

**REFORMATION LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**Serving Absecon - Galloway Township**  
**Rev. Heidi Link – Pastor**  
**Brian Conover - Music Director**

**Sunday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021**  
**THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST / 10:00 AM**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

**L:** Come, all who are weary and burdened. It is here that you will find rest.

**P: We come, bringing our joys and sorrows, hopes and dreams to God.**

*(Soloist sings part of “Hope”)*

**L:** Though we are different and have encountered a host of differing circumstances, God awaits us with God’s healing touch.

**P: Stress and strife, sorrow and sadness claim too much of our lives.**

*(Soloist continues “Hope”)*

**L:** Come, now is the time to give to God all the brokenness you have experienced.

**P: Healing and Restoring God, touch our lives and bring us to wholeness with you.**

**AMEN.**

*(Soloist finishes “Hope”)*

text © ministrymatters.com  
song © 2021 Moss Mill Music

**\* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, whose teaching is life, whose presence is sure, and whose love is endless. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God our comforter:

**like lost sheep, we have gone astray. We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity. We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression. We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed. Free us from our sin, gracious God. Listen when we call out to you for help. Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves. Amen.**

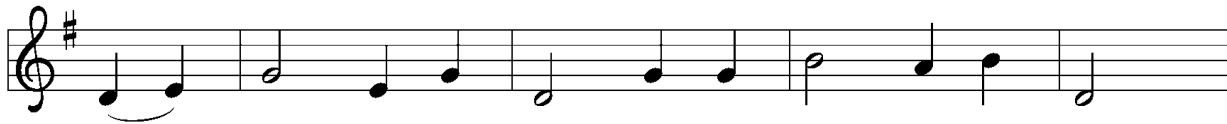
All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. By the gift of grace in ✝ Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous. Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.

**Amen.**

\* - Congregation Stands (If for any reason you are unable to stand during the service, please remain seated.)

## \* OPENING SONG

### How Firm a Foundation



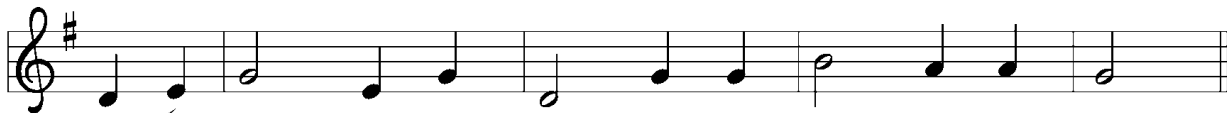
1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,  
2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,  
3 "When through fi - 'ry tri - als your path - way shall lie,  
4 "Through - out all their life - time my peo - ple shall prove



is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!  
for I am your God and will still give you aid;  
my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply.  
my sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;



What more can he say than to you he has said  
I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
The flames shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign  
and then, when gray hairs shall their tem - ples a - dorn,



who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?  
up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand."  
your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine."  
like lambs they shall still in my bo - som be borne."

Text: J. Rippon, *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt.  
Music: FOUNDATION, Early American

## \* GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.**

Let us pray: Sovereign God, you have created us to live in loving community with one another. Form us for life that is faithful and steadfast, and teach us to trust like little children, that we may reflect the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

**FIRST READING: Genesis 2:18-24** *(for text of reading, see back of bulletin)*

**RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 8**

<sup>1</sup>O LORD our Lord,  
how majestic is your name in all the earth!—

<sup>2</sup>**you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children;**

**you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger.**

<sup>3</sup>When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,

<sup>4</sup>**what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them,  
human beings that you should care for them?**

<sup>5</sup>Yet you have made them little less than divine;  
with glory and honor you crown them.

<sup>6</sup>**You have made them rule over the works of your hands;  
you have put all things under their feet:**

<sup>7</sup>all flocks and cattle,  
even the wild beasts of the field,

<sup>8</sup>**the birds of the air, the fish of the sea,  
and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.**

<sup>9</sup>O LORD our Lord,  
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

**SECOND READING: Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12** *(for text of reading, see back of bulletin)*

**\* HYMN OF PRAISE**

## I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me



1 I'm so glad I'm so glad  
2 Sa - tan had me bound, Je-sus lift-ed me. Sa - tan had me bound,  
3 When I was in trou - ble, When I was in trou - ble,



Je-sus lift-ed me. I'm so glad  
Sa - tan had me bound, Je-sus lift-ed me,  
When I was in trou - ble,



sing-ing glo - ry, hal - le-lu - jah! Je - sus lift - ed me.

**\* THE WORD OF GOD: Mark 10:2-16**

A reading from the Gospel of St. Mark:

*(for text of reading, see back of bulletin)*

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## SERMON

## CONGREGATIONAL SONG

### Blest Be the Tie That Binds



1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris-tian love;  
2 Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne we pour our ar - dent prayers;  
3 We share our mu - tual woes, our mu - tual bur - dens bear,  
4 From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free;



the u - ni - ty of heart and mind is like to that a - bove.  
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.  
and of - ten for each oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.  
and per - fect love and friend - ship reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: John Fawcett, 1740–1817, alt.

Music: DENNIS, Johann G. Nägeli, 1773–1836, adapt.

#### \* APOSTLE'S CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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**

#### \* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

Holy One, you have raised up faithful leaders throughout history. Empower those discerning a call to ministry and all seminarians (*specific individuals known to the congregation may be named*), that they continue to be formed for the sake of the gospel. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You have established a diverse and beautiful creation. Revive declining species and preserve endangered lands. Cultivate in us a sense of wonder for the world you created. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You desire for us not to be alone and to live in community with one another. Strengthen relationships between nations and peoples, that we celebrate and support one human family. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You share in our experiences and struggles. Bless all who live with any mental or physical disability. Inspire creative communities, spaces, and environments that are accessible and hospitable. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You have established and nurtured relationships that extend beyond those gathered here today. Bless members who can no longer travel to worship with us (*especially*) and remind us of their continued role in this community of faith. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

You promise eternal life to all your children. Thank you for the people of faith who have gone before us. Strengthen our trust we have in you. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## OFFERING

### SPECIAL MUSIC

#### \* OFFERING SONG

We lift our voi - ces; We lift our hands; We lift our

lives up to you, We are an of - fer-ring. Lord, use our voi - ces; Lord, use our

hands; Lord, use our lives they are yours, We are an of - fer-ring; We are an

of-fer-ring.

### \* OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray: God of abundance, you cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain from the heavens. Accept the gifts you have first given us. Unite them with the offering of our lives to nourish the world you love so dearly; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

### \* THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

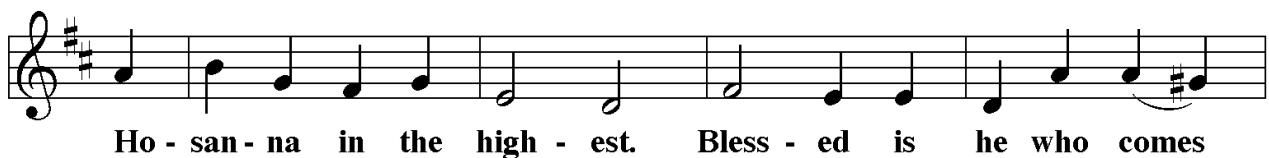
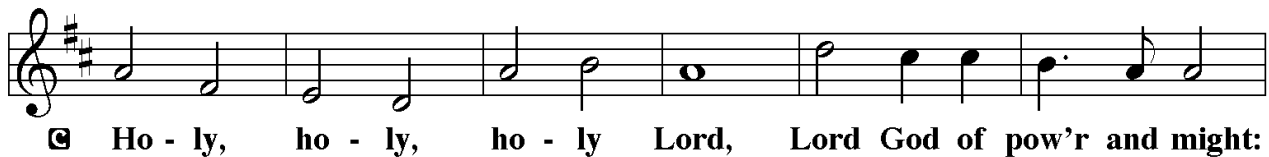
Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and salutary...*(Here the minister continues with the preface appropriate to the day or season, concluding:)* we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



### \* WORDS OF INSTITUTION

#### \* THE 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**

### \* INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The risen Christ invites us to this table. Come, eat and be satisfied.

**We come.**

### DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

*(BAPTIZED CHRISTIANS who believe that the risen Christ is present in the Eucharist to forgive sin and renew life are invited to share at your pew. Please remain there, kneel as you are able, and receive the elements using the communion packet you were given. If there are other special needs, please speak to an usher.)*

### \*POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**Amen**

### \* POST COMMUNION HYMN

#### Go, My Children, with My Blessing



### \* PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray: Lord of life, in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation. Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

### \* BLESSING

And now a Blessing: People of God, you are Christ's body, bringing new life to a suffering world. The holy Trinity, ✚ one God, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**



## \* CLOSING SONG

### Day by Day



1 Day by day, your mer - cies, Lord, at - tend me, bring - ing  
 2 Day by day, I know you will pro - vide me strength to  
 3 Oh, what joy to know that you are near me when my



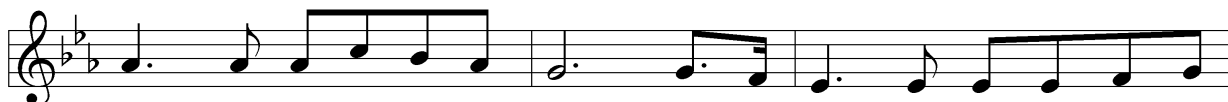
com - fort to my anx - ious soul. Day by day, the bless - ings, Lord, you  
 serve and wis - dom to o - bey; I will seek your lov - ing will to  
 bur - dens grow too great to bear; oh, what joy to know that you will



send me draw me near - er to my heav'n - ly goal.  
 guide me o'er the paths I strug - gle day by day.  
 hear me when I come, O Lord, to you in prayer.



Love di - vine, be - yond all mor - tal mea - sure, brings to  
 I will fear no e - vil of the mor - row, I will  
 Day by day, no mat - ter what be - tide me, you will



naught the bur - dens of my quest; Sav - ior, lead me to the home I  
 trust in your en - dur - ing grace. Sav - ior, help me bear life's pain and  
 hold me ev - er in your hand. Sav - ior, with your pres - ence here to



trea - sure, where at last I'll find e - ter - nal rest.  
 sor - row till in glo - ry I be - hold your face.  
 guide me, I will reach at last the prom - ised land.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Robert Leaf, b. 1936  
 Music: BLOTT EN DAG, Oskar Ahnfelt, 1813–1882

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## \* SENDING

Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

**Thanks be to God.**

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