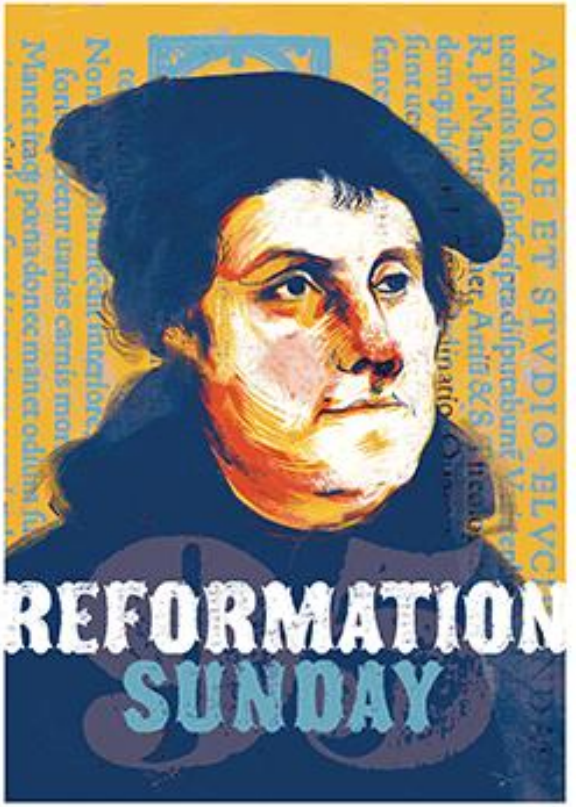

Reformation Sunday
October 25, 2026
8:00 AM and 10:30 AM
St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Henrik Sonntag, Pastor
120 N. Easton Road
Glenside, PA
215-884-3005

GATHERING _____

THE PRELUDE
(8:00 a.m.) *Two Chorale Preludes on "A Mighty Fortress" (Ein Fest Burg)*
Johann Pachelbel and Johann Gottfried Walther
(10:30 a.m.) *A Mighty Fortress for Solo Trumpet* – arr. Tim Rumsey
Rob Skoniczin, trumpet

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS Page 94

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**
God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**
Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.
Most merciful God, **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**
In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all you sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen. OR**
God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN

No. 504 A Mighty Fortress is our God *Ein Feste Burg*

The first verse is sung solo in German. All verses sung by the congregation in English.

10:30 only *Third verse choir only*

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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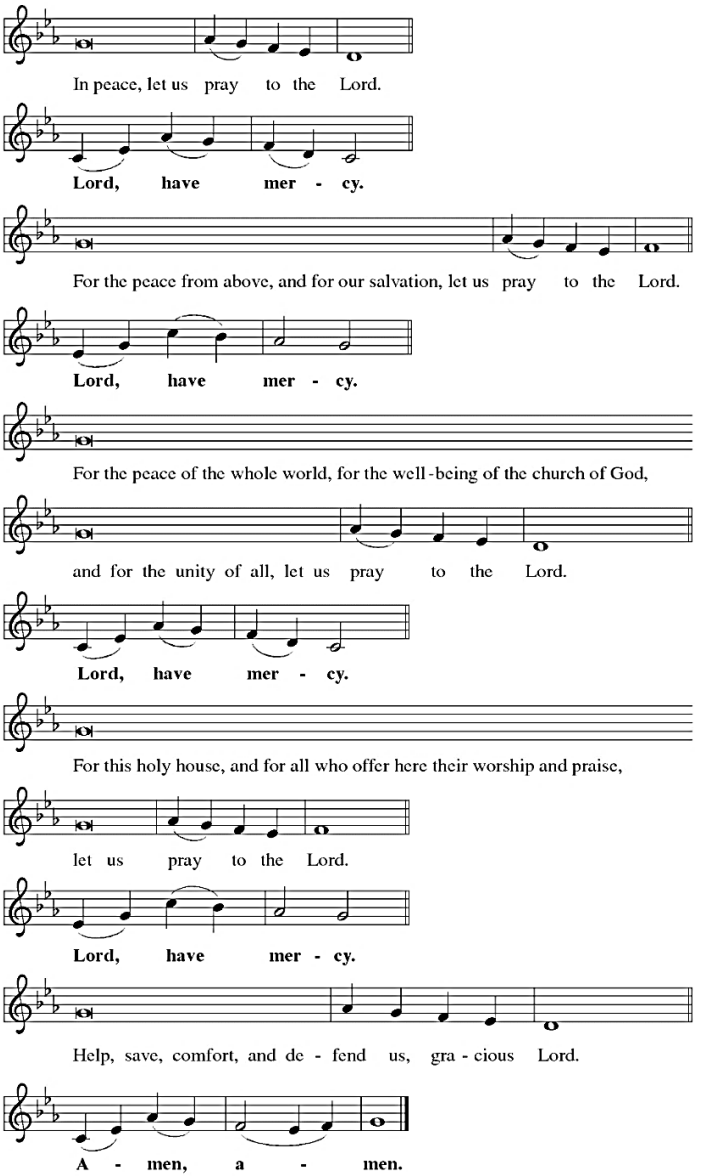
GREETING

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.**

KYRIE (red) Page 98



Glo - ry to God in the high -
est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.
Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and
Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we
praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the
right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.
For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a -
lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,
Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of
God the Fa - ther. A - men.
Glo - ry to God in the high -
est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

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.**

Please be seated.

THE WORD

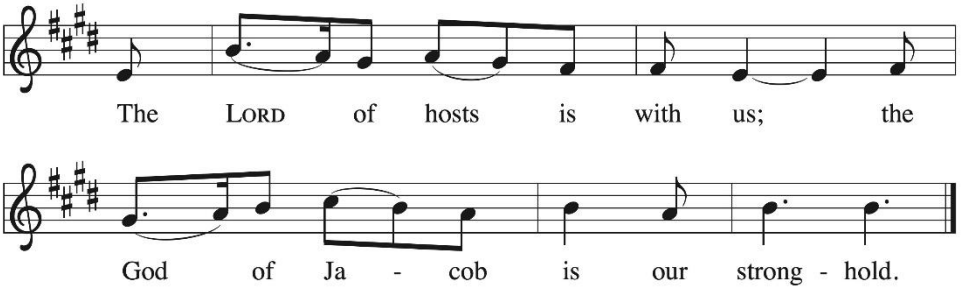
THE FIRST READING Jeremiah 31:31-34

31 The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new
covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. 32 It will not be
like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the
hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke,
though I was their husband, says the LORD. 33 But this is the covenant that I
will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put
my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their
God, and they shall be my people. 34 No longer shall they teach one
another or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me,
from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD, for I will forgive their
iniquity and remember their sin no more.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM Psalm 46

*8:00 The Psalm will be read responsively with the assembly reading the verses in **bold**.*
*10:30 The antiphon is introduced by the choir, then is sung by all. The assembly sings the verses in **bold**.*



Psalm 46:7
Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year A* © 2007 Augsburg Fortress.
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1 God is our ref- | uge and strength,
a very present | help in trouble.
2 **Therefore we will not fear, though the | earth be moved,**
and though the mountains shake in the depths | of the sea;
3 though its waters | rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble | with its tumult.
4 **There is a river whose streams make glad the cit- | y of God,**
the holy habitation of | the Most High.
5 God is in the midst of the city; it shall | not be shaken;
God shall help it at the | break of day.
6 **The nations rage, and the | kingdoms shake;**
God speaks, and the earth | melts away. R
7 The LORD of | hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.
8 **Come now, regard the works | of the LORD,**
what desolations God has brought up- | on the earth;
9 behold the one who makes war to cease in | all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the | shields with fire.
10 **"Be still, then, and know that | I am God;**
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted | in the earth."
11 The LORD of | hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob | is our stronghold. **R**

THE SECOND READING Romans 3:19-28

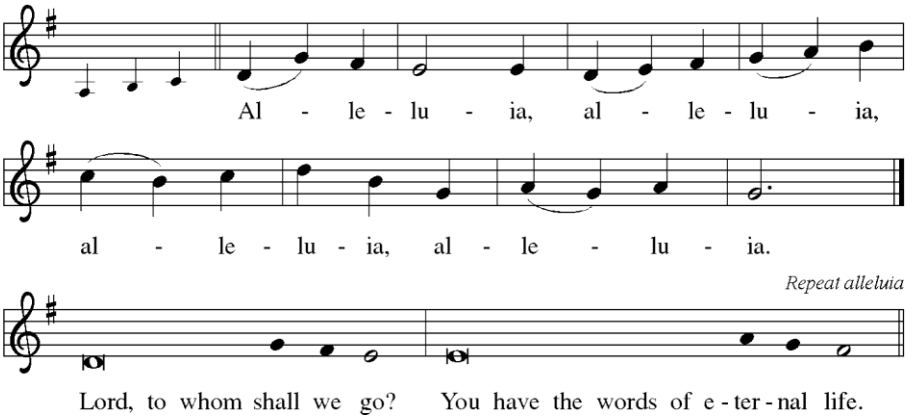
19 Now we know that, whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are
under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world
may be held accountable to God. 20 For no human will be justified before
him by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the
knowledge of sin.

21 But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been
disclosed and is attested by the Law and the Prophets, 22 the
righteousness of God through the faith of Jesus Christ for all who believe.
For there is no distinction, 23 since all have sinned and fall short of the glory
of God; 24 they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the
redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25 whom God put forward as a sacrifice
of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to
demonstrate his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had
passed over the sins previously committed; 26 it was to demonstrate at the
present time his own righteousness, so that he is righteous and he justifies
the one who has the faith of Jesus.
27 Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of
law? That of works? No, rather through the law of faith. 28 For we hold that
a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Page 102



THE HOLY GOSPEL John 8:31-36

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the Eighth Chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

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

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

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

I Give Thanks to You With My Song Valerie Shields
The Youth Singers
Susie Pierce Mills, piano

SERMON Pastor Henrik Sonntag

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.
Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY
No. 517 Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word *Erhalt Uns*

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
Music: ERHALT UNS, HERR, J. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Please kneel or sit for the prayers: The response to: Lord, in your mercy, is **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

A brief silence.

As we celebrate Reformation Sunday, we remember the witness of Martin Luther and the reformers of the church in every generation. Empower us to continue the work of reform and renewal in our own day. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the healing of natural places despoiled by pollution and human greed (*local places may be named*). Give all living creatures access to safe land, water, and air. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our criminal justice systems and all those whose lives are affected by them. Give wisdom and discernment to police, probation officers, judges, and attorneys; give courage and peace to prisoners and the formerly incarcerated. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We ask your blessing upon all people who have been harmed by the church and its leaders, that the truth may make them free. We pray for the relief of all those who are sick or suffering especially all those on our prayer list. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for those exploring or returning to a life of faith. Encourage and guide them, that they may find their hope in you. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

With gratitude, we remember those disciples who paved the way for us and all of our beloved dead. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

THE PEACE

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

All greet each other with Christ's gesture of peace saying "Peace be with you."

Please be seated

MEAL_____

OFFERING
8:00 a.m. Organ Selection

To celebrate the gifts and ministry of Rae Ann Anderson, 20 years at St. Paul's
10:30 a.m. *A Fair and Glorious Gift* Martin Luther / Nancy Raabe

The Chancel Choir

A quote from Martin Luther*: "Next to the Word of God, music deserves the highest praise*."

The full quote can be found in your November newsletter*

Words of inspiration for Nancy Raabe's anthem "A Fair and Glorious Fit" from Martin Luther's *Preface to Georg Rhau's Symphoniae iucundae (LW p. 323).*

I would certainly like to praise music with all my heart as the excellent gift of God which it is and to commend it to everyone.

From the beginning of the world it has been instilled and implanted in all creatures, individually and collectively. For nothing is without sound or harmony.

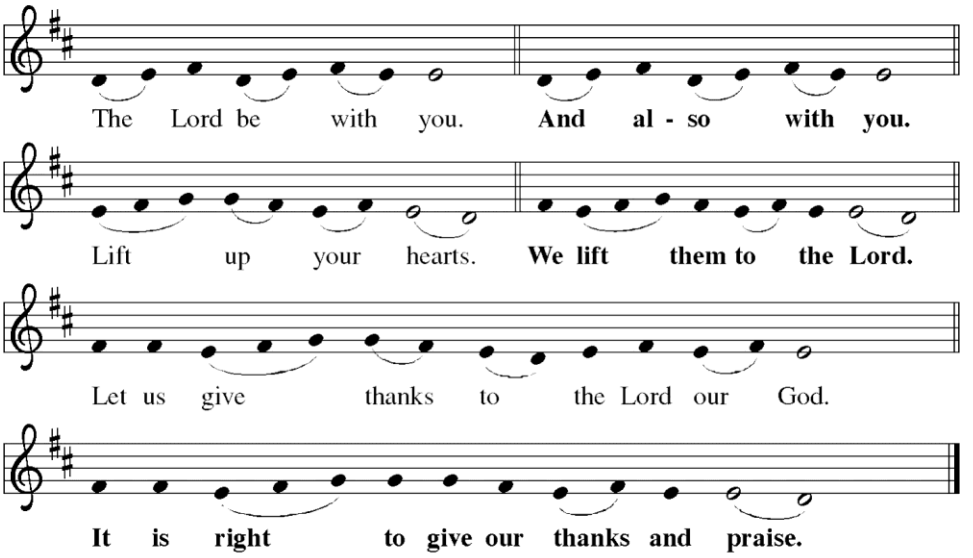
For whether you wish to comfort the sad, to terrify the happy, to encourage the despairing, to humble the proud, to calm the passionate, or to appease those full of hate – and who could number all these masters of the human heart, namely, the emotions, inclinations, and affections that impel men to evil or good? – what more effective means than music could you find?

Next to the Word of God, music deserves the highest praise.

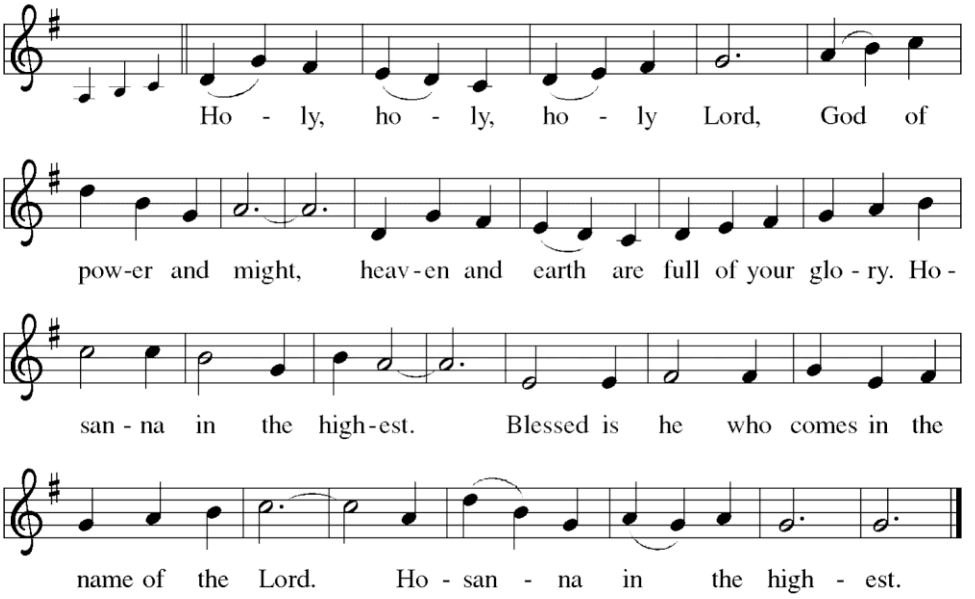
OFFERTORY No. 692 We Are an Offering

THE OFFERTORY PRAYER Concludes with … **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



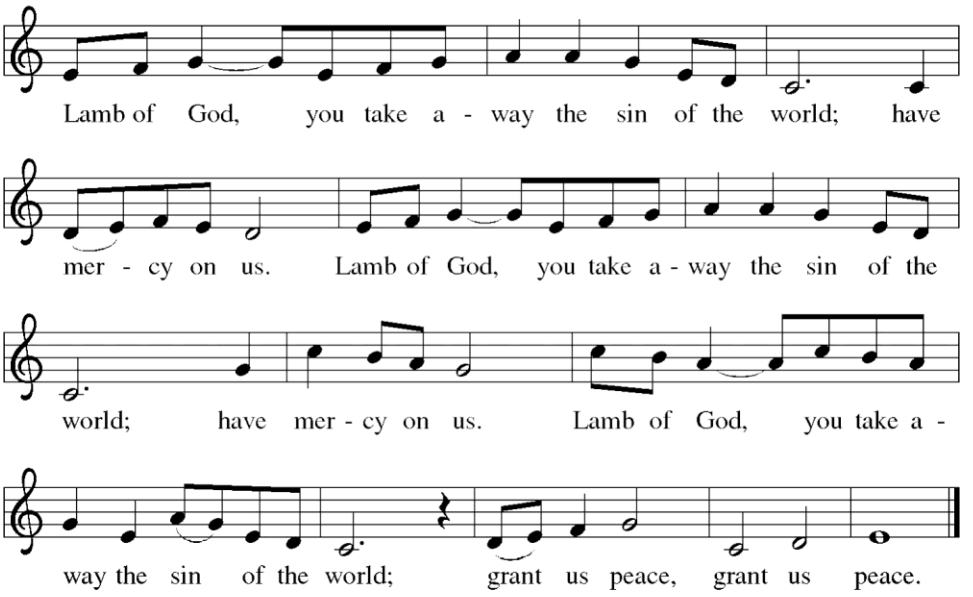
THE SANCTUS Page 108



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER Page 112

Please be seated.



No. 1048 Founded on Faith *Founded on Faith*

Founded on Faith

Text: Paul D. Weber, b. 1949
Music: FOUNDED ON FAITH, Paul D. Weber
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Please stand as you are able.

THE COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

THE POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

Now Lord, You Let Your Servant Go in Peace Page 113

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Concludes with **Amen.**

SENDING _____

THE BLESSING (red) Page 114

THE SENDING HYMN
No. 652 Built on a Rock *Kirken Den Er Et Gammelt Hus*
Verses 1, 2, 3, and 5

Built on a Rock

5 Through all the passing years, O Lord,
grant that, when church bells are ringing,
many may come to hear your Word,
who here this promise is bringing:
"I know my own, my own know me;
you, not the world, my face shall see;
my peace I leave with you. Amen."

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Carl Doving, 1867–1937, adapt.
Music: KIRKEN DEN ER ET GAMMELT HUS, Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–1887
Text © 1958 *Service Book and Hymnal*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Please be seated for the announcements.

PARISH NOTICES AND JOYS

SENDING: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

THE POSTLUDE
(8:00 a.m.) *Chorale Prelude on "Built on a Rock" (Kirken den er et gammelt Hus)* Wilbur Held
(10:30 a.m.) *Trumpet Tune in C* Giuseppi Torelli
Rob Skoniczin, trumpet