moment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Women's Bible Study: Please join your sisters in Christ for Bible study! This month we will continue our study of the Minor Prophets as we move to the book of Obadiah. We will meet at the church this **Tuesday, October 27 at 6 pm.** We hope you can join us!

Bible Information Class: Pastor Engel is beginning a Bible Information Class (BIC) on Thursday nights at **6:00 pm**, starting this **Thursday, October 29th**. If you are interested in membership, you are welcome to come to the conference room at church (end of the hall on the left). Workbooks will be provided. If Thursday evening does not work for you, let Pastor Engel know to schedule another time.

Trunk or Treat Update: Thank you to everyone who helped with yesterday's Trunk or Treat event!

November 1st Schedule: There will not be Adult Bible Class or Confirmation Class next **Sunday, November 1**, so Pastor Engel can attend the baptism of his granddaughter in Milwaukee.

Sunday School/Youth Tone Chimes: If your child is part of the Sunday School/Youth Tone Chimes Choir, please have them meet in the balcony immediately after the service. They will practice until 10:20am.

Pie Social & Silent Auction: Save the date for **Saturday, November 21st from 2-4pm** for our annual Silent Auction & Pie Social! Join us for pie, bingo, & a silent auction to raise funds for the local food bank, Second Harvest Northland. Please consider donating a pie or an item for the auction to help make this another fun & successful event!
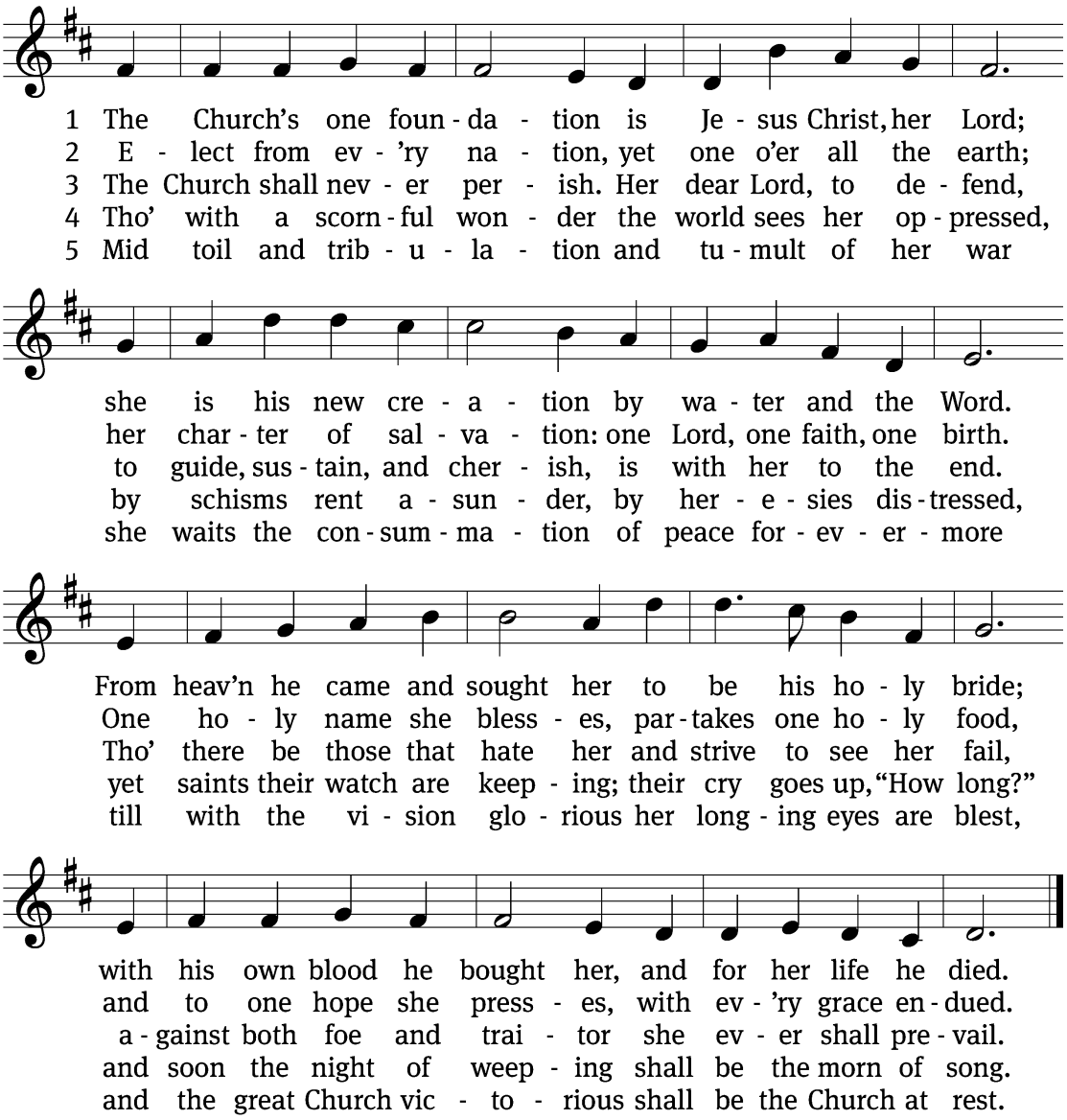
Food Drive: We will be hosting a food drive during the month of November. Please plan to bring any nonperishable food items you wish to donate; we will be collecting for Second Harvest Northland.

For more announcements and event information, visit the church website at dulutheran.org/events or sign up for our weekly email at dulutheran.org/subscribe. You can also view the church calendar at dulutheran.org/church-calendar.

PERSONAL PRAYER:

I praise you, O Lord, my rock and my salvation, for restoring your pure Word to me through the Reformation. Though Satan worked to keep the gospel hidden, in faithful grace you raised up messengers to boldly proclaim the truth of free forgiveness in Christ Jesus. Preserve your Holy Word and sacraments always, O God. Guard my heart so that I never despise your Word but gladly hear and learn it. Make me a bold confessor in a world that desperately needs to hear your truth. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

HYMN: The Church's One Foundation *CW 855 sts. 1–5*



Remain seated

INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father and of the ✞ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION

M: Our Savior Jesus Christ commanded Baptism when he said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

All of us are born into this world with a deep need for Baptism. From our parents we inherit a sinful nature; we are without true fear of God and true faith in God and are condemned to eternal death. But while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. He took away our sin by giving his life on the cross. In Baptism, he clothes us with the robe of his righteousness and gives us a new life. We recall what Baptism means for our daily lives:

C: Baptism means that the sinful nature in us should be drowned by daily sorrow and repentance, and that all its evil deeds and desires be put to death. It also means that a new person should daily arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.

M: As baptized children of God, we confess our sins:

C: Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I deserve your punishment both now and forever. But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death. Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

ABSOLUTION

M: God saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit and united us to the death and resurrection of Jesus. Every day God forgives your sins, removes your guilt, and strengthens you to defeat Satan's power. His promise is for you and your children, and he will never forsake you. Your sins are forgiven. You are clothed with Christ. You are at peace with God now and forever.

C: Amen.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM **Winona Joanne Lugardo**

M: The Gospel according to St. Mark:
People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them.

Winona, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Receive the sign of the cross on the head and heart ✞ to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified.

The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has given you the new birth of water and the Spirit and has forgiven all your sins. May he strengthen you with his grace all the days of your life. Peace be with you.

PRAYER

M: Let us pray.
We give thanks, most merciful Father, that you have received Winona as your own child and made her a member of Christ's body, the church. Now, we pray, grant to her and to all your church on earth that, being dead to sin, we may live to righteousness and, being buried with Christ into his death, we may also share in his resurrection, so that, with all your saints, we may inherit eternal life; through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Gracious Lord, our refuge and strength, pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your Word, protect and comfort them in all temptations, defend them against all their enemies, and bestow on the church your saving peace; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING ***Daniel 6:10–12,16–23***

10 Now, when Daniel learned that the document had been signed, he went to his house. It had
windows on its upper story that opened toward Jerusalem. Three times each day he would get on his
knees and pray and offer praise before his God. He continued to do that, just as he had been doing
before this. 11 Then these men came as a group and found Daniel praying and seeking favor from his
God.
12 They then went and asked the king about the decree. "Your Majesty, did you not sign a decree
that anyone who prays to any god or person for thirty days except to you, Your Majesty, would be
thrown into the den of lions?"
The king answered, "Indeed I did. The order is established as a law of the Medes and the Persians
that cannot be revoked."
16 Then the king gave the order, and Daniel was brought and thrown into the lions' den. The king
said to Daniel, "May your God, whom you serve continually, rescue you." 17 A stone was brought and
placed over the mouth of the pit. The king sealed it with his signet ring and the signet rings of his
nobles so that nothing could be changed with regard to Daniel's situation. 18 Then the king went to his
palace. He spent the night without food, and no entertainment was brought before him. But he could
not sleep.
19 At dawn the king arose as soon as it was light and hurried to the lions' den. 20 As he came near the
pit, he cried out in a fearful voice. The king said to Daniel, "Daniel, servant of the living God, was
your God, whom you serve continually, able to rescue you from the lions?"

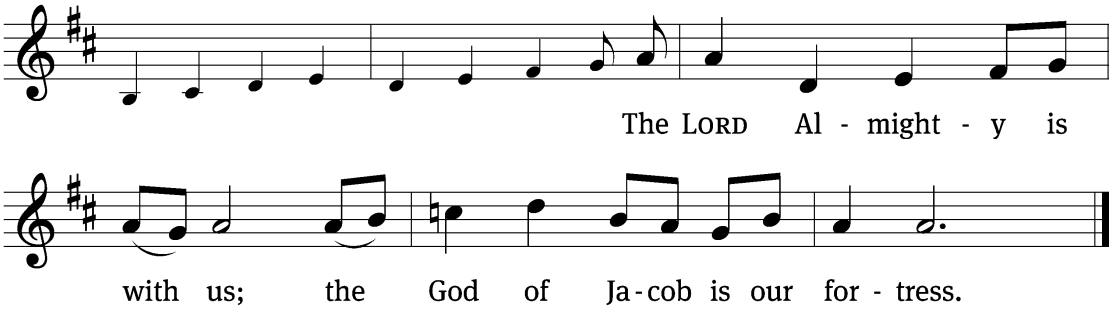
[21]Then Daniel spoke with the king. "Your Majesty, may you live forever! [22]My God sent his angel and shut the mouth of the lions. They have not hurt me because he found me innocent in his presence. Also before you, Your Majesty, I have committed no crime."

[23]Then the king was very glad and said that Daniel should be brought up from the pit. So Daniel was brought up from the pit, and he was unharmed because he trusted in his God.

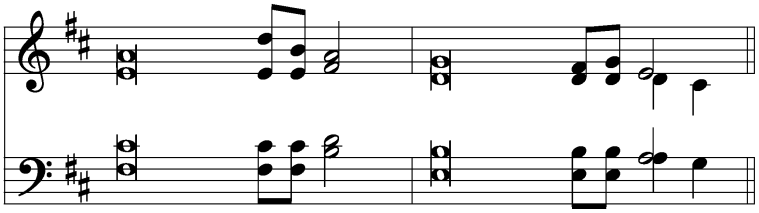
M: The Word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM OF THE DAY ***Psalm 46A***

Refrain



Tone



God is our ref- / uge and strength,
an ever-present help in / trouble.
Therefore we will not fear, though the / earth give way
and the mountains fall into the heart / of the sea,
though its waters / roar and foam
and the mountains quake with their / surging. *Refrain*

There is a river whose streams make glad the cit- / y of God,
the holy place where the Most / High dwells.
God is within her, she / will not fall;
God will help her at / break of day.
"Be still, and know that / I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted / in the earth."
Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,
as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain*

SECOND READING *Romans 3:19–28*

[19]Now we know that whatever the law says is addressed to those who are under the law, so that every mouth will be silenced and the whole world will be subject to God's judgment. [20]For this reason, no one will be declared righteous in his sight by works of the law, for through the law we become aware of sin.

[21]But now, completely apart from the law, a righteousness from God has been made known. The Law and the Prophets testify to it. [22]This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all and over all who believe.

In fact, there is no difference, [23]because all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God [24]and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, [25]whom God publicly displayed as the atonement seat through faith in his blood. God did this to demonstrate his justice, since, in his divine restraint, he had left the sins that were committed earlier unpunished. [26]He did this to demonstrate his justice at the present time, so that he would be both just and the one who justifies the person who has faith in Jesus.

[27]What happens to boasting then? It has been eliminated. By what principle—by the principle of works? No, but by the principle of faith. [28]For we conclude that a person is justified by faith without the works of the law.

M: The Word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

ADULT, YOUTH, & CHILDREN CHOIRS **First Song of Isaiah**
by Jack Noble White

Refrain: Surely it is God who saves me;
I will trust in him and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,
and he will be my Savior.

1. Therefore you shall draw water with
rejoicing From the springs of salvation.
And on that day you shall say,
Give thanks to the Lord,
and call upon his Name.

Refrain

2. Make his deeds known among the people;
See that they remember that his Name is
exalted Sing the praises of the Lord,
for he has done great things,
and this is known in all the world.

Refrain

3. Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion,
Ring out your joy,
For the great one in the midst of you
is the Holy One of Israel.

Refrain

Stand

GOSPEL *Matthew 10:16–23*

16"Look, I am sending you out as sheep among wolves. So be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent
as doves. 17Be on guard against people. They will hand you over to councils, and they will whip you
in their synagogues. 18You will be brought into the presence of governors and kings for my sake, as a
testimony to them and to the Gentiles. 19Whenever they hand you over, do not be worried about how
you will respond or what you will say, because what you say will be given to you in that hour. 20In
fact you will not be the ones speaking, but the Spirit of your Father will be speaking through you.
21"Brother will hand over his brother to death, and a father will do the same with his child.
Children will rise up against parents and have them put to death. 22You will be hated by all people
because of my name, but whoever endures to the end will be saved. 23And when they persecute you
in one town, flee to the next. Amen I tell you: You will not finish going through the cities of Israel
before the Son of Man comes.

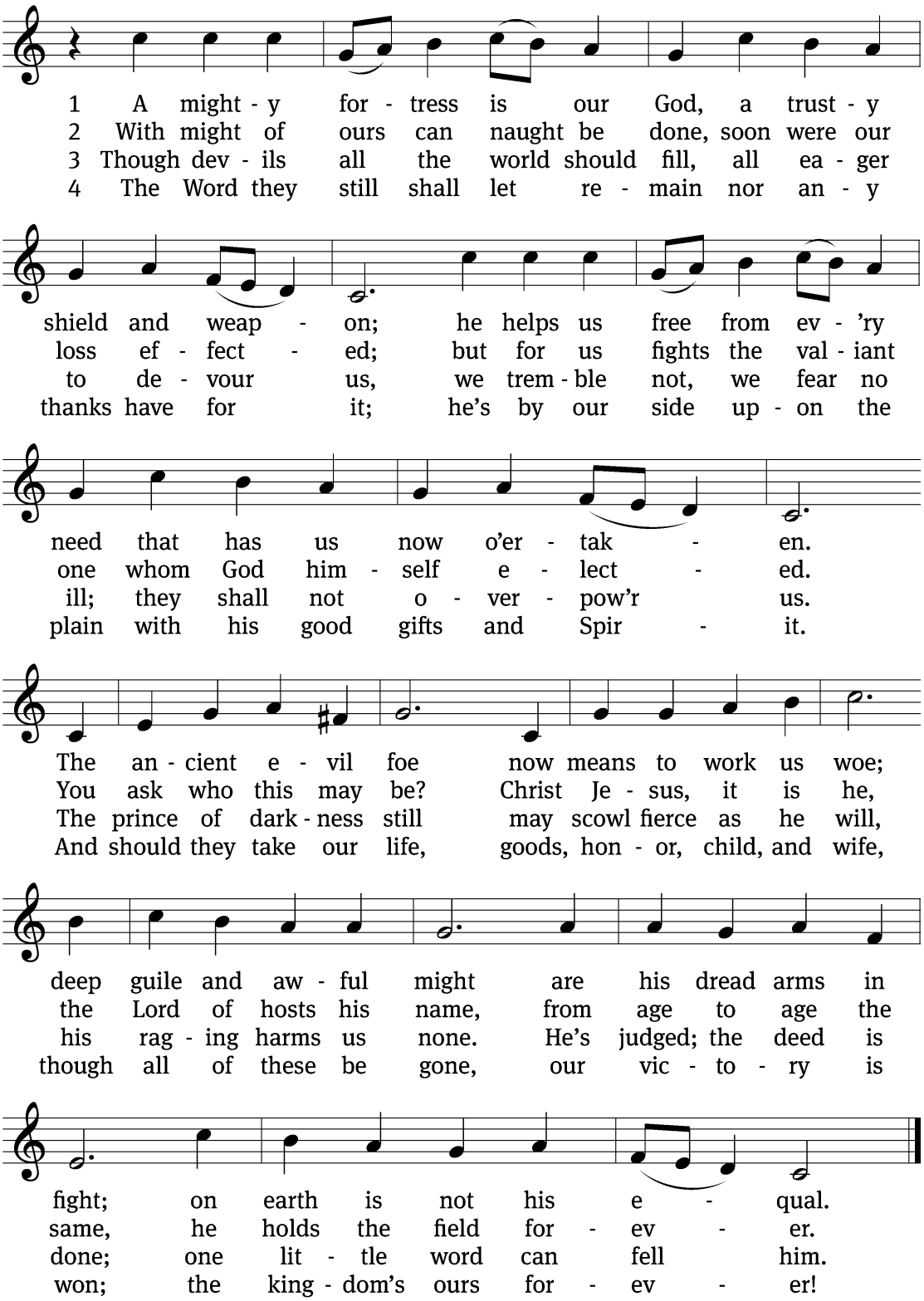
M: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Children up through 5th grade are invited to come up to the altar steps and sit for a special devotion with Pastor Engel. This service segment is intended to engage the children and help them understand today's message. They will return to their seats afterward.

HYMN OF THE DAY: A Mighty Fortress Is Our God *CW 864 sts. 1–4*
Printed on the next page

HYMN OF THE DAY: A Mighty Fortress Is Our God *CW 864 sts. 1–4*



SERMON: Christ-Sent Witnesses In a Hostile World
Matthew 10:16-23

Stand

THE CONFESSION OF FAITH *Luther's explanation to the 2nd Article of the Apostles Creed*

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord.

He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death.

All this he did that I should be his own, and live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence and blessedness, just as he has risen from death and lives and rules eternally.

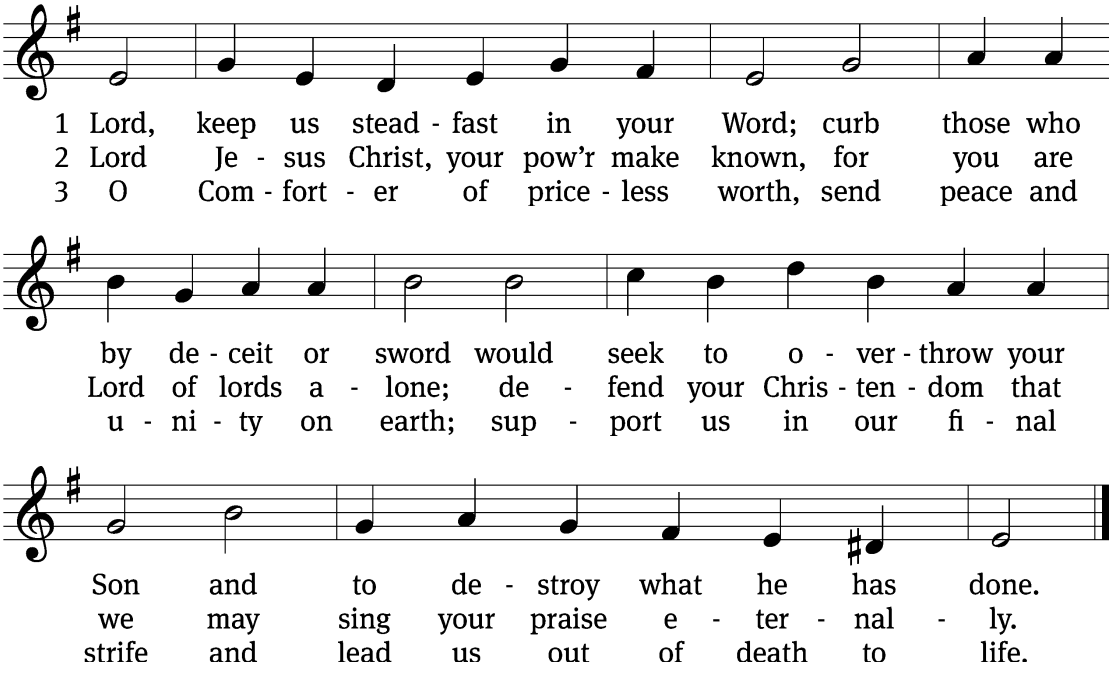
This is most certainly true.

Be seated

WORSHIPING THE LORD WITH OUR OFFERINGS

Members of Shepherd of the Hills respond to their Savior's love with offerings that are given joyfully & freely according to how the Lord has blessed them. If you are a guest today, please know that there are no expectations for you to donate. If you wish to support us by making an online offering, scan the QR code or visit dulutheran.org and click on the "GIVE" tab.

HYMN: Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word *CW 862*



Stand

PRAYER FOR REFORMATION

M: Almighty and eternal God, when the time had fully come, you sent your Son to take our place under the demands of the law and to endure the just punishment for our sins. For our sake you accepted his sacrifice on the cross and raised him from death to glorious splendor.

C: Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits.

M: When the time had fully come, you bestowed your Spirit on your people as a testimony that you had called them to proclaim the gospel to every creature. Equipped and encouraged, they carried the Word of salvation into all the world.

C: The Lord reigns. Let the earth be glad; let the distant shores rejoice.

M: When the time had fully come, you raised up your servant Martin Luther to restore the pure and right teaching of the Scriptures to a troubled Church. You renewed your people with the light of your love, and your holy church grew and prospered throughout the world.

C: God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

M: When the time had fully come, you made our forefathers bold to take their stand on the truth of your Word. You have blessed their sons and daughters and have enabled us to preserve and proclaim the saving gospel.

C: Sing to the Lord, for he has done glorious things; let this be known to all the world.

M: Let this be a time, O Lord, when you renew us again by Word and sacrament, when you reform our hearts and minds, and when you restore to us the joy of fellowship and service. Grant to us in this age and in this place the courage of the apostles, the steadfastness of the reformers, and the dedication of those who have gone before us.

C: May the Lord our God be with us as he was with our fathers; may he never leave us nor forsake us.

M: May this be a time, O Lord, for confession and repentance. Forgive us for the apathy that harms our faith and hinders our works. Forgive us for boasting of our past achievements and for blaming others for our present problems. Rid us of indifference to public worship and Bible study. Destroy the distrust that plagues us, and shatter every thought and word that harms the unity of the Spirit and the bond of peace.

C: Create in us pure hearts, O God, and renew steadfast spirits within us.

Special intercessions and prayers may follow

M: Let this be a time, O Lord, when we recommit and reconsecrate ourselves to the ministry of the gospel. Let us find joy in our unity, zeal for our work, and success in our labor.

C: May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine on us, that his ways may be known on earth, his salvation among all nations. Amen.

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.**

BLESSING *Psalm 46*

M: God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.
C: Therefore we will not fear!

M: 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.

M: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells.

C: God will help her at break of day.

M: The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.
C: Amen.

HYMN *CW 640*

