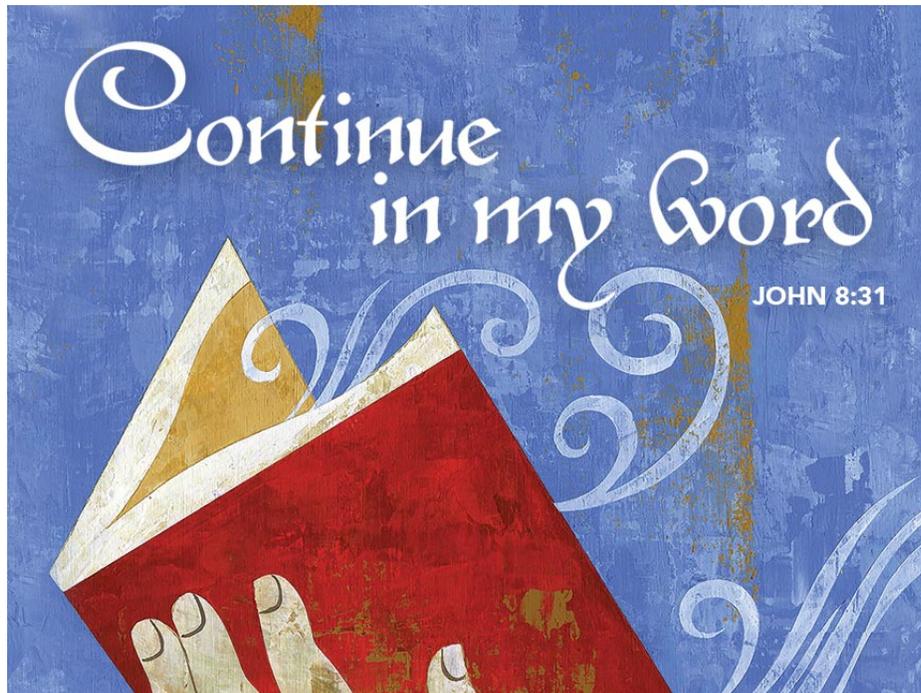


# Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

## Reformation Sunday

October 25, 2020



### Introduction

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.



We gather each week to worship and pray on the traditional territory of the Coast Salish Peoples. For thousands of years they have walked on the land and paddled the waters of the Salish Sea. We are grateful to the Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) and Selilweta7/Selilwitulh (Tseil-Waututh) Nations for their stewardship of these lands and adjoining waters throughout the ages.

## PRELUDE

## WORDS OF WELCOME

## CALL TO WORSHIP

O God, you are our refuge and our strength

**A very present help in times of trouble, therefore we will not fear.**

O God, you made an everlasting covenant with us.

**Help us to be your people in this world of trial and trouble.**

O God, too often we have sinned and have fallen short of your glory.

**Search us, O God, and know our hearts; test us and know our thoughts. See if there is any wicked way in us, and lead us in the way everlasting.**

O God, we have embraced the freedom you offer us.

**We embrace the Son who makes us free.**

O God, we honor the bold faith of our siblings in Christ who have gone before us.

**May we each be as bold in our faith this week as we cry "Come, Holy Spirit!", help us to die again and again in Christ so that we might be truly free. Amen.**

# GATHERING SONG: 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  
 vour 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!

## **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**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

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.**

## **FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 34: 1-12**

Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho, and the Lord showed him the whole land: Gilead as far as Dan, all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, the Negeb, and the Plain—that is, the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees—as far as Zoar. The Lord said to him, ‘This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, “I will give it to your descendants”; I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there.’ Then Moses, the servant of the Lord, died there in the land of Moab, at the Lord’s command. He was buried in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Bethpeor, but no one knows his burial place to this day. Moses was one hundred and twenty years old when he died; his sight was unimpaired and his vigour had not abated. The Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Moab for thirty days; then the period of mourning for Moses was ended.

Joshua son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, because Moses had laid his hands on him; and the Israelites obeyed him, doing as the Lord had commanded Moses.

Never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face. He was unequalled for all the signs and wonders that the Lord sent him to perform in the land of Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his servants and his entire land, and for all the mighty deeds and all the terrifying displays of power that Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM: Psalm 46: 1-6; 10**

<sup>1</sup>God is our refuge and strength,  
a very present help in trouble.

<sup>2</sup>**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,  
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**

<sup>3</sup>though its waters rage and foam,  
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

<sup>4</sup>**There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

<sup>5</sup>God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;  
God shall help it at the break of day.

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

## **SECOND READING: Romans 3:19-24; 27-28**

<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 silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. <sup>20</sup>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.

<sup>21</sup>But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, <sup>22</sup>the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, <sup>23</sup>since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; <sup>24</sup>they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, effective through faith.

<sup>27</sup>Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. <sup>28</sup>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.**

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

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>31</sup>Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; <sup>32</sup>and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” <sup>33</sup>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’?”

<sup>34</sup>Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin.

<sup>35</sup>The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever.

<sup>36</sup>So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

### HYMN OF THE DAY: **O God of Vision**, to the tune of ELW858 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Song: O God of Vision

Jane Parker Huber: USA

Joachim Neander 1680, Germany



1. O God of vi - sion far great - er than all hu - man schem - ing, gath - er us  
2. Pour out your Spir - it on all now as - sem - bled be - fore you. May our di -  
3. Grant to us in - sight, O God, for this time of de - ci - sion. May we dream  
4. Break the suns rays in - to col - or, a rain - bow a - round us. Storm clouds though



now in your pres - ence, re - fresh - ing, re - deem - ing. Show us a - new  
ver - si - ty here be a means to a - dore you. Wo - men and men,  
chal - leng - ing dreams of both depth and pre - ci - sion. Speak through the dark.  
real and near, are not e - nough to con - found us. Arched in the sky,



life in your breath - tak - ing view, love - ly be - yond all our dream - ing.  
young, old and youth - ful a - gain, make us as one we im - plore you.  
Dis - pel by light - ning's bright spark what - e - ver clouds dim our vi - sion.  
beau - ty and prom - ise are high, giv - ing us hope to as - tound us.

"O God of Vision" from *A Singing Faith*. (c)1981 Jane Parker Huber. Used by permission of Westminster John Knox Press.

## RESPONSE TO THE WORD

In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

**We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.**

*(Ephesians 1:13-14)*

Living together in trust and hope, we 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.  
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**

Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;  
**pray in the Holy Spirit.** (*Jude 20*)

Keep yourselves in the love of God;  
**look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.** (*Jude 21*)

If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:  
**Everything old has passed away; behold, everything has become new!** (*2 Corinthians 5:17*)

## **THE PEACE**

Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another,  
live in peace. (*2 Corinthians 13:11*)

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

Gracious God,  
**in the abundance of your steadfast love, you call us from death to life, from silence to speech,  
from idleness to action. With these gifts we offer ourselves to you, and with the Church  
through all the ages we give thanks for your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

## THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

### **Pastor:**

As we commemorate the Reformation this year, we do so in a time of pandemic. With the ecumenical and global family, we bring our prayers for healing. And we join with our sisters and brothers of other communions in joint service to the neighbor, in restraint and vigilance, and in shared witness. Let us now pray for the world, the church and all those in need...

God of mercy, throughout history your goodness prevails, open the hearts of all people to discover the deep bond of community. Show us your goodness and mercy that endure forever.

**God of mercy, Hear our prayer!**

God of mercy, strengthen and protect those who are persecuted for faith in you and those other faiths who suffer persecution. Inspire and sustain our ecumenical journey with other Christians—transform our complacency and indifference and lead us to communion, all of us branches on the one vine, Jesus Christ. Show us your mercy!

God of Mercy, **Hear our prayer!**

Creator God, all creation groans in expectation, convert us from exploitation. Teach us to live in harmony with your creation. Show us your mercy!

Creator God, **Hear our prayer!**

God of peace, bend that which is inflexible, the identity barriers that divide, the attachments that thwart reconciliation. Bring peace in this world, especially in St. Mary's Bay in Nova Scotia. We pray for the Mi'kmaq fishermen who have suffered violence, vandalism, and threats, as they try peacefully to exercise their right to fish. May they be surrounded with healing and strength. May they be kept safe from further harm.

We pray for the non-indigenous fishermen. May there be healing for the pain, fear, or anger that has driven some to harmful words and actions, and others to silence. We pray for openness to the righting of relationships.

We pray for our leaders at every level. May they be guided by wisdom and humility. May they use their voices and their power to build systems that uphold safety, dignity, and respect for all.

Finally, we pray for ourselves, that our hearts and our minds remain open to understanding our responsibilities toward living into Reconciliation. Restore wholeness among us and show us your mercy!

God of peace, **Hear our prayer!**

God, our healer, come to our aid as COVID-19 continues to spread, heal those who are sick, protect families and friends from being infected. Support those in public health and medical services. Strengthen our resolve to eradicate all diseases, malaria, dengue, HIV & AIDS, and many others. Show us your mercy!

God our healer, **Hear our prayer!**

God, our rock and fortress, protect refugees, those without homes or security, all the abandoned children. Help us always to defend human rights and dignity. Show us your mercy!  
God our rock and fortress, **Hear our prayer!**

God of wholeness, soothe the afflicted, comfort the distressed, console the bereaved. Bring hope to those who are sick, to those who are lonely or suffering in any way today, especially Tilly, Billy, Estelle, Miriam, Lois N, Gerry, Aud, Don, Pat and Arlene

\_\_\_\_\_ and others who have asked us for our prayers whom we name out loud or in the silence of our hearts . . . *Pause, Pause, Pause, . . .* Show us your mercy!  
God of wholeness, **Hear our Prayer!**

Living God, we give your thanks for the witness of the saints who made your grace known. Increase our faith until your word flows freely from us and give us courage to follow in hope until you gather us all around your table of abundance. Show us your mercy!  
Living God, **Hear our Prayer!**

**Pastor:** Confident that you hear us, O God, we boldly place our prayer into your hands, through Jesus Christ, our truth and life. **Amen.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

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.**

### **BLESSING**

May the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ fill you with every spiritual blessing.

**Amen**

May the God of faithfulness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.

**Amen**

May 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**

*(Romans 15)*

Almighty God, Father ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and your loved ones now and forever.

**Amen**

**SENDING SONG: ELW 763 – My (Our) Life Flows On in Endless Song** – let us sing it as the church united across time and space - using the plural pronouns our, ours, we, we're in place of the singular pronouns – I, I'm, m, mine )



1 My life flows on in end-less song; a-bove earth's lam-en-ta-tion,  
 2 Through all the tu-mult and the strife, I hear that mu-sic ring-ing.  
 3 What though my joys and com-forts die? The Lord my Sav-ior liv-eth.  
 4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun-tain ev-er spring-ing!



I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre-a-tion.  
 It finds an ech-o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?  
 What though the dark-ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv-eth.  
 All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

*Refrain*



No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.



Since Christ is Lord of heav-en and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the Good News!  
**Thanks be to God.**



**These people share their gifts with us today: Pastor Vida Jaugelis, Sonja Koruga, Kathleen Stoll, Kyler Storm, Colin Stoll, Candace Storm, Shelley Meglaughlin,**

## Announcements:

### Memorial Page

**All Saints Sunday** has always been a meaningful and well attended service at Gloria Dei. Through the liturgy we remember and give thanks for the Communion of Saints - not only the living but all who have died in Christ and whose baptism is complete. As has been our custom, Pastor Vida will light candles for members of our congregation who have died in the last 12 months. However, due to COVID safety protocols, we will be foregoing our usual practice of inviting members to light a candle for their deceased loved one during the service. **In its place, we will be creating a MEMORIAL PAGE in the bulletin for All Saints Sunday. In order to populate this page, we are asking that you send the names of loved ones who have died to the church office - [gloriadei5828@gmail.com](mailto:gloriadei5828@gmail.com) by Wed. October 28.**

### Pre-registration for this Service is strongly encouraged

We are also asking that you register to attend this service by sending an email to the church office. We know that pre-registration for "coming to church" may seem strange, but this is a necessary practice in this season, so that we can comply with capacity limits and maintain physically distanced seating arrangements.

At this time, we are only requesting pre-registration for Festival and Communion Sundays. No e-mail registration is required for attendance on regular non-Communion Sundays.

Don't forget to 'like' our page on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/GDLCNV](http://www.facebook.com/GDLCNV) to stay up to date on everything that is happening.

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**Interim Pastor:** Rev. Vida Jaugelis – 604-813-4451  
**Email:** [pastorgd@shaw.ca](mailto:pastorgd@shaw.ca)

**Administrator:** Shelley Meglaughlin

**Music Director:** Sonja Koruga

**Church Council Chair:** Candace Strom

**Church Council Vice- Chair:** Ken Parkinson

**Church Council members:** Shelley Meglaughlin  
Maureen Kerfoot  
Kathleen Stoll  
Gail Berger

Church office is open Tuesday to Friday 9:00am to 1:30pm