



GRACE LUTHERAN

CHURCH • SCHOOL



REFORMATION

OCTOBER 30, 2021 - 5:00 PM

OCTOBER 31, 2021 - 10:45 AM

When composing *Ein Feste Burg ist unser Gott* (A Mighty Fortress Is Our God), Martin Luther was inspired by selected verses of Psalm 46...

God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble (v. 1).
The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress (v. 7).

The primary connection between the hymn and the scripture is that God ("The Lord of hosts") is always with us. Luther takes the generality of Psalm 46 and makes it specific in his hymn. He names the enemy (v. 3 - hordes of devils), as well as the rescuer (v. 2 - Christ Jesus, mighty Lord). The Reformation was a time of spiritual warfare, and in that sense, A Mighty Fortress is a battle hymn. More broadly, it is an expression of God's omnipotence and steadfastness, unable to be broken during a time of strife; our refuge and strength.

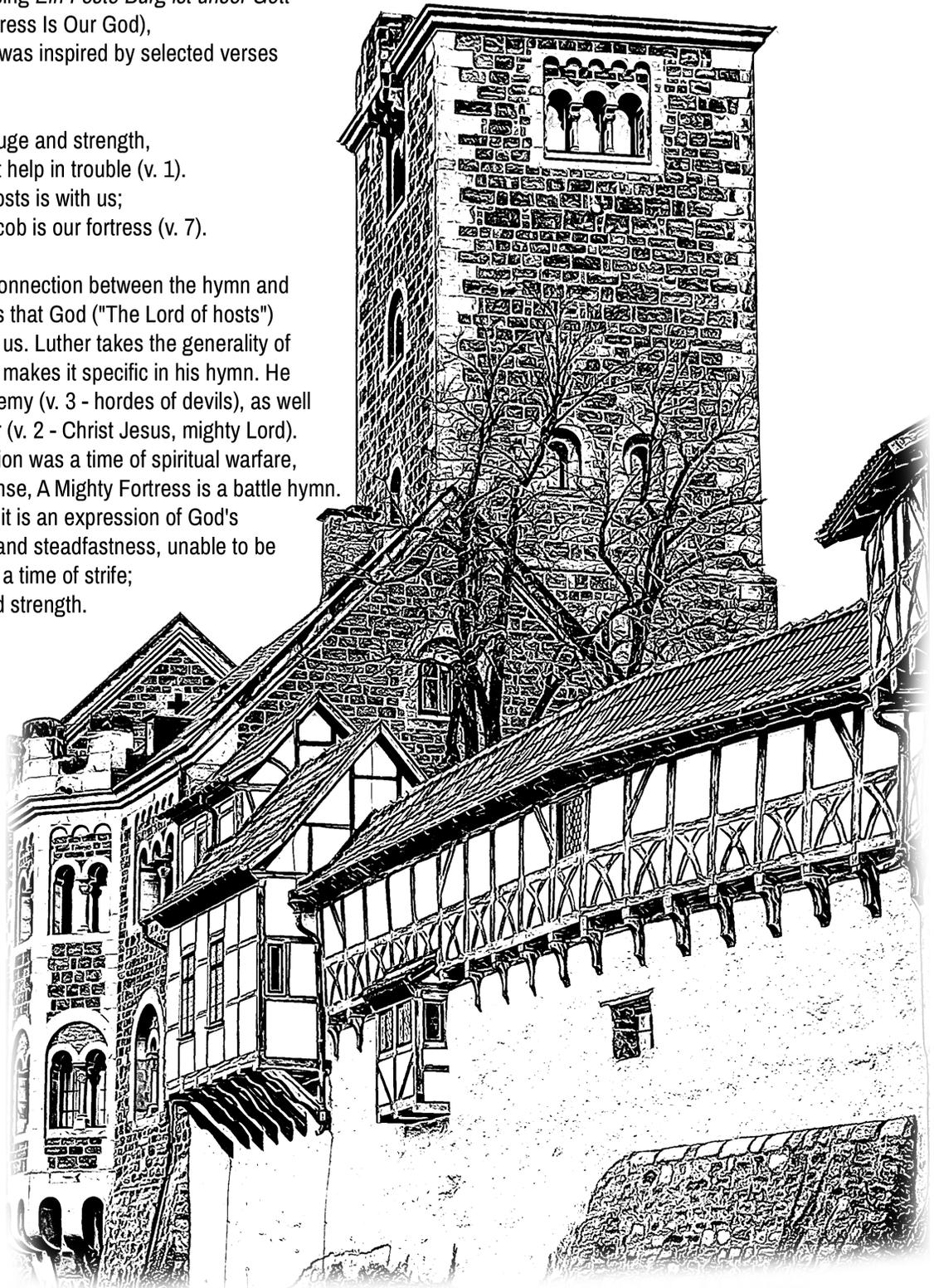


Photo: The Wartburg Castle, Eisenach, where Martin Luther took refuge from 1521-1522.

*(The * indicates when the congregation is to stand.)*

PRELUDE

“Toccatina and Fugue in D minor, BWV 565”

J.S. Bach

WELCOME

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

Hymn 657

([10:45] Stand and face the cross as it enters the Sanctuary.)

**A mighty fortress is our God, A sword and shield victorious;
He breaks the cruel oppressor’s rod And wins salvation glorious.
The old satanic foe Has sworn to work us woe.
With craft and dreadful might He arms himself to fight.
On earth he has no equal.**

**No strength of ours can match his might. We would be lost, rejected.
But now a champion comes to fight, Whom God Himself elected.
You ask who this may be? The Lord of hosts is He,
Christ Jesus, mighty Lord, God’s only Son, adored.
He holds the field victorious.**

**Though hordes of devils fill the land All threat’ning to devour us,
We tremble not, unmoved we stand; They cannot overpower us.
Let this world’s tyrant rage; In battle we’ll engage.
His might is doomed to fail; God’s judgment must prevail!
One little word subdues him.**

**God’s Word forever shall abide, No thanks to foes, who fear it;
For God Himself fights by our side With weapons of the Spirit.
Were they to take our house, Goods, honor, child, or spouse,
Though life be wrenched away, They cannot win the day.
The Kingdom’s ours forever!**

***THE INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

Luther’s questions and answers from the Small Catechism provide us with catechetical review as well as confession.

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Do you believe that you are a sinner?

People: Yes, I believe it; I am a sinner.

Pastor: How do you know this?

People: From the Ten Commandments, which I have not kept.

Pastor: Are you sorry for your sins?

People: Yes, I am sorry that I have sinned against God and against my brothers and sisters.

Pastor: What have you deserved from God by your sins?

People: His wrath and displeasure, temporal death and eternal damnation.

Pastor: Do you hope to be saved?

People: Yes, that is my hope.

Pastor: In whom, then, do you trust?

People: In my dear Lord Jesus Christ.

Pastor: What has Christ done for you that you trust in Him?

People: He died for me and shed His blood for me on the cross for the forgiveness of sins.

Pastor: Why should we remember and proclaim His death?

People: First, so we may learn to believe that no creature could make payment for our sins. Only Christ, true God and man, could do that. Second, so we may learn to be horrified by our sins, and regard them as very serious. Third, so we may find joy and comfort in Christ alone and, through faith in Him be saved.

Pastor: What motivated Christ to die and make payment for our sins?

People: His great love for His Father and for me and other sinners.

Pastor: As you believe, so let it be. In the stead and by the command of my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

*THE KYRIE

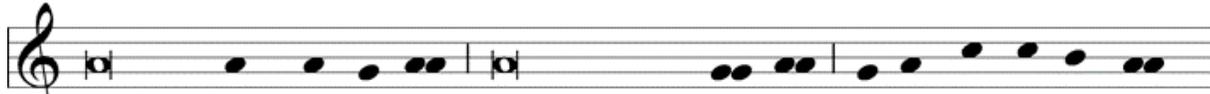
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A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



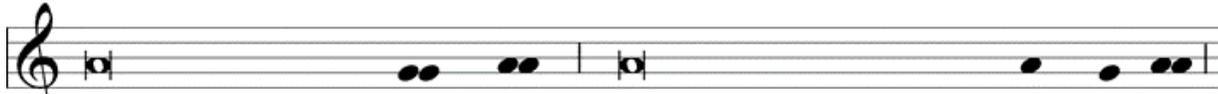
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove and for our sal-va-tion let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the uni-ty of all let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord.



A - men.



A This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



B Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,



whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.



Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and strength and



hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are His.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le -



lu - ia. Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and might be to



God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



THE FIRST READING

Psalm 46:1-3, 7, 10-11

¹God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. ²Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, ³though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling... ⁷The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress... ¹⁰"Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!" ¹¹The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE SECOND READING

Romans 3:19-28

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin. ²¹But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: ²³for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. ²⁶It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. ²⁷Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE ANTHEM “Two Chorales from If Thou But Trust in God to Guide Thee”
(Grace Chorale) Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy

***THE HOLY GOSPEL**

John 8:31-36

Pastor: The Gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

³¹So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” ³³They answered him, “We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, ‘You will become free?’” ³⁴Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. ³⁶So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

[10:45] CHILDREN’S MESSAGE AND DISMISSAL TO CHILDREN’S CHURCH

***SERMON HYMN** “Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word”

Hymn 655

**Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word;
Curb those who by deceit or sword
Would wrest the kingdom from Your Son
And bring to naught all He has done.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, Your pow’r make known,
For You are Lord of lords alone;
Defend Your holy Church that we
May sing Your praise eternally.**

**O Comforter of priceless worth,
Send peace and unity on earth;
Support us in our final strife
And lead us out of death to life.**

***CONFESSION OF FAITH - LUTHER’S EXPLANATION TO THE SECOND ARTICLE OF THE APOSTLES’ CREED**

Pastor: What do you believe about Jesus Christ?

People: I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

***PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

***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.**

***THE BENEDICTION** (Numbers 6:24-26)

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Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: Amen.

***RECESSIONAL HYMN** "Glory Be to God the Father"

Hymn 506

**Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son,
Glory be to God the Spirit: Great Jehovah, Three in One!
Glory, glory While eternal ages run!**

**Glory be to Him who loved us, Washed us from each spot and stain;
Glory be to Him who bought us, Made us kings with Him to reign!
Glory, glory To the Lamb that once was slain!**

**Glory to the King of angels, Glory to the Church's King,
Glory to the King of nations; Heav'n and earth, your praises bring!
Glory, glory To the King of glory sing!**

**Glory, blessing, praise eternal! Thus the choir of angels sings;
Honor, riches, pow'r, dominion! Thus its praise creation brings.
Glory, glory, Glory to the King of kings!**

***DISMISSAL**

Pastor: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

"A Mighty Fortress"

Charles W. Ore

WORSHIP SERVICE LEADERS

SATURDAY, 5:00 PM

The Officiant
The Organist
The Lectors
The Usher/Greeter Team

The Rev. Brendon T. Moore
Nick Klemetson
Jeff Wittcop, Pat Wittcop
Don & Connie March, Jennifer March

SUNDAY, 10:45 AM

The Preacher
The Liturgist
The Organist/Choir Director
The Sound Technician
The Elder on Duty
The Lectors
The Robing Leader
The Crucifer
The Acolytes
The Welcome Team Greeter
At the Welcome Center
The Welcome Team Ushers

The Rev. Brendon T. Moore
The Rev. Charles T. Reich
Nick Klemetson
Stephanie Klemetson
Jennifer Smith
Fred Aceto, Linda Aceto
Julia King
Brayden Carbone
Lauren King, Bella Wallace
Michaela Oxar
Janice Graydon
Donna Enzor, Steve Griffith,
Carl Rod, Larry Walker

CREDITS

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