

# LORDSTOWN LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Sunday, October 29, 2023*  
*22nd Sunday after Pentecost*  
*Reformation Sunday*  
*10:00AM*



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**Worship Bulletin**  
**Sunday, October 29, 2023**  
**Lordstown Lutheran Church**

Rev. Dougherty—Pastor  
Mrs. Margaret Thomas— Organist  
Mrs. Lois Dorazio—Choir Director  
Mrs. Linda Falatic - Lectors

*We welcome you to worship with us this morning and we're glad you are here. May God bless our time together and may you feel renewed and refreshed as we celebrate God's unconditional love for the world. Thank you for joining us today and we hope you will return again soon.*

*Children's Sunday School meets on the 2nd & 4th Sundays during worship, and Children's Service project on the 5th Sunday during the School year. As a courtesy the congregation does not stand during worship unless instructed to do so.*

## **Today's Worship Theme**

Jesus' summary of the law in today's gospel echoes our first reading from Leviticus. We are called not only to love God with heart, soul, and mind, but also to love our neighbor as ourselves. It is out of such deep care that Paul shares the gospel with the Thessalonian community. In the confession of sins, we acknowledge that we have not loved God, neighbor, and self; yet we gather to hear the word of forgiveness and to be strengthened by word and meal to be signs of God's love and mercy in the world.

## **Entering Into God's Presence**

**WELCOME**

**PRELUDE - A Quiet Time for Reflection**

# Confession and Forgiveness

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

**L:** Blessed be God, the one who forms us, † Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

**P: Amen**

**L:** Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**L:** Steadfast and faithful God,

**P:** you have revealed the ways of justice,  
yet we fail to follow you.

**We are overwhelmed  
by the world's violence and suffering.**

**We are afraid to risk what we have  
for the sake of others.**

**For the harm we have caused,  
known and unknown, forgive us.**

**For the unjust demands we place on others  
and your creation, forgive us.**

**For the ways we turn away  
from you and our neighbor, forgive us.**

**Lead us back to you  
and set us on the right path;  
in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior.**

**Amen.**

**L:** Beloved in Christ,  
God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.  
God's compassion is beyond compare.  
In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.  
In † Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

**P: Amen**

# GATHERING HYMN vs 1, 2, 3, & 4

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## A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

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!

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**L:** The love of God poured into our hearts, the saving grace of Jesus Christ, and the abundant life of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**ALL: And also with you.**

**L:** Let us pray together.

**ALL: O Lord God, you are the holy lawgiver, you are the salvation of your people. By your Spirit renew us in your covenant of love, and train us to care tenderly for all our neighbors, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**AMEN**

## ***Special Music***

### **God's Word for Us Today**

#### **First Reading: Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18    LECTOR**

The Holiness Code in Leviticus urges people to be holy because God is holy. Holiness is lived out as God's people exercise justice and love in their dealings with one another. We are to love our neighbors as ourselves.

1The Lord spoke to Moses, saying:

2Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them: You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy.

15You shall not render an unjust judgment; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbor. 16You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not profit by the blood of your neighbor: I am the Lord.

17You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your neighbor, or you will incur guilt yourself. 18You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord.

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

## **Psalm: Psalm 1**

## **LECTOR**

*Their delight is in the law of the Lord. (Ps. 1:2)*

1Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,  
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

**2Their delight is in the law of the Lord,  
and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.**

3They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due  
season, with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.

**4It is not so with the wicked;  
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**

5Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes,  
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

**6For the Lord knows the way of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.**

## **Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8 LECTOR**

*Paul uses maternal imagery to depict the caring and nurturing relationship he shares with the Thessalonian Christians. When he first came to their city it was not to benefit himself but to share the gospel with them, which was his responsibility as an apostle of Christ.*

1You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, 2but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. 3For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, 4but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. 5As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; 6nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, 7though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. 8So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

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

## **Gospel: Matthew 22:34-46**

*Put on the spot by the Pharisees, Jesus displays wisdom by summarizing the law of God in just two commandments and by demonstrating the Messiah must be more than the son of David.*

The Holy Gospel According to St. Mathew  
**Glory to you, O Lord**

34When the Pharisees heard that [Jesus] had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, 35and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. 36“Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” 37He said to him, “ ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ 38This is the greatest and first commandment. 39And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ 40On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

41Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: 42“‘What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?’” They said to him, “The son of David.” 43He said to them, “How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,

44‘The Lord said to my Lord,  
“Sit at my right hand,

“until I put your enemies under your feet””?

45If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?” 46No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

**Praise to you O Christ**

**Sermon**

**Rev. Dougherty**





# HYMN OF THE DAY VS 1, 2, 3, & 4

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Built on a Rock

1 Built on a rock the church shall stand, e - ven when stee - ples are  
 2 Sure - ly, in tem - ples made with hands God the Most High is not  
 3 Christ builds a house of liv - ing stones: we are his own hab - i -  
 4 Yet in this house, an earth - ly frame, Je - sus the chil - dren is

fall - ing; crum - bled have spires in ev - 'ry land, bells still are  
 dwell - ing— high in the heav'ns his tem - ple stands, all earth - ly  
 ta - tion; he fills our hearts, his hum - ble thrones, grant - ing us  
 bless - ing; hith - er we come to praise his name, faith in our

chim - ing and call - ing— call - ing the young and old to rest, call - ing the  
 tem - ples ex - cel - ling. Yet God who dwells in heav'n a - bove deigns to a -  
 life and sal - va - tion. Where two or three will seek his face, he in their  
 Sav - ior con - fess - ing. Je - sus to us his Spir - it sent, mak - ing with

souls of those dis - tressed, long - ing for life ev - er - last - ing.  
 bide with us in love, mak - ing our bod - ies his tem - ple.  
 midst will show his grace, bless - ings up - on them be - stow - ing.  
 us his cov - e - nant, grant - ing his chil - dren the king - dom.



# **Together We Say What We Believe**

## **APOSTLES CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.  
He 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,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again 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**



# We Offer Our Prayers and Thanksgiving

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

At the end of each intercessory prayer the Pastor says:  
"God of grace, ," and the people respond  
"hear our prayer."

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**ALL:** 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**

## OFFERING SONG

### *God is so Good*

God is so good, God is so good,  
God is so good, He's so good to me!  
We give Him thanks, We give Him thanks,  
We give Him thanks, He's so good to me!



## OFFERING PRAYER

God of power, God of plenty,  
all things belong to you.  
We bring your gifts to the table,  
that all might be fed.  
Form us into the body of your Beloved,  
Jesus Christ, our Savior.  
**AMEN**

*Offering Plates are Located by the doors to the Sanctuary or  
You may mail your financial gifts to the church.*

*Attn: Pat Hogan*

*5615 Palmyra Rd SW, Lordstown 44481*

## Going Forth to Serve

## BLESSING

L: The God of glory, † Jesus Christ, name above all names,  
and the Spirit who lives in you,  
bless you now and forever.

**AMEN**

## Rise, Shine, You People!

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1 Rise, shine, you peo - ple! Christ the Lord has en - tered  
 2 See how he sends the pow'rs of e - vil reel - ing;  
 3 Come, cel - e - brate; your ban - ners high un - furl - ing,  
 4 Tell how the Fa - ther sent the Son to save us.



our hu - man sto - ry; God in him is cen - tered. He comes to  
 he brings us free - dom, light and life and heal - ing. All men and  
 your songs and prayers a - gainst the dark - ness hurl - ing. To all the  
 Tell of the Son, who life and free - dom gave us. Tell how the



us, by death and sin sur - round - ed, with grace un - bound - ed.  
 wom - en, who by guilt are driv - en, now are for - giv - en.  
 world go out and tell the sto - ry of Je - sus' glo - ry.  
 Spir - it calls from ev - 'ry na - tion God's new cre - a - tion.

**DISMISSAL**

L: Go in peace. God is at work in you.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**



## Altar Flowers

### Donated by an Anonymous Donor

To provide altar flowers for worship, please sign up on the poster in the church lobby. \$25 for one vase \$50 for two.



## PRAYER LIST & PASTORAL CONCERNS

Please keep our loved ones in your prayers this week

**Immediate & Ongoing Health Concerns:** Lucas Paxson, Ron Hill, Phyllis Housel, Jean Housel, Ted Paxson, Leo Divencenzo, Tiffany Fellows, Destiny Givens, Anna Strickland, JoAnn Leepard, Joe Harrison, Molly and Family, Mary Sabol, Mark Molnar, Laura Paxson, Rachael Ann, Ilona Rupnik

**Compassion Child:** Marc Yvans.

**Active Duty Military:** Julian Krusely, Jason Layfield, Talon Brown, Kiana Gates

**Scout Troop 20 and its leaders**

**Our Monthly Mission Outreach and The Children of Lordstown Elementary School**

**World Peace:** Especially for those living in the region of Ukraine and Russia.

PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE AT 330 399-7227 OR  
EMAIL US AT LTOWNLUTHERAN@YAHOO.COM TO NOTIFY US OF FRIENDS OR  
RELATIVES WHO NEED TO BE ADDED OR REMOVED FROM THE PRAYER LIST.

**NEXT SUNDAY, Sunday, November 5, 2023  
All Saints Sunday**

**First Reading: Revelation 7:9-17**

**Psalm: Psalm 34:1-10, 22**

**Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-3**

**Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12**