

Friday With this knowledge comes freedom. No more are we slaves to sin. We are free to live before God in righteousness and holiness as his children, members of his house forever.

³¹ To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. ³² Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” ³³ They answered him, “We are Abraham’s descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?” ³⁴ Jesus replied, “I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. ³⁵ Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. ³⁶ So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

Sermon Hymn: 199 *In Trembling Hands, Lord God, We Hold*

Sermon: A Just Verdict

Offering: (*Please remember to sign the Friendship Register.*)

Hymn: 740 Draw Near
203 Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

Benediction

Closing Hymn: 735 Speak, O Lord

Ushers: This Week – Tanner Latsch & Justin Cusack
Next Week – Zack Vogel & Alex Vogel

Greeters: This Week – Larry & Patti Zastrow
Next Week – Richard & Shirley Pfeifer

Reformation – October 26th & 27th, 2019

P.O. Box 86, Helenville, Wisconsin

Pastor: Mark Swanson Church Tel: 920-674-3307

Principal: Craig Winkler School Tel: 262-582-3010

Organist: Wendy Winkler

We Welcome You!

It is the gospel of Jesus Christ that brings true freedom. This promise of forgiveness and resurrection to eternal life come only through a righteousness found in the Savior. This righteousness sets the soul free from slavery, free to serve God. Hold to these teachings, and “you will be free indeed.”

Order of Worship: Divine Service 1

Opening Hymn: 200 *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

Prayer of the Day:

M: Gracious Lord, our refuge and strength, pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your Word, protect and comfort them in all temptations, defend them against all their enemies, and bestow on the Church your saving peace; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

First Lesson – Jeremiah 31:31-34

Through Jeremiah, the Lord describes the new covenant established by the promised Messiah, the covenant that has been established with us. The two-sided covenant of old is no more. God had been faithful; Israel had not. The new covenant is a promise signed in the blood of the Christ. This new covenant is now revealed to nations. The teachings and promises of the Lord will be written on hearts and minds and sin will be remembered “no more.” For the Lord’s righteousness will come to hearts of faith.

³¹ “The time is coming,” declares the LORD, “when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah. ³² It will not be like the covenant I made with their forefathers when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them,” declares the LORD. ³³ “This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after that time,” declares the LORD. “I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. ³⁴ No longer will a man teach his neighbor, or a man his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest,” declares the LORD. “For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.”

Psalm of the Day - Psalm 46, p. 84

Second Lesson – Romans 3:19-28

In Paul’s letter to the Romans, he writes of both Law and Gospel. He writes of God’s anger against sin and God’s righteousness given through Jesus. Here, at this transitional point, is the promise of Jesus’ righteousness and the freedom he brings. Yes, freedom from sin and freedom to live in all righteousness comes to us who live by faith. We have been declared innocent, and no law will shackle us again. Now we live for him who has set us free.

¹⁹ Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God. ²⁰ Therefore no one will be declared righteous in his sight by observing the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of sin. ²¹ But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. ²² This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. ²⁵ God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood. He did this to demonstrate his justice, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished - ²⁶ he did it to demonstrate his justice at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus. ²⁷ Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded. On what principle? On that of observing the law? No, but on that of faith. ²⁸ For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from observing the law.

Verse of the Day - *Alleluia. If you continue in my Word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free. Alleluia. (John 8:31, 32 cf. RSV)*

Gospel – John 8:31-36

Holding to the Word of the Lord is a fruit of faith that demonstrates the reality of our discipleship. Stepping outside the truth of scripture invalidates this status. This is no small task in our world of subjective truth and unionism. But with discipleship comes understanding and the knowledge of the true mystery of Christ.