

45th Annual
Reformation Sunday
Evening Service

Hier stehe ich. Ich kann nicht anders.
Gott helfe mir. Amen.

Martin Luther

Sunday, October 31, 2021

4:00 p.m.

Wallace Presbyterian Church

College Park, MD

*Hearing devices are available at the Audio-Visual desk.
Please ask an usher to direct you.*

Prelude

(Elizabeth White, piano)

Welcome

(Sr. Pastor, Ryan Moore)

Introduction of Churches

(Pastoral Intern, Jamie Duguid)

Call to Worship

Psalm 32:1–2; 10–11

Leader: Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven,

People: whose sin is covered.

Leader: Blessed is the man against whom the Lord counts no iniquity,

People: and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

Leader: Many are the sorrows of the wicked,

People: but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the Lord.

Leader: Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, O righteous,

All: and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!

Hymn

Man of Sorrows! What a Name — Hymnal #246

Prayer of Invocation

Confession of Sin (in unison)

(Rev. Luke Gossett, Associate Pastor, Christ Reformed DC)

O eternal God and most merciful Father, we confess and acknowledge here, before thy divine majesty, that we are miserable sinners, conceived and born in sin and iniquity, so that in us there is no goodness. For the flesh evermore rebels against the spirit, whereby we continually transgress thy holy precepts and commandments, and so purchase to ourselves, through thy just judgment, death and damnation.

Notwithstanding, O heavenly Father, forasmuch as we are displeased with ourselves for the sins that we have committed against thee, and do unfeignedly repent us of the same, we most humbly beseech thee, for Jesus Christ's sake, to show thy mercy upon us, to forgive us all our sins, and to increase thy Holy Spirit in us: that we, acknowledging from the bottom of our hearts our own unrighteousness, may from henceforth not only mortify our sinful lusts and affections, but also bring forth such fruits as may be agreeable to thy most blessed will; not for the worthiness thereof, but for the merits of thy dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ, our only Saviour, whom thou hast already given as an oblation and offering for our sins, and for whose sake we are certainly persuaded that thou wilt deny us nothing that we shall ask in his name, according to thy will. For thy Spirit does assure our consciences that thou art our merciful Father, and so lovest us thy children through him, that nothing is able to remove thy heavenly grace and favour from us. To thee, therefore, O Father, with the Son and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. So be it.

[From John Knox's Book of Common Order]

Assurance of Pardon

Romans 4:5–8

And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness,⁶ just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works:

⁷ “Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven,
and whose sins are covered;

⁸ blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin.”

Psalm
(A cappella)
(Jennifer George)

32C

Psalm 32:1-7

What Blessedness

David also describes the blessedness of the man to whom God imputes righteousness apart from works. —Romans 4:6



1. ¹What bless-ed-ness be-longs to him Who has for-giv-en been,
2. ³I lan-guished, si-lent in my guilt; My days were filled with groans.
3. Then You re-leased me from my sin, And took its guilt a-way.



For whom trans-gres-sions have been cleared, And cov-ered is his sin.
⁴On me Your hand pressed day and night, And heat dried up my bones.
⁶And there-fore while You may be found, Let all the god-ly pray.



²Blessed is the one for whom the LORD Counts no in-iq-ui-ty,
⁵My sin I then con-fessed to You, Not hid-ing guilt-i-ness;
They'll not be harmed by ris-ing floods. ⁷In You I hide in peace;



And in whose spir-it is no taint Of in-sin-cer-i-ty.
I said, "I will be-fore the LORD Trans-gres-sions now con-fess."
You keep me safe, sur-round-ing me With songs of my re-lease.



Old Testament Reading

Genesis 15:1–6
(Rev. Rick Holmes)

After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision: “Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.”² But Abram said, “O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?”³ And Abram said, “Behold, you have given me no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir.”⁴ And behold, the word of the Lord came to him: “This man shall not be your heir; your very own son shall be your heir.”⁵ And he brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.”⁶ And he believed the Lord, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

New Testament Reading

Galatians 2:11–16

But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned.¹² For before certain men came from James, he was eating with the Gentiles; but when they came he drew back and separated himself, fearing the circumcision party.¹³ And the rest of the Jews acted hypocritically along with him, so that even Barnabas was led astray by their hypocrisy.¹⁴ But when I saw that their conduct was not in step with the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas before them all, “If you, though a Jew, live like a Gentile and not like a Jew, how can you force the Gentiles to live like Jews?”

¹⁵ We ourselves are Jews by birth and not Gentile sinners; ¹⁶ yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

Prayer of Intercession

(Rev. Tom Martin)

Special Offering

(Offering will be donated to Capitol Hill Pregnancy Center and the Laurel Pregnancy Center)

Musical Offering

(Elizabeth White, piano)

Confession of Faith (in Unison)

Heidelberg Catechism Question and Answer 59–61, “The Atonement”
(Rev. Chris Garriott)

59 Q. But how does it help you now that you believe all this?

A. That I am righteous in Christ before God and an heir to life everlasting

60 Q. How are you righteous before God?

A. Only by true faith in Jesus Christ. Even though my conscience accuses me of having grievously sinned against all God’s commandments, of never having kept any of them, and of still being inclined toward all evil, nevertheless, without any merit of my own, out of sheer grace, God grants and credits to me the perfect satisfaction, righteousness, and holiness of Christ, as if I had never sinned nor been a sinner, and as if I had been as perfectly obedient as Christ was obedient for me.—if only I accept this gift with a believing heart.

61 Q. Why do you say that through faith alone you are righteous?

A. Not because I please God by the worthiness of my faith, for only Christ’s satisfaction, righteousness, and holiness are my righteousness before God, and I can receive this righteousness and make it mine in no other way than by faith alone.

Hymn

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God — Hymnal #92

Introduction of The Rev. Dr. Brian Lee
(Pastoral Intern Jamie Duguid)

Scripture Reading

Romans 4

Pew Bible, page 941
(Rev. Dr. Brian Lee)

Sermon

“Why We Must Be Saved by Faith Alone”

Parting Hymn

Not What My Hands Have Done — Hymnal #461

Benediction
(Rev. David Miner)

Postlude

We are grateful to the following people for assisting in worship this evening:

Jamie Duguid, Pastoral Intern, Wallace Presbyterian Church (PCA)
Rev. Chris Garriott, Pastor, Reformed University Fellowship, University of Maryland (PCA)
Jennifer George, Precentor, Trinity Reformed Presbyterian Church (RPCNA)
Rev. Luke Gossett, Associate Pastor, Christ Reformed DC (URCNA)
Rev. Dr. Rick Holmes, Interim Pastor, Christ Reformed Presbyterian Church (PCA)
Rev. Dr. Brian Lee, Senior Pastor, Christ Reformed DC (URCNA)
Rev. Thomas Martin, Pastor, Knox Orthodox Presbyterian Church (OPC)
Rev. Dr. David Miner, Assistant Pastor, Wallace Presbyterian Church (PCA)
Rev. Ryan Moore, Sr. Pastor, Wallace Presbyterian Church (PCA)

Our Guest Preacher **Rev. Dr. Brian Lee**

Rev. Dr. Brian Lee is the founding pastor of Christ Reformed Church. He was ordained in the United Reformed Churches of North America (URCNA) as the church planter of Christ Reformed in 2008.

Prior to being called to plant Christ Reformed Church, Brian worked in Washington, DC on Capitol Hill, at the Department of Justice, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Department of Defense. Previously he worked as an editor and writer for Modern Reformation and the White Horse Inn, a nationally syndicated radio program.

Brian holds degrees from Stanford University (B.A.), Westminster Seminary California (Masters), and Calvin Theological Seminary (Ph.D.). He has taught at the Washington, DC, and Atlanta campuses of Reformed Theological Seminary, as well as Calvin College and Calvin Seminary, in Grand Rapids, Michigan. He has authored numerous popular articles and has published scholarly works on the biblical interpretation of the Reformation and the origins of the Reformed doctrine of the covenant, including Johannes Cocceius and the Exegetical Roots of Federal Theology.

Brian lives with his wife and daughter in the community of Del Ray, in Alexandria, Virginia.

Reformation Day

Reformation Day is celebrated on October 31 each year to mark the anniversary of Martin Luther's nailing of the Ninety-Five Thesis to the door of the church in Wittenberg, Germany, in 1517. The Sunday nearest is observed as Reformation Sunday on which we give thanks to God for the great work of revival that He did in the 16th century.