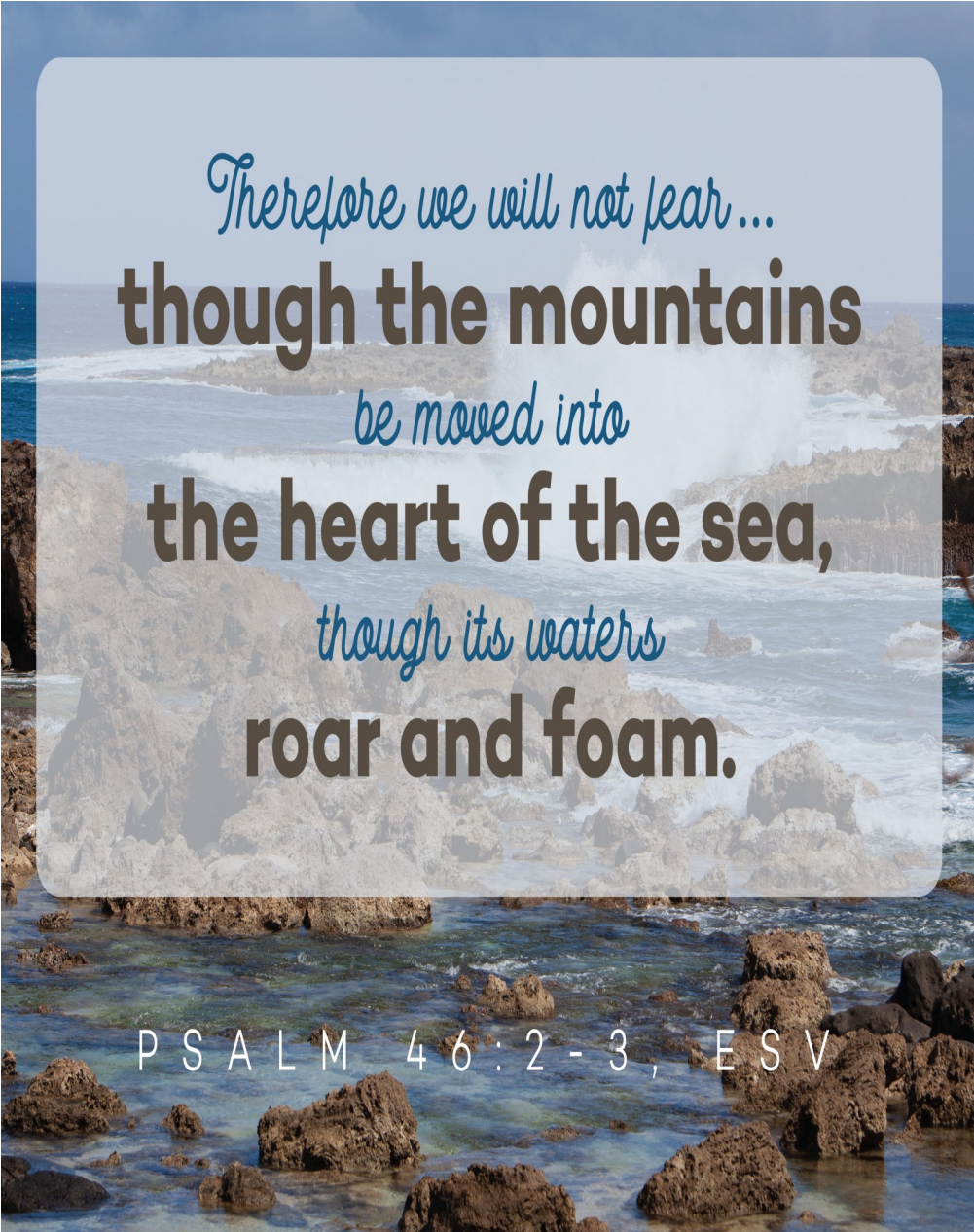


**St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School**  
624 Jennings St. Sioux City, Iowa 51101  
Church: (712)252-0338 School: (712) 258-6325  
[www.siouxcitystpauls.org](http://www.siouxcitystpauls.org)



*Therefore we will not fear ...*  
**though the mountains**  
*be moved into*  
**the heart of the sea,**  
*though its waters*  
**roar and foam.**

P S A L M 4 6 : 2 - 3 , E S V

10:45 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 25, 2020  
"When Things Fall Apart" Psalm 46



# St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School

- A Family to Whom You Belong -  
Our Mission is to: **Make More & Better Disciples**

## REFORMATION DAY

10:45 a.m. Sunday, October 25, 2020

**Servants of God's House Today:**

**Pastor:** Rev. Kenny Hsu

**Praise Team Accompanist:** Doris Hill

**Ushers:** Mike Popken Team

**Missionaries:** Charles Cortwright, Rev. Tim & Lisa Beckendorf,  
Rev. Shauen & Krista Trump, Rev. Paul Flo

**Reader:** Ralph Schroeder

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**WELCOME!** We are glad that you are here worshipping God with us. We pray for God's blessings to you and invite you to come back again soon.

**AS WE GATHER** Martin Luther's great hymn "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" is based on Psalm 46. When the psalm was first written, it gave courage to God's Old Testament people. Centuries later, when Luther wrote the hymn, the world was filled with plagues and death, and the devil was recognized as active in the lives of everyday people. Further, neither the Roman Catholic Church nor the government accepted the teachings of the reformers. Now, in our day, we face cyber warfare, pandemics, terrorists, political polarization, and ecclesiastical division. Because of our Baptism into the death and resurrection of Christ, we need not fear. Our gracious God is a very present help in this time of trouble. He is our refuge against the powers of the created world around us and the forces of evil from every source. From His throne flow streams of mercy to give us confident joy. We know that in the end "the kingdom ours remaineth."

**PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP** Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people. Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and deliver us in times of temptation, defend us against all enemies, and grant to Your Church Your saving peace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

### **Worship Service**

(The congregation is invited to respond in the words written in **bold**.)

**The Ringing of the Bells**

**The Hand of Fellowship**

### **The Invocation**

**P:** In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

**Psalm** *Psalm 46; antiphon: v. 7*

P: God is our refuge and strength

C: **a very present help in trouble.**

P: Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,

C: **though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,**

P: though its waters roar and foam,

C: **though the mountains tremble at its swelling.**

P: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,

C: **the holy habitation of the Most High.**

P: God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;

C: **God will help her when morning dawns.**

P: The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;

C: **he utters his voice, the earth melts.**

P: The LORD of hosts is with us;

C: **the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

P: Come, behold the works of the LORD,

C: **how he has brought desolations on the earth.**

P: He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;

C: **he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the chariots with fire.**

P: "Be still, and know that I am God.

C: **I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"**

P: The LORD of hosts is with us;

C: **the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

**Opening Song**

**"King of My Heart"**

Let the King of my heart be the mountain where I run, the fountain I drink from.

Oh, He is my song.

Let the King of my heart be the shadow where I hide, the ransom for my life.

Oh, He is my song.

And You are good, good, oh. You are good, good, oh. You are good, good, oh.

You are good, good, oh.

Let the King of my heart be the wind inside my sails, the anchor in the waves.

Oh, He is my song.

Let the King of my heart be the fire inside my veins, the echo of my days.

Oh, He is my song.

And You are good, good, oh. You are good, good, oh. You are good, good, oh.

You are good, good, oh.

-- You're never gonna let, never gonna let me down.

-- You're never gonna let, never gonna let me down.

-- You're never gonna let, never gonna let me down.

-- You're never gonna let, never gonna let me down. (Repeat )

You are good, good, oh. You are good, good, oh.  
You are good, good, oh. You are good, good, oh.  
-- You're never gonna let, never gonna let me down.  
-- You're never gonna let, never gonna let me down.  
-- You're never gonna let, never gonna let me down.  
-- You're never gonna let, never gonna let me down.  
(interlude)

When the night is holding on to me, God is holding on.

Yeah, when the night is holding on to me, God is holding on.

*Words and Music by John Mark McMillan and Sarah McMillan CCLI #11440148 and 20162974*

## **Apostles' Creed**

### **First Lesson** Revelation 14:6–7 (An angel announces the time for judgment.)

<sup>6</sup>Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people. <sup>7</sup>And he said with a loud voice, “Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come, and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water.”

### **Second Lesson** Romans 3:19–28

(We need not fear the Law's accusation, for we are justified by grace.)

<sup>19</sup>Now 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. <sup>20</sup>For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

<sup>21</sup>But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— <sup>22</sup>the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: <sup>23</sup>for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup>and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup>whom 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. <sup>26</sup>It 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.

<sup>27</sup>Then 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. <sup>28</sup>For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

Please stand, as you are able, for the Gospel)

### **Holy Gospel** John 8:31–36 (We are freed from slavery to sin; we are free indeed.)

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

*Incorporating Psalm 46:4, 7, 11*

P: Lord of hosts,

**C: hear our confession of sins and grant us Your mercy and forgiveness. We have not trusted in Your promised protection and strength but have looked elsewhere for help and refuge. You alone have provided the remedy for that which truly causes our separation, troubles, and death. For the sake of Christ, Your Son, our Redeemer, grant us forgiveness and deliverance from all that would keep us from Your present help. We ask it in the name of Jesus.**

P: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. Because that river of grace and power has flowed over us in our Baptism into the death and resurrection of Christ, in spite of our fear, the LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. By grace God has created each of us and everything that exists, and in the person of His Son entered our history and paid for our every sin and sin itself. In Christ’s resurrection, God’s promises have been made sure. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen. The LORD of hosts is with us! The God of Jacob is our fortress!**

**Children’s Message**

**The Song of Instruction “I Lift My Hands”**

(Verse 1)

Be still, there is a healer  
His love is deeper than the sea  
His mercy, it is unfailing  
His arms are a fortress for the weak

(Pre-Chorus)

Let faith arise  
Let faith arise

(Chorus)  
I lift my hands to believe again  
You are my refuge, You are my strength  
As I pour out my heart, these things I remember  
You are faithful, God, forever

(Verse 2)  
Be still, there is a river  
That flows from Calvary's tree  
A fountain for the thirsty  
Pure grace that washes over me (Pre-Chorus, Chorus)

(Bridge)  
So let faith arise  
Let faith arise  
Open my eyes  
Open my eyes

(Chorus)  
Songwriters: Chris Tomlin / Louie Giglio / Matt Maher I Lift My Hands Lyrics © Capitol Christian Music Group  
CCLI #11440148 and 20162974

**The Word**     “When Things Fall Apart”     Psalm 46

### **WE WORSHIP GOD THROUGH OUR GIVING**

We honor God with the gifts He has given to us.

St. Paul's members have pledged to support our ministry in their tithes and offerings.

**To our guest:** We are glad that you are with us today and please do not feel that you are obligated to participate. We invite you to come back again.

Please pass your **Welcome Card** to an usher or acolyte.

*Exodus 35:4-5—Moses said to all the congregation of the people of Israel, “This is the thing that the Lord has commanded. Take from among you a contribution to the Lord. Whoever is of a generous heart, let him bring the Lord’s contribution.”*

### **Offertory     “Seek Ye First”**

1.     Seek ye first the kingdom of God And His righteousness,  
       And all these things shall be added unto you- Allelu, alleluia!
2.     Ask and it shall be given unto you, Seek and ye shall find  
       Knock and the door shall be opened unto you- Allelu, alleluia!

Man does not live by bread alone, But by ev'ry word  
That proceeds from the mouth of the Lord, Allelu, alleluia!

(Words and music by Karen Lafferty, copyright 1972 Maranathal Music, used by permission, CCLI #11440148 and 20162974)

## **The Prayer of the Church**

**P:** For those celebrating their baptismal anniversaries that they remain faithful to your Word including; Brett Baker, Audrey Hayes, Melissa Kilman, Wade Schuldt, Darlene Allison, Matthew Dodds, Dawn Hindman, Donne Schuldt, and Stanley Petersen. Lord in Your mercy.

**C: Hear our prayer.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

## **The Benediction**

### **The Going Out Song            "You Are"**

**Verse 1** When I can't find the words to say how much it hurts, You are the healing in my heart. When all that I can see are broken memories, You are the light that's in the dark.

**(Chorus)**

You are the song, You are the song I'm singin',  
You are the air, You are the air I breathe in.  
You are the hope, You are the hope I'm needin'. Whoa, You are

**Verse 2** And when my circumstance leaves me with empty hands, You're the provider of my needs. When all my dirtiness has left me helpless, You are the rain that washes me. **(Chorus)**

**(Refrain)**

If I had no voice, If I had no tongue, I would dance for You like the risin' sun.  
And when that day comes and I see Your face, I will shout Your endless  
glorious praise. (Repeat 2x) **(Chorus)**

You are the song, You are the song I'm singin',  
You are the air, You are the air I breathe in.  
You are the hope, You are the hope I'm needin'. Whoa, You are

(Words & music by Rhyan Shirley, Jared Martin, Colton Dixon, Mike Busbee, arr. by Carol Tornquist. 2012 EMICMG Music, used by permission)

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# “When Things Fall Apart”

Date: 10/25/20

Text: Psalm 46

## Verse for Meditation

**“The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.”**  
*Psalm 46:7*

## Points to Ponder

1. What happens when things fall apart?
  - What-ifs, How-longs, How-bads
  - We're imperfect people living in an imperfect world.
  - How should we as Christians respond during these times?

**Introduction:** “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear” (vs 1–2a).

### Scene 1 (vs 2b–5)

- A. Natural calamity
- B. The peaceful river from the heart of God

### Scene 2 (vs 6–7)

- A. Geopolitical conflict
- B. The fortress

### Scene 3 (vs 8–11)

- A. The sovereign judgment of God visited on his creation
- B. The gracious proclamation of God

**Conclusion:** “The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress” (v 11).

2. Which of these three scenes do you see in your life right now?
3. In the middle of the chaos and the anxiety and the uncertainty, where is your faith? In whom is your faith?
4. God Himself comes to us in this psalm and encourages us with these words: Do not be alarmed. Do not worry. Do not be afraid.