

# VASHON LUTHERAN CHURCH



**Reformation Sunday**

**Oct. 29, 2023**

**10:30 AM Worship**

Vashon Lutheran Church  
Reformation Sunday  
Oct. 29, 2023

**PRELUDE**

Dinah Helgeson

*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.*

**CANDLELIGHTING**

**GREETING/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Patte Wagner, Lay Leader

*Congregation stands as able*

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:**

Rev. Wayne Bacus

P: Blessed be God, the one who forms us, ✚ Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

P: Steadfast and faithful God,

**C: you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

P: Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us. In ✚ Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

**C: Amen.**

*Gathering Hymn (next page):*

*ELW, #504, v. 1, 2 & 4*

# A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

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 -  
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat -'ning to de -  
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who

to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and  
 ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom  
 your us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they  
 fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with

wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe  
 God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?  
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;  
 weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,

has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might  
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,  
 in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;  
 goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,

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.  
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.  
 they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*  
 Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther  
 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

**KYRIE:**

*ACS, p. 31*

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.  
Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.  
Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

**Song of Praise:**

*ACS, p. 31*

1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;  
2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;  
3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;  
yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.  
yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.  
yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.  
Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;  
Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;  
Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;  
ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.  
Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;  
yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

P: 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. **Amen.**

Congregation sits



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. Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as able

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

*ACS, P. 14*

**GOSPEL: John 8:31-36**

Rev. Wayne Bacus

P: The Holy Gospel according to John, Chapter 31. **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

P: 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 the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O God.**

Congregation sits

**MESSAGE:**

Rev. Wayne Bacus

Congregation stands as able

**HYMN OF THE DAY (next page):**

*ELW, #729, vs. 1. 3 & 5*

## The Church of Christ, in Every Age

1 The church of Christ, in ev - 'ry age be - set by  
 2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the vic - tims  
 3 Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a car - ing  
 4 For he a - lone, whose blood was shed, can cure the  
 5 We have no mis - sion but to serve in full o -

change, but Spir - it - led, must claim and test its  
 of in - jus - tice cry for shel - ter and for  
 church that longs to be a part - ner in Christ's  
 fe - ver in our blood, and teach us how to  
 be - dience to our Lord; to care for all, with -

her - i - tage and keep on ris - ing from the dead.  
 bread to eat, and nev - er live be - fore they die.  
 sac - ri - fice, and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.  
 share our bread and feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.  
 out re - serve, and spread his lib - er - at - ing word.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000  
 Music: WAREHAM, William Knapp, 1698–1768  
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### APOSTLES' CREED:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. 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. *Please sit***

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:**

Harriet Shull Nelson, Assisting Minister (A)

A: Trusting in the transformative power of God's loving Spirit, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A: God our parent, you call us your children and have made us siblings through your son Jesus. Heal the church's many divisions, bring understanding and peace where there has been contention and strife, and unite us in one body through the love of Christ. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A: God our creator, your hands have made the heights of the mountains, the depths of the sea, and the life that animates all creation. Bring relief to areas harmed by wildfires, floods, storms, and human carelessness. Renew the face of the earth. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A: God our ruler, the nations rage and the kingdoms shake, but your word stands fast forever. Let your justice and peace roll down like waters wherever there is strife, injustice, war, or religious conflict. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A: God our champion, you are our refuge and strength, a very present help in times of trouble. Draw near to all who suffer. Be their rest and comfort. We lift up all those in need, either silently or aloud...God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A: God our reformer, you make all things new. Free us from complacency, open us to unexpected ways, and kindle zeal in us for the future. We pray for young people affirming their baptism. With them, stir in us a desire for your wisdom. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A: God our savior, you made yourself known in the lives of all who have died in the hope of your grace. We give thanks for the witness of reformers like Martin Luther and for all whose example has brought us closer to you. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

P: Gracious God, into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your unending love and amazing grace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **C: Amen.**

P: The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

P: (At the end of passing of the peace) Now is the time for the sharing of our gifts to God.

**OFFERING/OFFERTORY RESPONSE (next page):**

**ACS, #970**



## We Come Now to Your Table, Lord

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'We Come Now to Your Table, Lord'. It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are: 'We come now to your ta - ble, Lord, you are the Liv - ing Bread. We come now to your ta - ble, Lord, let ev - 'ry soul be fed. You are the Liv - ing Bread, let ev - 'ry soul be fed: and now may ev - 'ry soul be fed with Liv - ing Bread.' The music is in a simple, hymn-like style with a steady rhythm.

Text: Caribbean Conference of Churches Jamaica workshop  
Music: LIVING BREAD, St. Vincent traditional, adapt.; arr. Patrick Prescod, 1932–2013  
Text and music © Caribbean Conference of Churches

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### OFFERING PRAYER:

P: Let us pray. **God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

*Congregation stands as able*

### GREAT THANKSGIVING:

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### PREFACE:

P: 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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and  
 God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your  
 glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
 Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the  
 Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.  
 Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION/LORD’S PRAYER/COMMUNION:**

P: 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.

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

P: **Invitation to Communion:** This is the table, not of this church, but of Jesus Christ. It is made ready for those who love him and those who want to love him more. So come, you who have much faith, and you who have little; come, you who have been here often and you who have not been here in a long time. Come, you who have never been before; come, you who have tried to follow and you who have failed. Come, not because the church invites you; this is Christ, and he invites you to meet him right here.

Congregation Sits

*Communion Hymn #1(next page):*

*ACS, p. 41*

Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Communion Hymn #2:

ELW, #742

### What a Friend We Have in Jesus

1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!  
 2 Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?  
 3 Are we weak and heav - y - lad - en, cum - bered with a load of care?

What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!  
 We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged—take it to the Lord in prayer.  
 Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge—take it to the Lord in prayer.

Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; oh, what need - less pain we bear—  
 Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor - row share?  
 Do your friends de - spise, for - sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.

all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!  
 Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness—take it to the Lord in prayer.  
 In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a so - lace there.

Text: Joseph Scriven, 1820–1886  
 Music: CONVERSE, Charles C. Converse, 1832–1918

P: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:**

P: Let us pray. Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray. **C: Amen.**

**BLESSING:**

P: The God of glory, ✠ Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you bless you now and forever. **C: Amen**

*Sending Song:*

*ELW, 652, vs. 1, 3 & 4*

**Built on a Rock**



1 Built on a rock the church shall stand, e - ven when stee - ples are  
2 Sure - ly, in tem - ples made with hands God the Most High is not  
3 Christ builds a house of liv - ing stones: we are his own hab - i -  
4 Yet in this house, an earth - ly frame, Je - sus the chil - dren is  
5 Through all the pass - ing years, O Lord, grant that, when church bells are



fall - ing; crum - bled have spires in ev - 'ry land, bells still are  
dwell - ing— high in the heav'ns his tem - ple stands, all earth - ly  
ta - tion; he fills our hearts, his hum - ble thrones, grant - ing us  
bless - ing; hith - er we come to praise his name, faith in our  
ring - ing, man - y may come to hear your Word, who here this



chim - ing and call - ing— call - ing the young and old to rest, call - ing the  
tem - ples ex - cel - ling. Yet God who dwells in heav'n a - bove deigns to a -  
life and sal - va - tion. Where two or three will seek his face, he in their  
Sav - ior con - fess - ing. Je - sus to us his Spir - it sent, mak - ing with  
prom - ise is bring - ing: "I know my own, my own know me; you, not the



souls of those dis - tressed, long - ing for life ev - er - last - ing.  
bide with us in love, mak - ing our bod - ies his tem - ple.  
midst will show his grace, bless - ings up - on them be - stow - ing.  
us his cov - e - nant, grant - ing his chil - dren the king - dom.  
world, my face shall see; my peace I leave with you. A - men."

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Carl Doving, 1867–1937, adapt.  
Music: KIRKEN DEN ER ET GAMMEL HUS, Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–1887  
Text © 1958 *Service Book and Hymnal*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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**DISMISSAL: P:** Go in peace. God is at work in you. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE:**

Dinah Helgeson

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**Worship Assistants Today:**

Guest Pastor – Rev. Wayne Bacus  
Assisting Minister – Harriet Shull Nelson  
Lector – Marlee Koch  
Communion Assistant – Sindy Rice  
Usher – Jim Dam  
Musician – Dinah Helgeson  
Cantor – Dr. Gary Koch  
Communion Set Up – Sindy Rice

**Worship Assistants next week (11/5/23):**

Guest Pastor – Rev. John Michael Barich  
Assistant Minister – TBA  
Lector – Martha Gebhard  
Communion Assistant – Gail Larson  
Usher – Jim Dam  
Musician – Dinah Helgeson  
Cantor – TBA  
Communion Set Up – Gail Larson

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Thank you, Rev. Wayne Bacus** for your participation in worship today at VLC!

**Contact Gail Larson (206/567-4779)** with your prayer requests.

**IFCH Dinner Program:** VLC provides hand out meals at Vashon Presbyterian Church at 5:00 PM the fourth Thurs. of the month. Contact Patte Wagner: [pattewags@aol.com](mailto:pattewags@aol.com) to help.

**The Care Closet, Medical Equipment/Supplies – 206-473-8715.** Vashon Care Network – 206-604-3253.  
Email: [contact@vashoncarenetwork.org](mailto:contact@vashoncarenetwork.org); website: [www.vashoncarenetwork.org](http://www.vashoncarenetwork.org)

**Prayer & Healing Service – Rev. Jeff Larson PhD** is offering a prayer & healing service on the first Weds. of the month at 6:30 PM, in the sanctuary. All are welcome!

**VCN FAMILY CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP** - Vashon Care Network invites you to join other family caregivers in a safe, supportive space to share the experience of caregiving. Support circles are Thursdays, 6:30–7:30 PM at Vashon Lutheran. If you need someone to stay with your loved one so you can participate, please let us know. Join us for coffee, tea, cookies & community. ?? **Contact Kathy Shafel, [kshafel@comcast.net](mailto:kshafel@comcast.net), cell: 206.718-1458 or Tory Hayes, [victoriansmith@comcast.net](mailto:victoriansmith@comcast.net), 206.304-4544**

**OUR FAITH IN ACTION**

**SUNDAY**

1<sup>st</sup>  
10:30 AM  
6:30 – 8:30 PM

Food Bank Sunday  
Worship  
AA Group

**MONDAY**

10:00 AM  
4<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 – 8:00 PM

Intercessory Prayer Group  
VCN Board Meeting

**TUESDAY**

2<sup>nd</sup>, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM  
3<sup>rd</sup>, 10:00 AM – noon

Quilt Sewers Group  
Vashon Quilting Group

**WEDNESDAY**

1<sup>st</sup>, 9:00 AM – noon  
1<sup>st</sup>, 6:30 PM

Lutheran Quilters Group  
Prayer & Healing Service

3<sup>rd</sup>, 7:00 PM

VLC Council Meeting

**THURSDAY**

6:30-7:30 PM

VCN Family Caregivers Support Group at VLC  
IFCH Dinner prepared by VLC, served at VPC

4<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 PM

**FRIDAY**

7:00 – 8:30 PM

AA Group for Men

**SATURDAY**

Oct. 28, 9:30 AM – 3:00 PM

VCN Retreat in Fellowship Hall



**Vashon Lutheran Church**

**P.O. Box 2930, Vashon WA 98070**

**Street Address:**

**18623 Vashon Hwy. SW 98070**

**Church Office Hours:**

**Tuesday – Friday 12 PM – 3 PM**

**Phone: (206) 463-2655**

**Email: [vlc98070@centurytel.net](mailto:vlc98070@centurytel.net)**

**Website: [www.vashonlutheran.org](http://www.vashonlutheran.org)**

## Hymns for Oct. 29, 2023

ELW, 504, v. 1, 2 & 4	A Mighty Fortress is Our God
ELW, 729, v. 1, 3 & 5	The Church of Christ, in Every Age
ACS, 970	We Come Now to Your Table
ACS, p. 40	Be Known to Us, Lord
ELW, 742	What a Friend We Have in Jesus
ELW, 652, v. 1, 3 & 4	Built on a Rock