A Celebration of the Reformation

a teaching service about the Reformation
with special music including music by J. S. Bach

3:30 p.m.
October 31, 2010
First Lutheran Church
1207 Broadway, Knoxville, Tenn.
VDMA stands for the Latin phrase: Verbum Domini Manet in Aeternum or in English: The Word of the Lord Endures Forever. This battle cry of the Reformation can be found in various hymns such as in A Mighty Fortress: “The Word they still shall let remain.” It reminds that the Scriptures are the only sure guide for faith and life.

The motto is based on 1 Peter 1:24-25. It first appears in the court of Frederick the Wise in 1522. It was used by Frederick’s successors, his brother John the Steadfast, and his nephew John Frederick the Magnanimous. It was used on flags, banners, swords, and uniforms as a symbol of the unity of the Lutheran laity who struggled to defend their beliefs, communities, families, and lives against those who were intent on destroying them.
A Reformation Timeline

1517  |  Luther nails *Ninety-five Theses* to the Castle Church door in Wittenberg, October 31

1520  |  Pope Leo X issues papal bull *Exsurge, Domine* and gives Luther sixty days to recant; Luther later burns the bull

1521  |  Luther excommunicated by papal bull *Decret Romanum Pontificem*; appears before the imperial Diet of Worms and refuses to recant and is sent into exile

1524  |  Peasant's War begins

1525  |  Luther marries Katharina von Bora (former nun)

1527  |  Plague strikes Wittenberg; the Luthers turn their home into a hospital

1529  |  **Luther publishes Large Catechism and Small Catechism**
Luther, Melanchthon, and Zwingli meet for Marburg Colloquy; unable to agree on the doctrine of the Lord's Supper
Following Second Diet of Speyer, term *Protestant* used to refer to those who agree with Luther

1530  |  *Augsburg Confession* presented to Charles V at Diet of Augsburg, June 25

1531  |  *Augsburg Confession* and *Apology* published, April – May; *Apology's* second edition published, September

1534  |  **Luther publishes complete German Bible**

1536  |  Luther, Melanchthon, and Englishmen Edward Fox and Robert Barnes agree to *Wittenberg Articles*; rejected by Zwinglians; Wittenberg Concord

1538  |  Luther's *Small Catechism* published

1540  |  Melanchthon’s *Treatise on the Power and Primacy of the Pope* published

1545  |  Council of Trent’s first session

1546  |  Luther dies at Eisleben, February 18

1547  |  Smalcaldic League defeated by Charles V at Battle of Mühlberg, April 24

1548  |  *Augsburg and Leipzig Interims* imposed to stop conflicts in Protestant territories

1555  |  *Peace of Augsburg* allows Lutherans equal rights in Holy Roman Empire

1563  |  Council of Trent ends, settling Roman doctrine and establishing Roman Catholic Church

1575  |  Crypto-Calvinists fully exposed in Wittenberg; Lutheranism restored by Augustus I

1576  |  Torgau Conference; *Formula of Concord's* “Epitome” completed

1577  |  *Formula of Concord's* “Solid Declaration” completed

1580  |  Book of Concord published on the 50th Anniversary of the Augsburg Confession, June 25

1598  |  *Formula of Concord* subscribed in Strasbourg
Service of Prayer and Preaching

Prelude (Organ and Trumpets)  
Ein feste Burg arr. Robert Powell

Words of Welcome and Opening Sentences

L This is the day which the Lord has made;  
P let us rejoice and be glad in it.  
Psalm 118:24

L From the rising of the sun to its setting,  
C the name of the Lord is to be praised.  
Psalm 113:3

L I will also speak of your testimonies before kings  
C and shall not be put to shame  
Psalm 119:46

L Sanctify them in Your truth.  
C Your Word is truth.  
John 17:17

L From the rising of the sun to its setting,  
C The name of the Lord is to be praised.  
Psalm 113:3

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Hymn (text below)  
God’s Word is Our Great Heritage

Text: Nikolai Fredrik Severin Grundtvig; Tune: Ein Feste Burg (656)

God’s Word is our Great heritage, and shall be ours forever;  
To spread its light from age to age, Shall be our chief endeavor.  
Through life it guides our way, in death it is our stay.  
Lord, grant, while worlds endure, we keep its teachings pure  
Throughout all generations.

First Teaching  
Luther’s Ninety-five Theses

“Is not My Word like a Hammer?” — Jeremiah 23:29
Hymn 655
Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word
Text: Martin Luther; Tune: Erhalt Uns, Herr

Second Teaching
The Imperial Diet of Worms
“So I always take pains to have a clear conscience...” —Acts 24:16

Choral Anthem
Here I Stand
Text & Tune: Karla Hood

Third Teaching
The Bible and the Reformation
“...for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest” —Hebrews 8:11

Hymn 658 stanzas 1, 4
Preserve Your Word, O Savior
Text: Andreas Gryphius; Tune: Munich

Fourth Teaching
The Augsburg Confession
“I will also speak of your testimonies before kings...” —Psalm 119:46

Hymn 555 stanzas 1, 3, 6, 9
Salvation unto Us Has Come
Text: Paul Speratus; Tune: Es Ist Das Heil

Fifth Teaching
The Arts of the Reformation and J. S. Bach as the Fifth Evangelist
“Awake, O harp and lyre! I will awake the dawn!” —Psalm 108:2

Voluntary (Organ and Trumpet)
Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring
Johann Sebastian Bach

Sixth Teaching
The Book of Concord
“The Word of the Lord endures forever” —1 Peter 1:24-45

Sola Gratia
GRACE ALONE
Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice

Text: Martin Luther; Tune: Ethlich Christlich lider

Stanza 1 Choir
Stanza 2 Congregation
Stanza 3 Choir
Stanzas 4-5 Congregation, Choir & Instrumentalists

Preacher: Rev. Paul Bushur, First Lutheran Church

Hymn 556 continued

Stanza 6 Choir
Stanza 7 Congregation
Stanza 8 Choir
Stanzas 9-10 Congregation, Choir & Instrumentalists

Apostles’ Creed

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 Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Offering Bell Choir Voluntary: Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Thy Word (arr. S. Eithum)
Prayer

In peace let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

... 

Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Collect of the Day

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.

Collect for the Word

Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Evening Prayer (from Luther’s Small Catechism)

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.
Blessing

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

Amen.

Hymn 656

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Text: Martin Luther; Tune: Ein feste Burg

Prelude Organ
Stanza 1 Congregation
Stanza 2 Choir only
Transition Organ
Stanza 3 Congregation, Choir & Instrumentalists
Stanza 4 Congregation, Choir & Instrumentalists

Announcements: Following the service, we welcome everyone to the Meal, Reformation Art Display, and Art Contest awards ceremony in the gymnasium.

Organ Postlude Postludium on Ein feste Burg (arr. Charles Callahan)

Acknowledgments and special thanks to:

Lutheran pastors and guests from the Knoxville Circuit, Mid-South District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
Trumpets: Mr. Ed Niedens, Mr. John Hofman, Mr. Carter Meissner
Organists: Mr. Ed Niedens and Mr. Wayne Poore
Choir: Mrs. Karen Farris, Director
Handbells: Mr. Wayne Poore, Director
Meal: Mr. Jeff Baerns of Brickyard Barb-b-que of Powell, Tennessee; Mrs. Susan Haun, Parish Fellowship
Publicity: Mrs. Marilyn Wing
Art Contest Judges: Mr. Jered Sprecher (UT Assistant Professor of Art), Mrs. Terrie Yeatts (artist),
Mrs. Amanda Hillard (artist and First Lutheran art instructor)