



# Reformation Sunday

*Sunday, October 25, 2020*

8:15 a.m. (in person)

10:45 a.m. (in person and online)

**Words spoken by the assembly are in boldface type.**

For music, the words will be sung by the cantor **while the congregation hums.**

*Instructions for in-person worship.*

- ) Keep your mask on at all times.*
- ) Please keep a social distance of at least six feet from persons not in your same household.*
- ) Enjoy the presence of one another. As we “speak the peace,” wave, smile, make the sign of the Cross. Please do not embrace, hug, kiss, or elbow-bump anyone but for immediate family members you are seated with.*
- ) In using the restrooms, follow the capacity guidance posted outside the restroom doors. Practice safe hygiene by washing your hands with soap and water before leaving a restroom, and disinfecting your hands using a no-touch disinfectant dispenser located outside the restrooms.*
- ) Please do not attend worship if are currently sick with any of the following symptoms: fever, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, nausea, or diarrhea.*
- ) Please do not attend worship if you had close personal contact with anyone who has been diagnosed or is awaiting test results for COVID-19 in the past 14 days.*
- ) Notify the Church Office if you receive a positive COVID-19 test result within 7 days of attending a worship service. Your name will be kept anonymous unless required for reporting to the Department of Health.*
- ) The MVLC “guest” WiFi is disabled during the 10:45 a.m. worship service, in order that there is no interference or interruption of the livestreaming/recording of worship.*
- ) At the conclusion of the service, ushers will dismiss you. Please exit the Sanctuary through the hallway to the Administrative Offices.*

# Prelude

*“Now We Join in Celebration” • Karl Osterland*

## Welcome / Announcements

## Confession

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism,  
as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,  
who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

Amen.

We confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

## CONFESSION

Most merciful God,

**We confess we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.**

**We sin against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done, by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

## PETITION

**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

## PROMISE

God who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you *have been* saved.

## ABSOLUTION

In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins *are* forgiven.

## BLESSING

Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, as Christ lives in your hearts through faith.

**Amen.**

# Opening Hymn • "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 504



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -  
2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -



to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and  
ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe  
God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?



has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might  
The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,



he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.  
God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.

# 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.**

# First Reading

A reading from Jeremiah.

## Jeremiah 31:31-34

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It 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. But 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. No 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

A responsive reading from the Psalms.

## Psalm 46

God is our refuge and strength,  
a very present help in trouble.

**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,  
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**

though its waters rage and foam,  
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

**There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;  
God shall help it at the break of day.

**The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;  
God speaks, and the earth melts away.**

The Lord of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

**Come now, regard the works of the Lord,  
what desolations God has brought upon the earth;**

behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;  
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

**“Be still, then, and know that I am God;  
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the  
earth.”**

The Lord of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



# Second Reading

A reading from Romans.

## Romans 3:19-28

Now 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. For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom 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; it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus. Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. For 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

*Sundays and Seasons*

*The cantor sings the refrain, **while the congregation hums along.***

*The cantor sings the verse.*

*The cantor sings the refrain, **while the congregation hums along.***

*Congregation*

Mm-m - m - m, Mm - m - m - m, Mm - m - m - m - m.

*Cantor*

Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

## *Verse*

If you continue in my word,  
you are truly my disciples,  
and you will know the truth,  
and the truth will make you free.

## ***Refrain.***

# Gospel

The Holy Gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

John 8:31-36

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

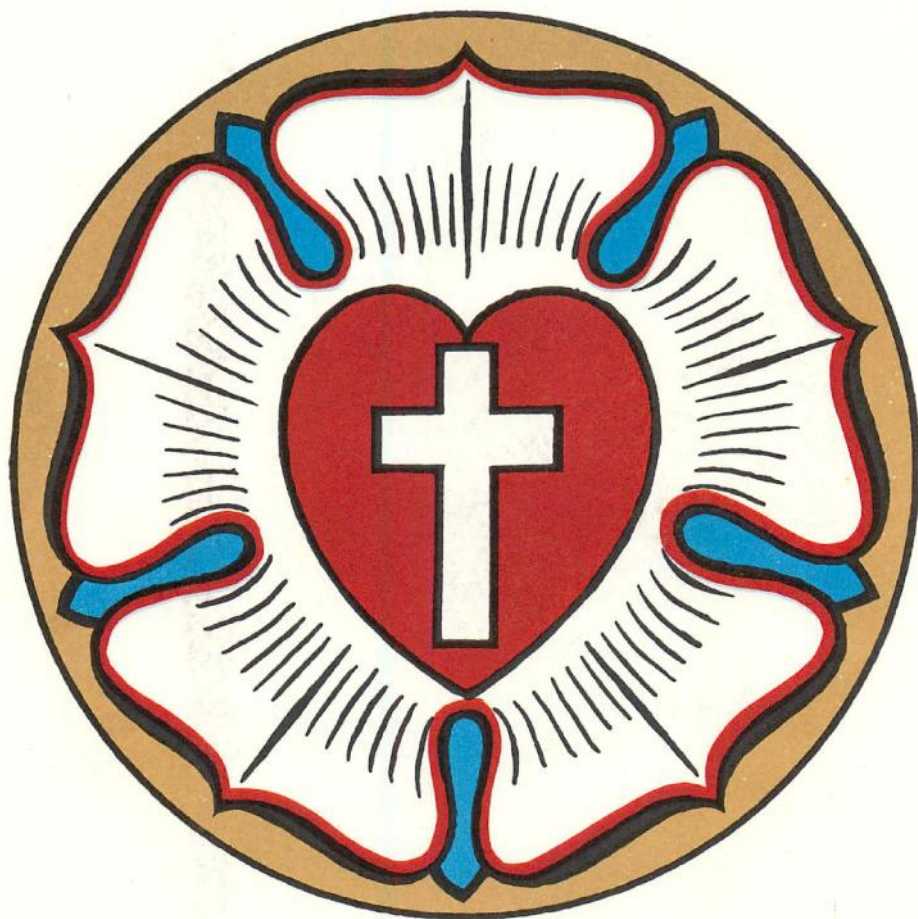
The Gospel of our Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

# Sermon

Rev. Briana R. Merkle.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*



# Hymn of the Day • "Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 779

1 A - maz - ing that grace!— how sweet the sound— that  
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but  
grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that

now am found; was blind, but now I see.  
grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!

# Apostles' Creed

Together, let us confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
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,  
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.**

# Prayers of Intercession

With confidence in God's grace and mercy,  
let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

*A brief silence.*

*At the conclusion of each petition:*

Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Listen as we call on you, O God, and enfold in your loving arms  
all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

# Sharing the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

# Offering Prayer

Gracious God,  
send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world,  
through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

# 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 our thanks and praise.**

## Preface

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,  
almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

With all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of  
heaven, we praise your holy name.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**



# Thanksgiving at the Table

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,  
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,  
who preached good news to the poor,  
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,  
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, that by this Holy Communion  
we may know the unity we share with all your people  
In the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
All glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

**Amen.**

# The Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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

Come to the banquet table  
where Christ gives himself as food and drink.

## Communion

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

### **Open Wafer**

*The cup has a clear film top that noticeably reveals the wafer compartment. Lift the film to open and receive your wafer. (Hint: Bending the tab downward to snap will release the air tight seal on the film and make the edge very easy to find and open.)*

### **Open Cup**

*Open the cup by peeling back the pre-cut tab on the foil seal to drink the juice.*

# Communion Song • "O Lord, We Praise You"

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship 499*

1 O Lord, we praise you, bless you, and a - dore you, in thanks -  
giv - ing bow be - fore you. Here with your  
bod - y and your blood you nour - ish our weak souls that  
they may flour - ish. O Lord, have mer - cy!  
May your bod - y, Lord, born of Mar - y, that our  
sins and sor - rows did car - ry, and your blood for us plead  
in all tri - al, fear, and need: O Lord, have mer - cy!

The musical score is written on seven staves in treble clef. The melody is in a major key with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The score concludes with a double bar line.

# Communion Sending Prayer

Gracious God,

**from this table you sustain and nourish your people  
and unite us as one in Jesus Christ.**

**We send forth this bread of life and cup of salvation  
to those who are not worshiping in-person,  
so that they too can feast on your goodness  
and be gathered with us in the one body, Jesus Christ,  
our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

## Blessing

The God of steadfastness and encouragement  
grant you to live in harmony with one another,  
in accordance with Christ Jesus.

**Amen.**

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,  
so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

The God of all grace + bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

# Sending Hymn • “How Firm a Foundation”

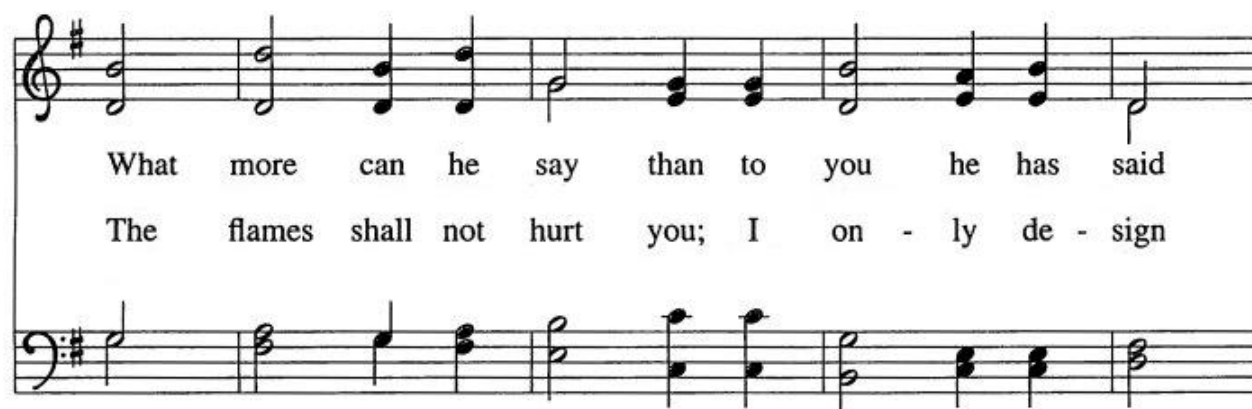
*Evangelical Lutheran Worship 796*



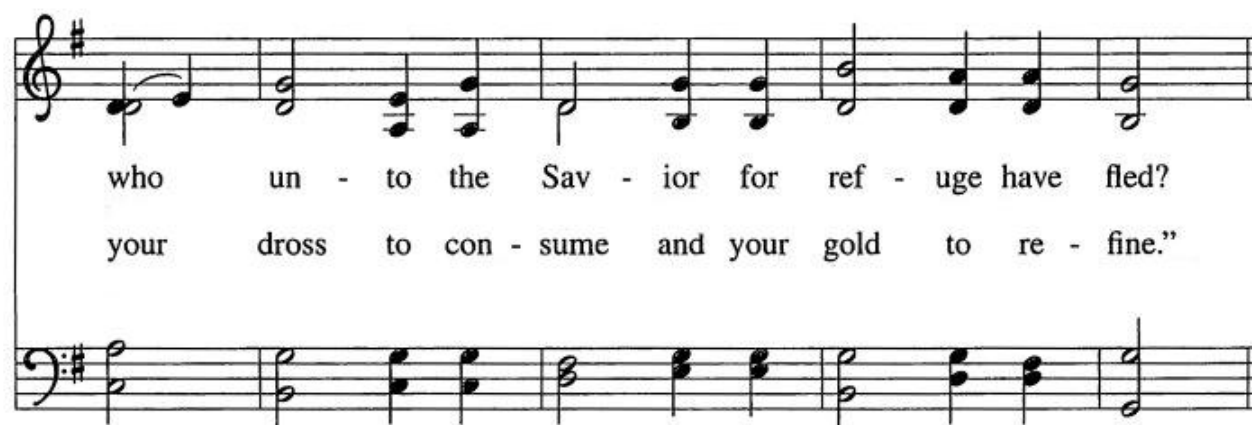
1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,  
3 “When through fi - 'ry tri - als your path - way shall lie,



is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!  
my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply.



What more can he say than to you he has said  
The flames shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign



who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?  
your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine.”

# Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

# Postlude

*Fugue on “Ein Feste Burg” • J. G. Walther*

*For those participating in worship from home,  
please register your worship attendance online at  
[www.mtviewlutheran.org/worshipattendance](http://www.mtviewlutheran.org/worshipattendance)*

*Please submit prayer requests online at  
[www.mtviewlutheran.org/prayerrequest](http://www.mtviewlutheran.org/prayerrequest)*

# Offering

We give to the Lord of our tithes and offerings.

*You can leave your offering in the offering box at the back of the Sanctuary near the font, either upon entry to worship or as you depart.*

You can mail an offering to:  
Mountain View Lutheran Church  
3505 - 122nd Ave E  
Edgewood WA 98372

Ways that you can give electronically:

## TEXT

- )] Text “Give” to 253-292-9599.
- )] You will be sent a message to (a) text your giving amount and/or (b) set up recurring giving.

## ONLINE via the MVLC WEBSITE

- )] Visit [www.mtviewlutheran.org](http://www.mtviewlutheran.org).
- )] Hover over the “GIVE” dropbox.
- )] Choose “Make a Donation via Bank Account” or “Make a Donation via Credit/Debit Card.”
- )] Fill out all information on the page and then click the blue “GIVE” button.
- )] If you want it to remember your information, visit “SIGN IN” and create an account.
- )] NOTE: Online giving is a one-time gift unless you check “Make this Gift Recurring.”



# Worship Leaders

## PREACHER/PRESIDER

Pastor Briana Merkle

## DIRECTOR of MUSIC MINISTRIES

Susan Bloomfield

## ALTAR GUILD

Janice Harrison, Flora Larson, Diane Nelson

### **8:15 a.m.**

#### HEAD USHER

Mark Williams

#### USHERS

Skip Harrison, Julie Williams

#### GREETERS

Emily Thompson, Teagan Thompson

#### COMMUNION ASSISTANT

Gloria Ratcliffe

#### LECTOR

Eileen Newton

#### SOUND

Beth Ann Johnson

### **10:45 a.m.**

#### HEAD USHER

David Nichols

#### USHERS

—

#### GREETERS

Bob Linden, Lynn Nichols

#### COMMUNION ASSISTANT

Belinda Bergman

#### LECTOR

Ken Edmonds

#### SOUND

Megan Hutton

## Mountain View Lutheran Church

3505 - 122nd Ave E, Edgewood WA 98372

253-863-5171 • [www.mtviewlutheran.org](http://www.mtviewlutheran.org)

# Worship Notes

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- ⌋ "How Firm a Foundation." Text: J. Rippon, *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787. Music: Early American. Public domain.

*Flowers on the altar today are given to the glory of God  
by Troy and Carianne Kehm-Goins  
in honor of Kyra's sixteenth birthday.*

# Upcoming Events/Opportunities in Life Together

Save the dates for these events/opportunities in life together.

## **Sunday 11/1 • 8:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.**

All Saints Day worship. Join us in person for either service (register in advance) or online at 10:45.

## **Sunday 11/1**

Daylight Saving Time ends.

## **Wednesday 11/4 • 6:30 p.m.**

Election Vigil prayer service. We will gather together online for a short prayer service on the evening after Election Day.

## **Sunday 11/8**

Consecration Sunday. We will offer up our commitments of financial resources, time, and talents for 2021 as an act of worship.

## **Sunday 11/15**

Congregational Meeting. We gather online to discuss and vote on our 2021 Spending Guideline.

## **Sundays at 5:00 p.m.**

Middle school and high school small groups meet at MVLC.

## **Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.**

“The Freedom of a Christian” adult education classes. (See back cover.)

MVLC Church Office hours =

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday

Not all staff members are in the office each day, so if you need to meet with a particular person, then it is best to schedule an appointment.

More details (some which are still forthcoming) of these events can be found by checking your MVLC E-news when it arrives in your email inbox. If you aren't signed up to receive the MVLC E-news, then email MVLC Communications Director Troy Kehm-Goins at [tkehm.goins@mtviewlutheran.org](mailto:tkehm.goins@mtviewlutheran.org) and ask to be added to the list.



# the Freedom of a Christian

Wednesday Evening Adult Education for October/November

7:00 p.m. • Wednesday evenings • Zoom meeting  
10/28 + 11/4 + 11/11 + 11/18

Pastors Bri, Mike, and Kim will be leading a **seven-week study series on *The Freedom of a Christian***, an essential treatise written by Martin Luther. The study has been offered to churches as part of the ELCA's celebration of the treatise's 500 year publication anniversary. It's one key part of Luther's major theological writings.

The treatise is available at online at [www.elca500.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Freedom-of-a-Christian\\_final-proof\\_3.17.20201.pdf](http://www.elca500.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Freedom-of-a-Christian_final-proof_3.17.20201.pdf)

(You will want to download the treatise ahead of time so that you can begin wrestling with this powerful teaching. The download includes the treatise as well as the letter Luther wrote to Pope Leo X in an attempt to explain and defend his theological perspective on the gospel of Jesus Christ.)

A key moment occurs in the treatise as Luther addresses this paradox:  
***The Christian person is a completely free lord of all, subject to none.  
The Christian person is a completely dutiful servant of all, subject to all.***

Luther says of his treatise on Christian freedom, that it contains a summary of the whole Christian life, if you understand its meaning. Please join us for an extended conversation on this essential writing.

Join the Zoom meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84766484362>

Meeting ID: 847 6648 4362