



OUR REDEEMER
LUTHERAN CHURCH
GRAND PRAIRIE

You are welcome here!
**We are disciples of Jesus, growing
in Faith, Hope, and Love.**

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Website

www.OurRedeemerGP.org



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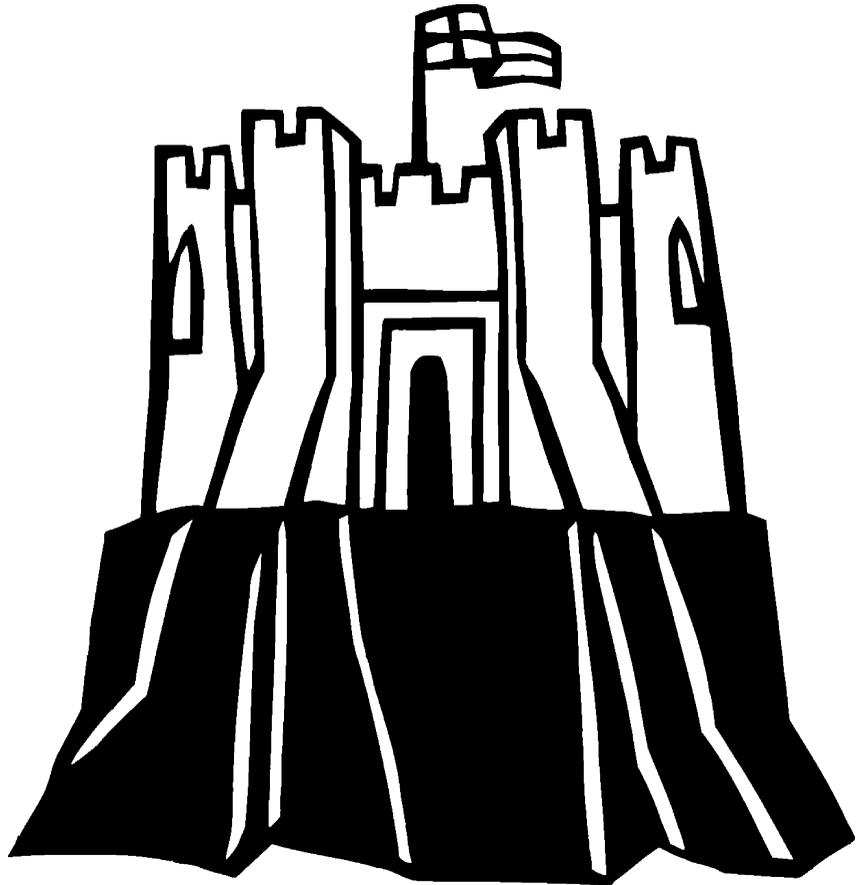
Worship Times

Sunday 10:15 am
Wednesday 7:00 pm



Pastor

Rev. Julio Cruz-Natal



October 25, 2020
Reformation Sunday

Gathering

✠INTRODUCTION

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 given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

✠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, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

C Amen.

P Reconciling God,

C **we confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We abuse your good creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.**

P Beloved of God, by the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through † Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

✠ **HYMN OF REFLECTION – Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound**
(ELW #779) Verses 1, 2

- 1 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.
- 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!

✠ **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

A The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

A 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.

C Amen.

Word

✠ **FIRST LESSON – 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.

L The Word of the Lord.

C 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.

P The Holy Gospel, according to John, the eighth chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

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.

P The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

✠ **SERMON**

✠HYMN OF THE DAY – A Mighty Fortress Is Our God (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. | 3 Though hordes of devils fill the land
all threat'ning to devour us,
we tremble not, unmoved we stand;
they cannot overpower 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. |
| 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. | 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 and Music: Martin Luther.

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✠PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P Let us offer our prayers to God.

A brief silence.

P On this day commemorating the Reformation, O God, we pray: that Christian churches around the globe be reformed and renewed; that ecumenical collaboration be widened and deepened; and that Lutherans stand firm in the gift of the gospel. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P Attending to the natural earth, O God, we pray: that the seas and lands be cleansed of pollution; that both rainstorms and droughts be moderated; and that animals retain their habitat. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P Aware of disorder around the world, O God, we pray: that wars and armed terrorism cease; that violent extremism everywhere be calmed; that governments meet the needs of their poorest residents; that the days before our election be peaceful; and that all prejudice based on gender, color, orientation or ethnicity be rejected. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P Facing the coronavirus, O God, we pray: that the pandemic and its anxieties subside; that medical personnel and services be everywhere supported; that any who are unemployed find work and all who have been evicted finding housing; and that a trustworthy vaccine be developed. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P Moved by the needs of all our neighbors, O God, we pray: for those suffering from discrimination; for those incarcerated or held in immigrant camps; for farmworkers and their children; for all who are hungry; and for those we name here before you now, silently or aloud... Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P Thinking lastly of ourselves, O God, we pray: that we be enabled to love our neighbors as ourselves, and that you receive our personal petitions... Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P Grateful for the lives of all who have died in the faith, especially for all the people whose efforts reformed and renewed the church, O God, we pray that at the end we join with them in your glory. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P Enfold in your loving arms all for whom we pray, as we trust in your might and your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

✠PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C And also with you.

✠ LORD'S 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.

✠ BLESSING

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

C Amen.

✠ ANNOUNCEMENTS

✠ SENDING HYMN – **Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound** (ELW #779) **Verses 3, 4, 5**

- 3 Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come;
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

- 4 The Lord has promised good to me;
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.

- 5 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'd first begun.

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Remember the poor.

C Thanks be to God.

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