

Reformation Day (Observed)

31 October 2021 Anno Domini

INTROIT

(Psalm 46:7, 2, 4–6, 10)



The Lord of hosts is / with us;*

the God of Jacob is our / refuge.

**Therefore we will not fear, even though the earth / be removed,*
and though the mountains be carried into the midst / of the sea.**

There is a river whose streams shall make glad the ci- / ty of God,*
the holy place of the tabernacle of the / Most High.

God is in the midst of her, she shall / not be moved;*

God shall help her, just at the / break of dawn.

The nations raged, the king- / doms were moved;*

He uttered His voice, the earth / melted.

Be still, and know that / I am God;*

I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted / in the earth!

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.

GRADUAL

(Ps. 48:12-14a)

**Great is the LORD and greatly | to be praised*
in the city | of our God!**

**Walk about Zion, go around her, number her | towers,*
consider well her ramparts, go through her | citadels,
that you may tell the next gener- | ation***

VERSE

(Luke 12:32)

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Fear not, | little flock,*

For it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the | kingdom.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

First Reading:

2 Chronicles 29: 12-19

¹²Then the Levites arose, Mahath the son of Amasai, and Joel the son of Azariah, of the sons of the Kohathites; and of the sons of Merari, Kish the son of Abdi, and Azariah the son of Jehallelel; and of the Gershonites, Joah the son of Zimmah, and Eden the son of Joah; ¹⁸and of the sons of Elizaphan, Shimri and Jeuel; and of the sons of Asaph, Zechariah and Mattaniah; ¹⁴and of the sons of Heman, Jehuel and Shimei; and of the sons of Jeduthun, Shemaiah and Uzziel. ¹⁵They gathered their brothers and consecrated themselves and went in as the king had commanded, by the words of the LORD, to cleanse the house of the LORD. ¹⁶The priests went into the inner part of the house of the LORD to cleanse it, and they brought out all the uncleanness that they found in the temple of the LORD into the court of the house of the LORD. And the Levites took it and carried it out to the brook Kidron. ¹⁷They began to consecrate on the first day of the first month, and on the eighth day of the month they came to the vestibule of the LORD. Then for eight days they consecrated the house of the LORD, and on the sixteenth day of the first month they

finished. ¹⁸Then they went in to Hezekiah the king and said, "We have cleansed all the house of the LORD, the altar of burnt offering and all its utensils, and the table for the showbread and all its utensils. ¹⁹All the utensils that King Ahaz discarded in his reign when he was faithless, we have made ready and consecrated and behold, they are before the altar of the LORD."

Epistle: Revelation 14:6-7

⁶Then 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. ⁷And 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."

Holy Gospel: Matthew 11:12-15

¹²From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. ¹⁸For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, ¹⁴and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. ¹⁵He who has ears to hear, let him hear.