

**Order for Worship
Reformation Sunday
October 25, 2020**

Prelude

Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

Michael Frank
arr. Wayne Wold

*Blessed Jesus, at Your word we are gathered all to hear You;
Let our hearts and souls be stirred now to seek and love and fear You;
By Your teachings true and holy, drawn from earth to love You solely.*

*All our knowledge, sense, and sight lie in deepest darkness shrouded,
Till Your Spirit breaks our night with the beams of truth unclouded;
You alone to God can win us, You must work all good within us.*

*Glorious Lord, Yourself impart! light of light, from God proceeding,
Open now our ears and heart, help us by Your Spirit's pleading;
Hear the cry that we are raising; hear, and bless our prayers and praising.*

- Johann Rudolph Ahle

Welcome

Don Ewing

Call to Worship

Ronnie Bailey

Leader: It is not we who chose Christ, but Christ who chose us.

People: We are not here because of our goodness but because of Christ's grace;

Leader: We are not here to enlighten ourselves, but to allow Christ to enlighten us;

**People: We have not come to be entertained but to worship God with heart, soul, mind
and strength.**

Hymn of Praise

Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart

Please join in singing

**Spirit of God, descend upon my heart,
free it from sin, through all its pulses move.
Stoop to my weakness, mighty as You are,
And make me love You as I ought to love.**

**Did You not bid us love You, God and King,
Love You with all our heart and strength and mind?
I see Your cross there teach my heart to cling.
O let me seek You and O let me find!**

Words: George Croly, alt.

Music: *MORECAMBE* – Frederick C. Atkinson

Prayer of the Day

Ronnie Bailey

Prayer of Confession

Ronnie Bailey

God, we confess that we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. You embodied Yourself in a human body. You lived out your life among those who were sick—physically, mentally, and spiritually. You reached out to touch them, spoke words to comfort them, performed miracles to heal them. Heal us we pray from the sin that grips us. Heal us and help us to work for the healing and wholeness of our neighbors as well.

.....time for silent confession

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: The Spirit is poured out on us through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

People: Forgiven we are free us for joyful obedience and life through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Ministry of Music

Quartet

Here I Am Lord

words and music: Daniel L. Schutte/arr. Jack Schrader

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.

All who dwell in dark and sin My hand will save.

I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.

Who will bear My light to Them? Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard You calling in the night.

I will go, Lord, if You lead me. I will hold Your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne My people's pain.

I have wept for love of them, they turn away.

I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.

I will speak My word to them. Whom shall I send?

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame;

I will set a feast for them; My hand will save.

Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.

I will give My life to them. Whom shall I send?

Prayer for Illumination

Don Ewing

Scripture Reading

Matthew 22: 34-46

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: "What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, 'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet"'? If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Christian In This Time

Hymn of Response

Breath on Me, Breath of God

Please join in singing

**Breathe on me, breath of God, fill me with life anew,
that I may love what-e'er You love, and do what You would do.**

**Breathe on me, breath of God, so that Your will is mine,
Until this earthly part of me glows with Your fire divine.**

Words: Edwin Hatch, alt.

Music: *TRENTHAM* – Robert Jackson

Faith Community & Other Concerns, the Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Don Ewing

Hymn for Reformation

Quartet

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

using Martin Luther's original rhythmic version

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;

Protecting us with staff and rod, and power all prevailing.

What if the nations rage and surging seas rampage; what though the mountains fall,

The Lord is God of all; the Lord of hosts is with us.

-Omer Westendorf/Stanza 1, lines 1-2 Martin Luther

Benediction

Don Ewing

Postlude

Michael Frank

Ein' Feste Burg (A Mighty Fortress is Our God)

arr. Robert A. Hobby

The Quartet:

Soprano – Shannon Meyers

Alto – Sally Haleen

Tenor – Ralph Hays

Bass – Shane Michael

Reformation Sunday – Reformation Day is observed October 31, the day in 1517 on which Martin Luther (author and composer of *A Mighty Fortress*) nailed 95 Theses for debate on the door of the Wittenberg Church and started the sequence of events that resulted in what is called the Protestant Reformation. Presbyterian roots lie in this Reformation, with John Knox and John Calvin as leaders. Remembering the historical events of the sixteenth century, we confess our need for renewal and reformation in the church today. This is an opportunity to celebrate some of the great themes of the Reformation, such as the priesthood of all believers, affirming the full participation of God’s people in the life of the church. The liturgical color *red* is often for Reformation Sunday, Ordinations, Installations, and Church Anniversaries. Red represents the Holy Spirit and, when in conjunction with Reformation Sunday, it represents the Martyrs of the Christian Church.

Confirmands - We are pleased to welcome Amberson Bauer, Taylor Billet, Jack Keating, Enzo Lio and Brandon Williams into the life and mission of the church. They will be formally received during the Sunday in-church worship time.

All Saints Day, Sunday, November 1st – So that we may remember in worship the saints of your lives who have died within the past year, please call the church office (412.828.5770) or email Maureen Stecik at mstecik@oakmontpresby.org with your saints’ names **by noon on Wednesday, October 28th**.

Election Eve Prayer Service – we will gather for prayer on **Monday, November 2nd at 7:00 pm** in the Sanctuary for a time of worship and prayer focused on the election. This will be a non-partisan service and will provide an opportunity to pray for our country and for a safe election process. Please go to our website to *Reserve a Seat* or call the church office at 412-828-5770.



To reserve a seat please visit OPC website at www.oakmontpresbyterianchurch.org or call the church office at 412.828.5770.