**Worship Plan for Sunday, October 29, 2018**

**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**

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.**

**CHOIR ANTHEM A Mighty Fortress**

*(The first reading is read by the pastor)*

**THE READING**:  Romans 3:19-28

A reading from Romans.

19Now 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. 20For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin. 21But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, 22the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, 23since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; 24they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25whom 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; 26it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus. 27Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. 28For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

*The reading may be concluded:*

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM:** Psalm 19:1, 7-14

*To be read responsively, with the congregation reading the bold print.*

1The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

**7The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple;**

8the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes;

**9the fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.**

10More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb.

**11Moreover by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.**

12But who can detect their errors? Clear me from hidden faults.

**13Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them have dominion over me.**

Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.

**14Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.**

*Please stand to welcome the Gospel.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*(The gospel is read by the pastor)*

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

*The gospel is announced.*

The holy gospel according to St. John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

31Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; 32and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” 33They 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’?” 34Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. 35The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. 36So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.

*The gospel concludes:*

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

**CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the + holy Trinity,

the one who fashions us, the one who heals us,

the one who reforms us again and again.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, calling for God’s transforming power.

Source of all life,

**we confess that we have not trusted your grace to set us free.**

**We fear that we are not good enough.**

**We hear your word of love freely given to us, yet we expect others to earn it.**

**We turn the church inward, rather than moving it outward.**

**Forgive us. Stir us. Reform us to be a church powered by love,**

**willing to speak for what is right, act for what is just,**

**and seek the healing of your whole creation.**

**Amen.**

God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us

and to empower our lives in the world.

Our sins are forgiven, + God’s love is unconditional,

and we are raised up as God’s people who will always be made new,

in the name of Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

**THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

O God of justice and love,

we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and bring all the world to your feast.

For, 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.”

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end,  
we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

We pray for the gift of your Spirit; in our gathering; within this meal;   
and among your people throughout the world;   
even as we pray in the words of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us;**

**and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever.   
Amen.**

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

These are the gifts of God, for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God!**

**COMMUNION**

*(The prayer after communion is read by the lay assistant)*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Holy and compassionate God,

in bread and wine you give us gifts that form us to be humble and courageous.

May your words come to life in our serving and in our witness,

that we might speak a living voice of healing and justice to all the world,

through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer

**Amen.**

**Blessing**God, creator of all things, speaking reformation into being;  
Jesus Christ, savior of the world, raising the dead;  
Holy Spirit, living voice, calling and enlightening the church;   
Almighty God, Father, + Son, Holy Spirit,   
bless you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

**Sending Song** *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God (ELW 504)*

*(The dismissal is given by the lay assistant)***DISMISSAL**

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

Copyright © 2016 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS000806.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989,

Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America.

Used by permission. All rights reserved.