



SOUTHEAST ALABAMA PRESBYTERY

JOINT

REFORMATION

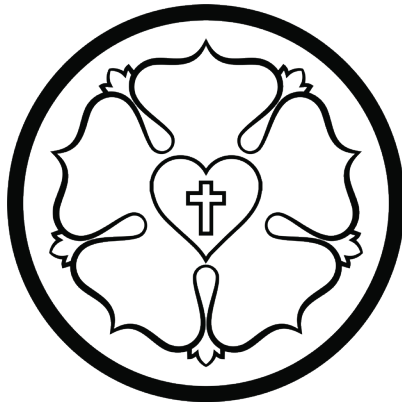
S E R V I C E

THE LORD'S DAY, OCTOBER 29, 2023
6:00 P.M.

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

A COMBINED SERVICE OF WORSHIP

Reformation Sunday



Tradition mattered to the Reformers. It was the living faith of the dead, not the dead faith of the living. And they were determined not to move the ancient boundary stones set up by their fathers in the Faith (cf. Prov. 22:26). The Reformers thus maintained certain ancient elements of worship in their public services, such as the Ten Commandments, the Lord's Prayer, and the Apostles' Creed.

Any church that cuts itself loose from this stream of Christian worship throughout history is a church that risks severing itself from her heritage, and from her Head. For Christ is Lord of the Church's history and heritage; He is Head of His body, the Church — a Church formed, not in the last six years, but over the last six millennia, since God first spoke His formative word of grace in the Garden of Eden (Gen. 3:15). Thus, when the Church gathers for worship today, she ought to reveal her ancient roots.

*Jonathan Gibson & Mark Earngey,
"Reformation Worship: Liturgies from the Past for the Present"*

† Indicates the congregation standing

• Indicates seating for those detained

This service adapts portions of the reformed liturgy described in “Christian Order and Custom of the Church in Zürich,” written in 1535 by Heinrich Bullinger (1504-1575), who served as pastor of the Grossmünster (“Great Church”) in Zürich, Switzerland from 1531 until his death in 1575.



The Prelude *Festive Prelude on OLD HUNDREDTH* arr. Bruce Stevenson

The Welcome and Announcements The Reverend Bill Clark

The Striking of the Hour

The Choral Introit *Let Songs of Praise Begin* Gordon Young
The Presbytery Choir

Let songs of praise begin to worship God on high!
Let songs of praise begin to glorify our God!
Sing praise to God. Let all the people praise the Lord!
Based on Psalm 67:3

† The Call to Worship (**congregation reads bold type**) The Reverend Reed DePace

I will praise You my God, and exalt Your name forever and ever.

**For the whole earth is full of Your goodness,
faithfulness, glory, and mercy.**

Therefore, bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name.

**Who is gracious concerning all your transgressions
and heals all your diseases.**

The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in goodness.

**He does not deal with us according to our sins,
or repay us according to our transgressions.**

For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
and as far as it is from the rising of the sun to its setting,
so far His goodness and mercy surpass all our transgressions.

(continued)

**And as a father shows compassion on his children,
so God has shown compassion to us.**

For when we were still in sin and His enemies, He gave us His only Son,
so that we may live through Him.

**He made His flesh and blood into true food for us,
and by His death He brought us to eternal life.**

He is the Lamb of God, the reconciliation for our sin,
the only and perfect pledge of grace.

**For if God gave us His dear Son, and delivered Him to death for us,
He will nevermore forsake us, but from then on
be gracious, faithful, and merciful.**

Therefore my mouth and heart shall proclaim the praise of the Lord
and highly exalt Him.

**And all men shall praise His goodness and mercy forever and ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

• † The Hymn No. 320

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

WESTMINSTER ABBEY

The Recognition of Catechism Recitations

The Reverend Bart Lester

CHILDREN'S CATECHISM

Brooks Carroll, *Trinity Presbyterian Church, Montgomery*

Henry Coyne, *Trinity Presbyterian Church, Montgomery*

Hugo Washburn, *Trinity Presbyterian Church, Opelika*

WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM

Paisley Gray, *Trinity Presbyterian Church, Opelika*

Jane Ivory, *Eastwood Presbyterian Church, Montgomery*

Jessica Ivory, *Eastwood Presbyterian Church, Montgomery*

Noah Mendenhall, *Trinity Presbyterian Church, Opelika*

Erin Middleton, *Trinity Presbyterian Church, Opelika*

*Children age four through grade five may leave to attend Children's Church.
They may be picked up in Trinity Hall after the service.*

These are the commandments of our Lord God, which He gave us through Moses, His servant. They come from the mouth of God and read as follows, in Exodus 20:

I am the LORD your God, Who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

You shall have no other Gods before Me.

You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of any thing that is in Heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

For I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate Me, but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love Me and keep My commandments.

You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain,

For the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain.

Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work. But the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your city gates.

For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day.

Therefore, the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

Honor your father and your mother,

**that your days may be long in the land
that the LORD your God is giving you.**

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house;

You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's.

Almighty, eternal, and merciful God, forgive us our sin and lead us to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord, Who taught us to pray saying:

**Our Father Which art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in Heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:
for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.**

Let us again call upon God and pray:

**Lord, Almighty God, do not allow Your holy honor
to be blasphemed because of our sins.
For we have sinned in so many ways against You,
by not obeying Your eternal Word and by daily provoking Your anger
through ignorance, ingratitude, and grumbling.
Therefore, You rightly punish us.
But, O Lord, remember Your holy mercy and have compassion toward us.
Grant us understanding, repentance, and correction for our sins.
Strengthen Your people, their servants, and authorities,
that they may faithfully and steadfastly preach Your Word,
and wield the worldly sword in righteousness and justice.
Keep us from all wrong and unfaithfulness.
Destroy all unrighteous and wicked counsel conceived against
Your Word and Church.
O Lord, do not withdraw Your Spirit and Word from us,
but give us true faith, patience, and endurance.
Come and help Your Church.
Deliver it from all oppression, mockery, and tyranny.
Strengthen, also, all who are weak and distressed of spirit,
and send us Your peace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Anthem

Behold the Man (based on Isaiah 53)

J. Owens

Behold the Man, wounded and bruised,
Crowned with thorns. He was despised, rejected.
Behold the Man, Man of Sorrows, acquainted with grief.
We hid our faces from Him.

We did not know that it was for our sins He died,
That for us the Son of Man was crucified,
That in love He bore our sorrow and pain,
And in love He willingly suffered.

Behold the Man, suffering in silence, bearing our shame.
We hid our faces from Him.

We did not know that this was God the Father's plan,
Born of love to bring redemption down to man,
That in love He gave His only Son so that we might be forgiven.

Behold the Man, risen in glory, coming again!
By the Father exalted, crowned with glory and honor.
Behold the Man, King of kings and Lord of lords!
Through all creation Jesus Christ is Lord!

The Prayer for Illumination

The Reverend Robert Fossett

The Scripture Lesson – Exodus 12:1-20

pew Bible page 68

The Sermon

Ritual, Collective Memory, and Habits of Faith

Rev. Fossett

Or

How to Make Lifelong Disciples

The Collection

Tonight's offering will go to the Henry Lewis Smith Catechism for Children Fund. This fund was established in the name of a dear brother and servant of the Southeast Alabama Presbytery. Reverend Smith was the longtime Senior Minister at the First Presbyterian Church of Prattville, Alabama, as well as the stated clerk of this Presbytery. The monies donated will be used to encourage and reward the catechizing of our children in the biblical doctrines of our faith; a lifelong passion of Reverend Smith.

The Anthem

From All That Dwell Below the Skies

LASST UNS ERFREUEN
arr. K. Lee Scott

From all that dwell below the skies let the Creator's praise arise. Alleluia!
Let the Redeemer's name be sung through every land, by every tongue. Alleluia!

Eternal are Your mercies, Lord; eternal truth attends Your Word. Alleluia!
Your praise shall sound from shore to shore 'til suns shall rise and set no more. Alleluia!

In every land begin the song; to every land the strains belong. Alleluia!
In cheerful sounds all voices raise, and fill the earth with loudest praise. Alleluia!
Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below. Alleluia!
Praise Him above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

The Confession of Faith

The Reverend Lee Bloodworth

This is our true, old and undoubted Christian faith:

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth;
and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the
Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day
He rose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, and sitteth
at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall
come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church; the communion
of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the
life everlasting. Amen.**

† The Hymn No. 23

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

ST. ANNE

† The Benediction

The Reverend Bill Clark

† The Recessional

The Reverend Brannon Bowman, *bagpipes*

Please join us for a reception following the service in Trinity Hall.

Service Participants

The Reverend Lee Bloodworth

Assistant Minister, Eastwood Presbyterian Church, Montgomery

The Reverend Jere Scott Bradshaw

Minister, Covenant Presbyterian Church, Auburn

The Reverend Brannon Bowman

Minister, Millbrook Presbyterian Church, Millbrook

The Reverend Bill Clark

Interim Minister, Trinity Presbyterian Church, Montgomery

The Reverend Reed DePace

Minister, First Presbyterian Church, Montgomery

The Reverend Robert Fossett

Minister, First Presbyterian Church, Greenville

The Reverend Bart Lester

Minister, Eastwood Presbyterian Church, Montgomery

The Reverend Lincoln Speece

Minister, Good Hope, Hayneville, and Lowndesboro Presbyterian Churches



Mark Nabholz

Director of Music, Trinity Presbyterian Church, Montgomery

Shannon Mathai

Organist/Assistant Director of Music, Trinity Presbyterian Church, Montgomery

The Presbytery Choir

Singers from

Covenant Presbyterian Church, Auburn

Eastwood Presbyterian Church, Montgomery

First Presbyterian Church, Prattville

Millbrook Presbyterian Church, Millbrook

Trinity Presbyterian Church, Montgomery

Instrumentalists

Michael Huff, trumpet

Bryan Reeves, trumpet

Brandon Slocumb, trombone

Doug Bristol, trombone

Mike Mason, tuba

Jessica Williams, timpani

Churches of Southeast Alabama Presbytery

Auburn

Covenant Presbyterian Church (1965)
Christ Presbyterian Church (2020)

Benton

Good Hope Presbyterian Church (1840)

Brewton

First Presbyterian Church (1884)

Clanton

Grace Fellowship Presbyterian Church (1920)

Clayton

Pleasantview Presbyterian Church (1836)
Clayton Presbyterian Church (1872)

Clio

Pea River Presbyterian Church

Dothan

First Presbyterian Church (1900)
Westwood Presbyterian Church (1991)

Enterprise

First Presbyterian Church (1935)

Eufaula

Covenant Presbyterian Church (1999)

Florala

First Presbyterian Church (1900)

Fort Deposit

Little Sandy Ridge Presbyterian Church

Greenville

First Presbyterian Church (1820)

Hayneville

Hayneville Presbyterian Church (1842)

Lowndesboro

Lowndesboro Presbyterian Church (1816)

Millbrook

Millbrook Presbyterian Church (1929)

Monroeville

Monroeville Presbyterian Church (1845)

Montgomery

First Presbyterian Church (1824)
Providence Presbyterian Church (1828)
Trinity Presbyterian Church (1891)
Eastwood Presbyterian Church (1978)
Young Meadows Presbyterian Church (1994)
Reformation Presbyterian Church (2023)

Notasulga

Notasulga Presbyterian Church (1912)

Opelika

Trinity Presbyterian Church (1973)

Ozark

Ozark Presbyterian Church (1893)

Prattville

First Presbyterian Church (1846)

Shorter

Calebee Presbyterian Church (1841)

Troy

First Presbyterian Church (1897)

Union Springs

Bethel Presbyterian Church (1837)

Military Base Churches

Trinity Reformed Presbyterian Church (1984)
Landstuhl, Germany

Covenant Fellowship Mission
Stuttgart, Germany

Christ Church of Wiesbaden
Wiesbaden, Germany

Okinawa Covenant Church, Okinawa, Japan

Trinity Church of Guam, Guam

New Life Church, Vicenza, Italy

First Presbyterian Church of Norway
Stavanger, Norway

Campus Work

Reformed University Fellowship,
Auburn University

The Presbyterian Church in America



Heinrich Bullinger, 1504-1575

In Presbyterianism, church government is effected through a series of courts. This form of church government is a biblical method that emphasizes accountability between Christians. The first court of the church is called a “Session” and consists of all the ordained and installed Elders of a Congregation. The Session oversees and governs an individual church. The second court of the church is called a “Presbytery” and consists of all the Teaching Elders and two Ruling Elders from each Congregation within a specific geographical area. The Presbytery oversees the churches within her boundaries, supervises the training of Ministers, examines Ministers for ordination, and plants new churches. The third and final court of the church is the “General Assembly” which consists of Representatives from all Presbyteries and churches.

The Southeast Alabama Presbytery includes churches from the Georgia State line in the East to Chilton County in the West, and from the Florida State line in the South to Tallapoosa County in the North. She is one of five PCA Presbyteries in Alabama, and one of eighty-five Presbyteries in the entire denomination.

In addition to overseeing the churches within her bounds, the Southeast Alabama Presbytery operates and supervises the Ministry to the Military and Internationals (MMI) – an international ministry that plants PCA churches in foreign countries to serve members of our Armed Forces and other English-speaking citizens.

from sealpresbytery.com/about/

To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest;
to all who mourn and long for comfort;
to all who struggle and desire victory;
to all who sin and need a Savior;
to all who are strangers and want fellowship;
to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness;
and to all who will come,
this church opens wide her doors and offers welcome
in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ.



A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA)

trinitypca.org