



REJOICE FELLOWSHIP

A Ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Worshipping at 300 W Maple Rd, Linthicum, MD 21090
and online at facebook.com/RejoiceFellowshipGlenBurnie
Offices at 300 W Maple Rd, Linthicum, MD 21090

email: rejoiceelca@gmail.com
phone: 410-760-3084
website: rejoiceelca.org



October 31, 2021 | 10:00 am
John 8:31-36
Reformation Day

C: indicates spoken responses by the congregation
P: indicates the Presiding Minister
A: indicates the Assisting Minister
* indicates for the congregation to stand as able

Welcome to worship at Rejoice Fellowship! Helpful instructions for various parts of our worship will be included throughout this bulletin at relevant places. If you have any questions, please ask a greeter.

Please note that currently we are asking everyone to wear a mask during worship, out of an abundance of love, respect and concern for those who are unvaccinated, especially our children. Thank you.

✠ Gathering ✠

WELCOME

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, whose teaching is life, whose presence is sure, and whose love is endless.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God our comforter:

C: like lost sheep, we have gone astray. We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity. We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression. We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed. Free us from our sin, gracious God. Listen when we call out to you for help. Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves. Amen.

P: All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. By the gift of grace in ✠ Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous. Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.

C: Amen.

You are invited to stand.

***GATHERING SONG**

A MIGHTY FORTRESS



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -
4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who



to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
your us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,



has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

***GREETING**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: God of repentance and freedom, you see us for who we are - the good, the bad, and the messy. Keep inspiring liberators as we co-create a world without slavery, through the movement of your Spirit.

C: Amen.

You are invited to sit.

✠ Word ✠

FIRST READING

Romans 3:19-28

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the Law says, it speaks to those who are under the Law, in order to shut every mouth and make it so the whole world has to answer to God. ²⁰It follows that no human being will be treated as righteous in his presence by doing what the Law says, because the knowledge of sin comes through the Law.

²¹But now God's righteousness has been revealed apart from the Law, which is confirmed by the Law and the Prophets. ²²God's righteousness comes through the faithfulness of Jesus Christ for all who have faith in him. There's no distinction. ²³All have sinned and fall short of God's glory, ²⁴but all are treated as righteous freely by his grace because of a ransom that was paid by Christ Jesus. ²⁵Through his faithfulness, God displayed Jesus as the place of sacrifice where mercy is found by means of his blood. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness in passing over sins that happened before, ²⁶during the time of God's patient tolerance. He also did this to demonstrate that he is righteous in the present time, and to treat the one who has faith in Jesus as righteous.

²⁷What happens to our bragging? It's thrown out. With which law? With what we have accomplished under the Law? ²⁸No, not at all, but through the law of faith. We consider that a person is treated as righteous by faith, apart from what is accomplished under the Law._(CEB)

A: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

You are invited to stand.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

A: Let us praise and give thanks for the living Word.

C: Alleluia. If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free. Alleluia.

***THE GOSPEL**

John 8:31-36

P: The Holy Gospel according to John, the 8th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹Jesus said to the Judeans who believed in him, "You are truly my disciples if you remain faithful to my teaching. ³²Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

³³They responded, "We are Abraham's children; we've never been anyone's slaves. How can you say that we will be set free?"

³⁴Jesus answered, "I assure you that everyone who sins is a slave to sin. ³⁵A slave isn't a permanent member of the household, but a son is. ³⁶Therefore, if the Son makes you free, you really will be free._(CEB)

P: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

You are invited to sit.

SERMON

PASTOR MADELINE TALLMAN

MUSICAL REFLECTION

REJOICE CHOIR

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Following each petition:

A: Attend to us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

SHARING THE PEACE

A: The peace of Christ be with you all.

C: And also with you.

You are invited to safely share a greeting of Christ's peace with one another. Please respect the boundaries of those present, as not everyone will be comfortable shaking hands or hugging yet.

✠Meal✠

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND TITHES

Rejoice Fellowship is blessed by your generosity! Tithes and offerings can be given in a few ways: 1) electronically by clicking here: <https://tithe.ly/widget/v3/give.js?3>; 2) physical checks/cash can be placed in the plate as you enter our service this morning (please alert a greeter if you require assistance); 3) electronically by scanning the QR code at right to visit our donation page; and 4) physical checks/cash can be mailed to our office at 300 W Maple Rd, Linthicum, MD 21090. Thank you for opening your heart!



OFFERING PRAYER

C: God of abundance, you cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain from the heavens. Accept the gifts you have first given us. Unite them with the offering of our lives to nourish the world you love so dearly; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory... to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: All who hunger and thirst, come. The table is ready.

If you have joined us in person, you will be guided to the front to receive communion. If you would like communion brought to you, please let an usher know.

While our practice is usually to include bread and a cup, we are following the guidance of our Delaware Maryland Synod ELCA and communing in "one kind," that is, just with bread for now. Our theological understanding of Holy Communion is that receiving one element, like simply the bread, is still receiving the entire sacrament. You are welcome to the table.

If you are joining us through Facebook Live, we invite you to gather your own bread and wine or juice to receive the sacrament with us.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

C: Lord of life, in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation. Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

✠Sending ✠

BLESSING

P: People of God, you are Christ's body, bringing new life to a suffering world. The holy Trinity, ✠ one God, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

You are invited to stand.

*SENDING HYMN

WE ARE THE CHURCH

Refrain

We are the church, the bo - dy of our Lord;
we are all God's chil - dren. We have been re - stored.

1 The church is not a build - ing
2 You can go to wor - ship
3 The church is not a busi - ness,
4 The church, it is the peo - ple

where peo - ple go to pray;
but you can - not go to church;
a com - mit - tee or a board;
liv - ing out their lives,

it's not made out of sticks and stones,
you can't find a build - ing that's a - live
it's not a cor - por - a - tion for
called, en - light - ened, sanc - ti - fied

Refrain

it's not made out of clay.
no mat - ter how you search.
the busi - ness of the Lord.
for the work of Je - sus Christ.

You are invited to sit.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISSION BUILDER UPDATE

POSTLUDE

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

C: Thanks be to God.

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Worship Leaders

Thank you to all who serve!

Date	Assisting Minister	Camera Person	Greeter	Altar Preparer	Usher
10/31/21	Alyce Cohen	Brian Hudgins	Debbie Jones	Alyce Cohen	Tim Cochran
11/7/21	Gale Krol	David Rinker	Jamee Dillon	Gale Krol	Tim Cochran
11/14/21	Reilly Dillon	Brian Hudgins	Debbie Jones	Joanna Heldreth	Moe Moczulski

Thank you also to our musicians: Jan Brennan, Bob Hudgins, and Tyler Ridenour

What's Happening This Week

Sun., October 31	Worship – 10am in the Fellowship Hall at St. John’s, and on FB Live Book Study after worship at St. John’s
Mon., November 1	
Tues., November 2	Worship Team Meeting
Wed., November 3	Choir Rehearsal – 7pm at St. John’s Youth Group – 7-8:30pm in the LHUMC Fellowship Hall
Thurs., November 4	Generosity Team Meeting Bible Study – 7pm in the Rejoice Fellowship Room at St. John’s
Fri., November 5	
Sat., November 6	