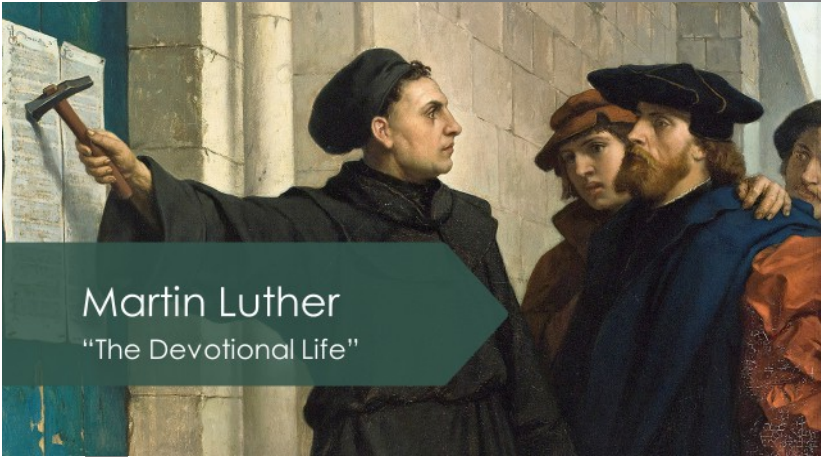


# Reformation Sunday



Martin Luther  
"The Devotional Life"

**October 31, 2021**

## Divine Service, Setting 3

### Opening Hymn: #645

*“Built on the Rock”*

### Confession and Absolution p. 184

**Introit** *Psalm 34:1–2, 11, 22; antiphon: Psalm 119:46*

P: I will speak of your testimonies before kings, [O Lord,]

**C: and shall not be put to shame.**

P: I will bless the LORD at all times;

**C: his praise shall continually be in my mouth.**

P: My soul makes its boast in the LORD;

**C: let the humble hear and be glad.**

P: Come, O children, listen to me;

**C: I will teach you the fear of the LORD.**

P: The LORD redeems the life of his servants;

**C: none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.**

**ALL: Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P: I will speak of your testimonies before kings, [O Lord,]

**C: and shall not be put to shame.**

### The Kyrie p. 186

### Gloria in Excelsis p. 187

### Salutation and Collect p. 189

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people. Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and deliver us in times of temptation, defend us against all enemies, and grant to Your Church Your saving peace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

**Old Testament Reading**     *Judges 6:1–24*

<sup>1</sup>The people of Israel did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, and the LORD gave them into the hand of Midian seven years. <sup>2</sup>And the hand of Midian overpowered Israel, and because of Midian the people of Israel made for themselves the dens that are in the mountains and the caves and the strongholds. <sup>3</sup>For whenever the Israelites planted crops, the Midianites and the Amalekites and the people of the East would come up against them. <sup>4</sup>They would encamp against them and devour the produce of the land, as far as Gaza, and leave no sustenance in Israel and no sheep or ox or donkey. <sup>5</sup>For they would come up with their livestock and their tents; they would come like locusts in number—both they and their camels could not be counted—so that they laid waste the land as they came in. <sup>6</sup>And Israel was brought very low because of Midian. And the people of Israel cried out for help to the LORD.

<sup>7</sup>When the people of Israel cried out to the LORD on account of the Midianites, <sup>8</sup>the LORD sent a prophet to the people of Israel. And he said to them, “Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: I led you up from Egypt and brought you out of the house of bondage. <sup>9</sup>And I delivered you from the hand of the Egyptians and from the hand of all who oppressed you, and drove them out before you and gave you their land. <sup>10</sup>And I said to you, ‘I am the LORD your God; you shall not fear the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell.’ But you have not obeyed my voice.”

<sup>11</sup>Now the angel of the LORD came and sat under the terebinth at Ophrah, which belonged to Joash the Abiezrite, while his son Gideon was beating out wheat in the winepress to hide it from the Midianites. <sup>12</sup>And the angel of the LORD appeared to him and said to him, “The LORD is with you, O mighty man of valor.” <sup>13</sup>And Gideon said to him, “Please, sir, if the LORD is with us, why then has all this happened to us? And where are all his wonderful deeds that our fathers recounted to us, saying, ‘Did not the LORD bring us up from Egypt?’ But now the LORD has forsaken us and given us into the hand of Midian.” <sup>14</sup>And the LORD turned to him and said, “Go in this might of yours and save Israel from the hand of Midian; do not I send you?” <sup>15</sup>And he said to him, “Please, Lord, how can I save Israel? Behold, my clan is the weakest in

Manasseh, and I am the least in my father's house." <sup>16</sup>And the LORD said to him, "But I will be with you, and you shall strike the Midianites as one man." <sup>17</sup>And he said to him, "If now I have found favor in your eyes, then show me a sign that it is you who speaks with me. <sup>18</sup>Please do not depart from here until I come to you and bring out my present and set it before you." And he said, "I will stay till you return."

<sup>19</sup>So Gideon went into his house and prepared a young goat and unleavened cakes from an ephah of flour. The meat he put in a basket, and the broth he put in a pot, and brought them to him under the terebinth and presented them. <sup>20</sup>And the angel of God said to him, "Take the meat and the unleavened cakes, and put them on this rock, and pour the broth over them." And he did so. <sup>21</sup>Then the angel of the LORD reached out the tip of the staff that was in his hand and touched the meat and the unleavened cakes. And fire sprang up from the rock and consumed the flesh and the unleavened cakes. And the angel of the LORD vanished from his sight. <sup>22</sup>Then Gideon perceived that he was the angel of the LORD. And Gideon said, "Alas, O Lord GOD! For now I have seen the angel of the LORD face to face." <sup>23</sup>But the LORD said to him, "Peace be to you. Do not fear; you shall not die." <sup>24</sup>Then Gideon built an altar there to the LORD and called it, The LORD is Peace. To this day it still stands at Ophrah, which belongs to the Abiezrites.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

### **Gradual** *Psalm 48:1a, 12-14a*

P: Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised

**C: in the city of our God!**

P: Walk about Zion, go around her, number her towers,

**C: consider well her ramparts, go through her citadels,**

P: that you may tell the next generation

**C: that this is God, our God forever and ever.**

## Vocal Choir: "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"

### Epistle *Romans 3:19–28*

<sup>19</sup>Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. <sup>20</sup>For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

<sup>21</sup>But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— <sup>22</sup>the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: <sup>23</sup>for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup>and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup>whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. <sup>26</sup>It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

<sup>27</sup>Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. <sup>28</sup>For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

### Alleluia and Verse p. 190

### Holy Gospel *John 8:31–36*

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

**C** **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

<sup>31</sup>So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, <sup>32</sup>and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” <sup>33</sup>They answered him, “We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, ‘You will become free’?”

<sup>34</sup>Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. <sup>35</sup>The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. <sup>36</sup>So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

**Apostles’ Creed** p. 192

**Sermon Hymn: #657**

*“A Mighty Fortress is Our God”*

**Sermon:** Text: Judges 6:16

*“Mighty, Menacing Midianites”*

Rev. Dr. Reed Lessing

**Offering**

**Bell Choir:** *“How Firm a Foundation”*

**Prayer of the Church**

**The Lord's Prayer** p. 196

**Salutation & Benedicamus** p. 201

**Benediction**

**Closing Hymn: #655**

*"Lord, Keep Us Steadfast In Your Word"*

