



# October 25, 2020 Reformation Sunday

**Prelude:** *A Mighty Fortress is Our God* (Elim Handbell Choir) [arr. Larry Sue]

**Welcome/Announcements**

**Installation of Pastor Lamont**

**Hymn:** *A Mighty Fortress is Our God*

**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** (See Celebrate insert)

**Gospel:** Matthew 22:34-40

**Reading:** Deuteronomy 34:1-12

**Sermon** (Pastor Lamont Koerner)

**Offering**

**Hymn:** *Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense*

**Confirmation of Austin Devine**

**Prayers of Intercession** (See Celebrate insert)

**Lord's Prayer**

**Blessing and Sending**

**Postlude**

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## COVID-19 Safety Reminders

The leadership at Elim wants to be sure that we all help to keep each other safe. Please be mindful of the safety reminders listed below.

- ✓ Do not come to church if you have any COVID-19 symptoms.
- ✓ If you become sick and have recently visited the church, please contact the church.
- ✓ While in the church, always wear a mask.
- ✓ While in the church, maintain social distancing at all times.
- ✓ If you plan to visit the church, other than for worship, please notify the church office (for contact tracing purposes).

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## Washington County COVID-19 Statistics

(as of 10/21/2020)

Category	Count	Percent of Total
Total Cases	5,346	
<b>Highest/Lowest Cities*</b>		
Highest City (Woodbury)	1,500	28.1%
Lowest City (West Lakeland Township)	10	0.2%
<b>Cities in Surrounding Area</b>		
Stillwater	563	10.5%
Forest Lake	354	6.6%
Hugo	305	5.7%
Marine on St. Croix	28	0.5%
Scandia	26	0.5%

\*Cities with less than 10 cases are not published.

Source: Washington County COVID-19 Data Dashboard

Washington County has a link to the dashboard on their site.

Go to: <https://www.co.washington.mn.us/3168/COVID-19>

## Elements of the Celebrate® Insert for October 25, 2020

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### Introduction to the day

Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

### 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.**

### Prayers of Intercession

With confidence in God's grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

Renew and inspire the church in the freedom of the gospel, O God. Where the church is in error, reform it. Where the church speaks your truth, strengthen it. Where the church is divided, unify it. Ignite in us the working of the Holy Spirit. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

As the earth changes, as mountains shake and the waters roar, may we care for this planet as a holy habitation for all living things. Sustain all peoples and lands recovering from natural disasters of any kind (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Guide areas of the world divided or traumatized by conflict, especially in our own land. Free all from slavery and human trafficking, and protect all in harm's way. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Release those living in bondage to debts, chronic pain, or addiction. Grant healing touch to those who are ill (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In this family of faith we give thanks for courageous voices that have remained firm in their commitment to the one who frees us from sin and death. Centered in your grace, unify us in the hope of the gospel. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Even in death, you free us and give us a place in your house. We give thanks for our ancestors who have shown us truth and freedom, especially Martin Luther and those who work for the renewal of the church. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Listen as we call on you, O God, and enfold in your loving arms all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

For readings, refer to your Bible or use an online Bible source, such as [Bible Gateway](#). [NOTE: The New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) is used.]