

The Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost Reformation Sunday

Timeline English & Protestant Reformation

(Black text is English Reformation)

(Blue text is Protestant Reformation)

June 1509	Henry VIII marries Catherine of Aragon	1536	Anne Boleyn and William Tyndale ("O Lord open the king of England's eyes") executed
Feb 1516	Princess Mary born		
Oct 1517	Luther launches Protestant Reformation		
1519	Leipzig debate. Luther proposes sola scriptura is basis for faith	1536	John Calvin's <i>Institutes</i> published
1520	Luther publishes 3 books: priesthood of all believers, denies authority of the pope	1536	Henry dissolves the monastic lands in England. Sells property to political cronies
1521	Luther tried for heresy. Excommunicated.	1537	Jane Seymore gives birth to Prince Edward
1521	Pope grants Henry VIII a title of "Defender of the Faith" for writing a tract in defense of Catholicism and against Luther	1540	Henry marries Anne of Cleves.
1522	Luther's German NT published	1545	Roman Catholic Council of Trent – repudiates Protestantism
1524	William Tyndale expelled from Catholic Church	1546	Luther dies (final words "We are beggars. This is true.")
1525	NT Tyndale translation (English) published in Germany	1547	Henry VIII dies
1529	Debates on the presence of Christ in the Eucharist (no agreement)	1549	First Book of Common Prayer is published
1530	Augsburg Confession published defines Lutheran practice and theology	1553	Mary accedes to the throne, marries cousin Philip 1 year later
1531	In Swiss battled between Catholics and Protestants, theologian Ulrich Zwingli is killed	1555	Peace of Augsburg – Holy Roman Empire grants toleration to Lutherans
1532	Anne Boleyn becomes pregnant	1558	Mary dies. Elizabeth accedes
1533	Thomas Cranmer appointed Archbishop of Canterbury. Cranmer nullifies Henry's marriage to Catherine	1560	Geneva bible (English) published in Switzerland
1533	Henry marries Anne	1563	39 Articles published (summarizes Anglican doctrine and practice)
1534	Ignatius of Loyola founds the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) as Catholic response to Reformation	1570	Pope declares Elizabeth a heretic. Excommunicates her
1535	Coverdale translation (English) OT & NT printed in Antwerp	1588	Spanish armada defeated
		1625	Charles I crowned King of England, Scotland and Ireland
		1642	English Civil War. Church of England seen as too Catholic
		1649	Puritans triumph. Charles I executed.
		1660	Charles II restored to throne

Necrology

1509-1625 Notables who were burned, hanged, beheaded, quartered, boiled, or otherwise executed John Frith, Elizabeth Barton (nun of Kent), John Fisher, Thomas More, Anne Boleyn, Thomas Cromwell, Robert Barnes, Thomas Abel, Lady Jane Grey, Bishop Hugh Latimer, Bishop Nicolas Ridley, Thomas Cranmer, Mary Queen of Scots, Charles I, 700 English priests and bishops burned:

- Under Henry VIII scholars disagree but the number is in the 10,000s up to 72,000
- Under Mary I 284 (burned, mostly clergy for being "too Protestant")
- Under Elizabeth I 9 (the Catholic martyrs)



Henry VIII



Martin Luther

October 25, 2020
10:30AM



Archbishop
Cranmer



John
Calvin

We Gather

Instructions for standing, sitting, and kneeling are rubrics from the Book of Common Prayer. Any person who is unable to stand or kneel is welcome to sit for any part of the service regardless of the printed instruction. Please feel comfortable using any posture you wish.

Processional Hymn: #688

A mighty fortress is our God (Vs.1,2)

Please stand as you are able.

Introduction:

Please be seated.

Celebrant: Today we celebrate Martin Luther's circulating his disputations with the Roman Catholic Church. This academic move by an Augustinian monk sparked the Protestant Reformation. At the same time that theological reforms were taking place on the European continent, the little island that we call Britain was undergoing its own reformation that started out as a challenge from a sovereign ruler to the papal authority. We are still sorting out the pieces from these church reforms even today.

Opening Acclamation / Call to Worship

Please stand as you are able.

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

People: **And blessed be His kingdom, now and for ever. Amen**

Collect for Purity

Celebrant: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Song of Praise: #S-236

Glory to You

Please remain standing.

Collect of the day

Please be seated.

Celebrant: Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**

We Hear God's Word

First Lesson: Jeremiah 31:27-34

Please remain seated.

Reader: A reading from the book of Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will sow the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the seed of humans and the seed of animals. And just as I have watched over them to pluck up and break down, to overthrow, destroy, and bring evil, so I will watch over them to build and to plant, says the Lord.

In those days they shall no longer say: "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge." But all shall die for their own sins; the teeth of everyone who eats sour grapes shall be set on edge. The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah.

It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 46

Reader: God is our refuge and strength, *
People: **a very present help in trouble.**

Reader: Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, *
People: **and though the mountains be toppled into the depths of the sea;**

Reader: Though its waters rage and foam, *
People: **and though the mountains tremble at its tumult.**

Reader: The Lord of hosts is with us; *
People: **the God of Jacob is our stronghold.**

Reader: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, *
People: **the holy habitation of the Most High.**

Reader: God is in the midst of her; she shall not be overthrown; *
People: **God shall help her at the break of day.**

Reader: The nations make much ado, and the kingdoms are shaken; *
People: **God has spoken, and the earth shall melt away.**

Reader: The Lord of hosts is with us; *
People: **the God of Jacob is our stronghold.**

Reader: Come now and look upon the works of the Lord, *
People: **what awesome things he has done on earth.**

Reader: It is he who makes war to cease in all the world; *
People: **he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.**

Reader: "Be still, then, and know that I am God; *
People: **I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth."**

Reader: The Lord of hosts is with us; *
People: **the God of Jacob is our stronghold.**

Second Lesson: Romans 3:19-28

Reader: A reading from the book of Romans.

Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. For 'no human being will be justified in his sight' by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

But now, irrespective of law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn:

O God of all your people past

Please stand as you are able.

Gospel: John 8: 31-36

Please remain standing as you are able.

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.
People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, 'If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.' They answered him, 'We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, "You will be made free"?'

Jesus answered them, 'Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there for ever. So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.

Reader: Alleluia! Alleluia! Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful people and kindle in them the fire of your love.

People: **Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Sermon: *The Rev. Bob Wickizer*

Please be seated.

I will put my law within them

As you know, my lovely spouse of 40 years, Joan, grew up Roman Catholic. I am convinced the Catholic church will make her a saint someday, and I still accuse her of being a "recovering Catholic." So, what do you call it when a Catholic renovates her kitchen? A Counter Reformation.

The English Reformation and the Protestant Reformation unfolded in parallel. The English side was all about political power, preserving the Tudor dynasty and the relationship of the church to the secular rulers. The Protestant Reformation launched in Moravia, Germany and Switzerland was theological, ideological and, ultimately about the relationship of the church to secular powers. As we continue this tradition of reform and renewal, we are also called to wrestle with the divisions in the Body of Christ that often lead directly to political strife.

Using our text from Jeremiah today, I am going to show how, today, we are sitting almost exactly in the same place Martin Luther was 500 years ago. The only difference is that the players have changed names. And that is why the mission and ministry of churches like Grace Muskogee remains vital to the proclamation of God's love for all and in the preservation of our constitutional government.

There is a subtext to this grand arc of history from 1000 BC to today. Basically, what goes around, comes around. Humanity seems to endlessly recycle the drama of abuse, struggle to get free followed by getting stuck in abuse again.

Ancient Israel records this cycle of abuse and division in the book of Kings, where, after Solomon's death, his son's abusive and exploitative rule led the united kingdom of Israel to split, resulting in two nations: ten northern tribes, called Israel, and two southern tribes, called Judah. Several centuries pass and the northern kingdom was destroyed by Assyria and Judah in the south is about to fall. God promises through Jeremiah to make a new covenant with both fallen kingdoms. Writing the law on their hearts creates unity for all the people. The prophet declares for God, "I will give them ONE heart and ONE way."

Reading Jeremiah, Martin Luther realized that the ancient Jews faced the same problems he was seeing in the 1500s. King Josiah embarked on a construction project to renovate the Jerusalem temple when a "Book of the Law" was found and read to the people. Josiah decided right then to destroy all the altars to Baal and pagan shrines they had erected in the temple. He would return the faith of the people to the God of the covenant. The prophet, Jeremiah, speaks to God's restoration of the covenant with the people.

Luther saw the parallels at once. The Catholic church was selling indulgences to pay for rebuilding St. Peters in Rome. The pope was the wealthiest individual in the world. The authority of church bishops could not be challenged. The Catholic church converted people by force and executed people for heresy. Luther believed that the traditions of the Catholic church and its cozy relationship with secular rulers were like the shrines to pagan gods that Josiah was called to destroy.

Like Josiah's reforms, Luther would replace the pagan practices and doctrines that had evolved in the Catholic church with a faith in the saving work of Christ for all people as given to us in the bible.

The process remains the same whether it is 700 BC, 1500 AD or 2000 AD. A religious group figures out how to slowly change the basic doctrines of faith until they become self-serving. This causes the religious institution to grow. At a certain point of institutional size and power, the civil government realizes that it would be mutually beneficial for the government and the religious body to support each other. This relationship persists until the government is overthrown by political or military force. And the cycle starts all over again. There is a cautionary lesson here.

The parallels today are staggering. Although it is not the Catholic Church, there is a different large, growing, religious body in power. The self-serving doctrines are different than 1500 but they are easy to spot. The cozy relationship with the secular government has been growing since the 1950s. Like the misuse of scripture to justify abuse and coercion in Josiah's time and Luther's time, scripture today has been weaponized. In the same way the invention of the printing press enabled the Protestant Reformation launched by Luther to succeed, the Internet today is a mass-communication tool that can be used for good or ill.

The ancients believed that the thumping organ in your body that circulates blood, the heart, was the center of the intellect, emotions and will. That is why the prophet Jeremiah says that God will write the law on the people's hearts. The very basic part of God' law is the Golden Rule. And I know that law is written on your hearts.

As religious doctrines steadily changed in the 20th century, did the Episcopal Church and the Lutherans miss the boat somehow? Did we fail to modernize? I don't think so.

Our major point of disconnection is the idea that only SOME people will be saved. They are saved by a particular formula or saved in one particular church by one particular pastor. In this doctrine there is only one possibility for being spared from the eternal fires of hell, and it is right here at XYZ church only available from this pastor today for \$9.95. Give me your credit card.

We cling to an ancient doctrine of the church partly because it is plainly written in the bible. Salvation is freely given to ALL people. Through one act of righteousness, there resulted justification of life to ALL men. And ALL flesh shall see the salvation of God. For by grace, you ALL have been saved by faith. ALL of us, not some of us.

Now there are some who will proof-text scripture all day long to show that only a few are saved. But I ask you, why would the son of God consent to be tortured and die on a cross so that only a bunch of people in an auditorium across town are saved while those of us here are not?

I came here eleven years ago because I saw that the Golden Rule was plainly written on your hearts. I also recognized that living out the proposition of salvation freely given to ALL people in this place and time is like holding up a finger against a hurricane of opposition. But that is what we must do folks.

We must write it on our sign outside. Write it on the garden walls. Write it plainly so that all who pass by can see it. Preach it at the city gatherings for unity. Write it in the newspaper. Put in on the website. We need to promote this better because the people out there need to hear it, see it, be part of it. It says, simply, "WELCOME. ALL ARE SAVED."

Silence for reflection after the sermon

Nicene Creed

All in unison; Please stand as you are able.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life who proceeds from the Father. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Please kneel, sit or stand.

Reader: As we have offered gratitude for God's grace upon this community, let us now offer our gifts to the Lord, trusting that by the power of the Holy Spirit, we will be led to ever more faithful fellowship and service.

Reader: For peace from things that separate us from one another and for our salvation.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Reader: For the peace of the whole world, for the welfare of the holy churches of God, especially...

People: **Retired clergy, spouses, widows and widowers; Diocese of Tennessee; The Reformed Episcopal Church of Spain.**

Reader: For this holy gathering and for those who enter with faith, reverence, and fear of God.
People: **Lord, have mercy.**
Reader: For...
People: **Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Ed and Poulson, our Bishops; Bob and Tom, our clergy; Tim & Jennifer, our wardens; vestry, delegates, and all who minister in Christ, and for all the holy people of God. Lord, have mercy.**
Reader: For the world and its leaders, our nation and its people. We pray for our leaders, especially...
People: **Donald, our President; Mike, our Vice-president; Markwayne, our Congressman; James & Jim, our Senators; Kevin, our Governor; and Marlon, our Mayor. Lord, have mercy.**
Reader: For prisoners, the oppressed, all those in need or suffering, especially...
People: **Barbara & Family, Blackwell Family, Brad, Brewer Family, James & Shirley, Judy, Sherri, Bea, Eathen, Linda, John, Angie, Brian, Glen, Dante, Marilyn, Gary, Ann, Connie, Jan, Thomas, Anthony Edwards family, all residents of Silverton, CO, all those affected by the pandemic, and those whose suffering is known only to God.**
Reader: We pray for those in the armed services. We pray for those who have died especially **Isabella Henderson.**
People: **Lord, have mercy.**
Reader: For ourselves, our families, and those we love. We pray for those in our parish, especially ...
People: **Tom, John, Renee, Leo, Riley.**
Reader: Also those who are traveling, (*especially...*)
People: **Lord, have mercy.**
Reader: Bless all those everywhere who give themselves to the service of others; that with wisdom, patience, and courage, they may minister to the suffering, the friendless, and the needy for love of him who laid down his life for us.
People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**
Reader: Remembering our most blessed Mary and all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ.
People: **To you, O Lord.**
Reader: Heavenly Father, you have promised to hear what we ask in the Name of your Son: accept and fulfill our petitions, we pray, not as we ask in our ignorance, nor as we deserve in our sinfulness, but as you know and love us in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.
People: **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

Please kneel, sit or stand.

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Celebrant and People:

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.
Amen.

Peace

Please stand as you are able.

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Greet one another in the name of Christ.

Announcements; Anniversary and Birthday Blessings

Offertory

Offertory Sentence: Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

Offertory Hymn: **Concerto #4, 3rd Movement** *Please remain seated.*
By: G. Goltermann

Doxology: **Praise God from whom all blessings flow** *Please stand as you are able.*

The Great Thanksgiving

Sursum Corda

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord**

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

People: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Sanctus: #S-130 **Holy, holy, holy Lord** *Please stand, sit, or kneel.*

Lord's Prayer:

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

Celebrant and People: **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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Fraction Anthem: #S-164 **Jesus, Lamb of God** *Please remain seated.*

Breaking of the Bread *A period of silence is kept.*

Please come forward to receive communion while maintaining distances from one another. The celebrant will give you a small plastic bag with several consecrated communion wafers in it. You are not to consume it at church. Instead, take it home, say the prayers on the card and consume it with family and friends. You are the light of the world. Take the body of Christ with you this week and feed on it in your heart while praying for others.

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Communion Hymn: **The Swan** *Please remain seated.*
By: Saint Saens

We Go Out To Do Our Work

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Celebrant and People: **Almighty God, giver of every good gift. All that we have and all that we are comes from you. Accept the humble gifts of who we are with our differences, our goodness, and our mistakes. Help us be the blessing to others that you are to us. Help us not to fear but to love fearlessly. Help us not to worry but to get busy and help. We ask you to remind us in our hearts and minds of the great needs of so many in the world today for love, truth, and clarity. Keep the clouds of darkness and confusion away as we work to make the world a better place. Thank you for the gift of the Holy Spirit who guides, defends, and protects us. And who leads us into all truth. Amen**

Pentecost Blessing

Celebrant: May the Holy Spirit, the breath of God, stream within us.
May the breath of God renew us.
May the breath of God invigorate us.
May we walk with confidence into this new day. **Amen**

Sending

Celebrant: Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life. Alleluia, Alleluia.
People: **Thanks be to God, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Recessional Hymn: #688

A mighty fortress is our God (Vs.3,4)

Please stand as you are able.

All Saints' Commemoration

Sunday, November 1, 2020

Grace Episcopal Church will be celebrating The Feast of All Saints' on Sunday, the 1st of November. This is a special day in our church year in which we as Christians remember those whom we love and who have preceded us in death. We, as a community, will remember the names of our loved ones who are in the Kingdom of Heaven during 10:30 AM service.

Please help us compile a list by clearly PRINTING individual names, i.e., Mary and John Smith, instead of Mr. and Mrs. John Smith. You may list as many names as you wish.

Please return this request by Monday, October 26th

-in the offering plate
-mail it
-Email office@gracemuskogee.org

All names will be read at the 10:30 AM services.

"For All the Saints Who From Their Labors Rest"



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Deacon, emeritus: The Rev. Thomas A. Harrington

Music Director: Kenneth Yadon

Youth & Children's Director: Nancy Scott

