



ORDER FOR THE
PUBLIC WORSHIP *of* GOD

October 25, 2015
Reformation Sunday



PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*As you enter the Sanctuary, please prepare your heart for worship
and silence your mobile devices.*

We are glad that you have chosen to worship with us today as we celebrate Reformation Sunday. Robert Capon reminds us what happened during this time period in history (1517-1689 AD):

“The Reformation was a time when men went blind, staggering drunk because they had discovered in the dusty basement of late medievalism, a whole cellar full of fifteen-hundred-year-old, two-hundred proof grace — bottle after bottle of pure distillate of Scripture, one sip of which would convince anyone that God saves us single-handedly.”

In essence, the Reformers recovered the biblical gospel: that God accepts us sinners not because of any work or supposed merit of our own, but because of His own mercy, on the ground of Christ’s finished work in which by grace we put our trust. Believing this fosters a lifestyle of humility, gratitude, and joy.

Pray that we would gladly trumpet God’s grace to ourselves and to others, and, as a result, may our Lord regularly grant us all the gift of repentance that leads to times of refreshing coming from the presence of our Lord. Don’t let this Reformation Sunday pass without praying this for yourself, your family, your church, and our world!

OUR GOD IS A SURE REFUGE

BRASS AND ORGAN PRELUDE:

Festive Fanfare on “Old Hundredth” Bruce Stevenson

HANDBELL PRELUDE: “God, Our Dwelling Place” ST. ANNE, arr. Hal Hopson

CALL TO WORSHIP Richard G. Cain

♠ PROCESSIONAL HYMN: No. 92 “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” . . . EIN’ FESTE BURG

♠ OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:

Select verses from Psalms and Proverbs Jennifer W. Thompson (8:15)
Blanche P. Tosh (11:00)

Wondrously show your steadfast love,

**O Savior of those who seek refuge
from their adversaries at your right hand.**

The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer,

**my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield,
and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.**

In the shadow of your wings I will take refuge,
till the storms of destruction pass by.

**I will sing of your strength;
I will sing aloud of your steadfast love in the morning.**

For you have been to me a fortress and a refuge in the day of my distress.

**Trust in him at all times, O people;
pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us.**

It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in man.

It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in princes.

The name of the Lord is a strong tower;

The righteous run to it and are safe.

Every word of God proves true;

He is a shield to those who take refuge in him.

✦ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE EIN' FESTE BURG

**O come, see what the Lord has done:
His desolations brought on earth;
On earth He puts an end to wars,
Breaks bow and spear, and chariots burn.
Be still! Know I am God.
Exalted o'er all men, exalted o'er all earth.
The Lord of hosts with us!
Our fortress strong is Jacob's God.**

✦ PRAYER OF ADORATION

OUR GOD IS A PRESENT HELP

CHORAL PRAISE: "O God, Our Help, In Ages Past" arr. Eugene Butler

O God our Help in ages past, our Hope for years to come,
Our Shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal Home.
Before the hills in order stood or earth received her frame,
From everlasting Thou are God to endless years the same.
A thousand ages in Thy sight are like an evening gone,
Short as the watch that ends the night, before the rising sun.
Time like an ever rolling stream bears all its sons away,
They fly forgotten as a dream dies at the opening day.

Congregation joins:

**O God our Help in ages past, our Hope for years to come,
Be Thou our Guard while life shall last, and our eternal Home!**

Amen.

*The Westminster Singers (8:15), The Chancel Choir (11:00)
Gabriel C. Statom, Director of Music*

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God our heavenly Father,
how comforting to know that
You declare sinners like us completely forgiven,
totally accepted and profoundly loved
through faith in Jesus Christ alone.
Forgive us for seeking refuge and security
in other things and people rather than in You.
Pardon us for living in the bondage of sin's dominion
rather than in the security of Your love.
Deliver us from our unbelief of Your promises,
our unwillingness to forgive others,
and our pride of place, face, race, and grace.
For we pray in the strong name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.**

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF DIVINE PARDON

✦ HYMN OF HOPE: No. 455 "And Can It Be That I Should Gain" SAGINA
stanzas 1 & 5

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS. Gerry A. Peak

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: "Upon This Rock" John Ness Beck

Upon this rock I will build my church,
And the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.
I will give thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven,
And whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven,
And whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

Lo, the winter is past; the rain is over and gone; the flowers appear on the earth;
The time of the singing of birds has come. Arise and come away!

✦ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE AURELIA

**The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord;
She is His new creation by water and the word;
From heaven He came and sought her to be His holy bride;
With His own blood he bought her, and for her life He died.**

**Yet she on earth hath union with God the three in one
And mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won:
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,
Like them the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with Thee.**

Amen.

✦ PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

✦ GREETINGS

A WORD TO THE CHILDREN (8:15) W. Brian Lewis

OUR GOD IS A STRONG FATHER

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:
For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON I Thessalonians 3:6-13
(page 987 in the church Bible)

All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field;

**The grass withers, the flower fades,
but the Word of our God will stand forever. Amen.** *(Isaiah 40:6b, 8)*

SERMON *How to Stand Fast in the Lord* Ligon Duncan

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

✦ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: No. 455 "And Can It Be That I Should Gain" . .SAGINA
stanzas 2-4

✦ BENEDICTION

✦ CONGREGATIONAL THREE-FOLD AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "Toccata from Symphony No. 5" Charles Marie-Widor
Samuel Metzger, organ

✦ *Indicates congregation standing* CCLI License #252778

*Second Ringers: Lily Humphreys, Mimi Vestal, Beth Fisher, Mary Lawrence Flinn, Anne Thompson,
B.J. Webster, Annie Petzinger, Fred Flinn, Daniel Polloreana, Jim Cantrell; Terri Theil, Director*