

St. James Worship Service



Reformation Sunday

October 25, 2026

Serving Today

Minister

Pastor Don Knowles

Organist/Pianist

Dr. John Hildreth

Worship Assistant

Stacy Miles

Lector

Doug Nelson

Video

Jerry Johansen



Today's Music

504	<i>A Mighty Fortress Is Our God</i>
652	<i>Built on a Rock</i>
511	<i>Thy Strong Word</i>

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504

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

**1. A mighty fortress is our God,
a sword and shield victorious;
he breaks the cruel oppressor's rod
and wins salvation glorious.**

**The old satanic foe
has sworn to work us woe!
With craft and dreadful might
he arms himself to fight.
On earth he has no equal.**

2. No strength of ours can match his might!

We would be lost, rejected.

**But now a champion comes to fight,
whom God himself elected.**

You ask who this may be?

The Lord of hosts is he!

Christ Jesus, mighty Lord,

God's only Son, adored.

He holds the field victorious.

**3. Though hordes of devils fill the land
all threat'ning to devour us,
we tremble not, unmoved we stand;
they cannot overpow'r us.**

**Let this world's tyrant rage;
in battle we'll engage!
His might is doomed to fail;
God's judgment must prevail!
One little word subdues him.**

**4. God's Word forever shall abide,
no thanks to foes, who fear it;
for God himself fights by our side
with weapons of the Spirit.**

**Were they to take our house,
goods, honor, child, or spouse,
though life be wrenched away,
they cannot win the day.
The kingdom's ours forever!**

Text: Martin Luther, 1493-1546, tr.

652

Built on a Rock

**1. Built on a rock the church shall stand,
even when steeples are falling;
crumbled have spires in ev'ry land,
bells still are chiming and calling —**

**calling the young and old to rest,
calling the souls of those distressed,
longing for life everlasting.**

**2. Surely, in temples made with hands
God the Most High is not dwelling —
high in the heav'ns his temple stands,
all earthly temples excelling.**

**Yet God who dwells in heav'n above
deigns to abide with us in love,
making our bodies his temple.**

**3. Christ builds a house of living stones:
we are his own habitation;
he fills our hearts, his humble thrones,
granting us life and salvation.**

**Where two or three will seek his face,
he in their midst will show his grace,
blessings upon them bestowing.**

**4. Yet in this house, an earthly frame,
Jesus the children is blessing;
hither we come to praise his name,
faith in our Savior confessing.**

**Jesus to us his Spirit sent,
making with us his covenant,
granting his children the kingdom.**

**5. Through all the passing years, O Lord,
grant that, when church
bells are ringing,
many may come to hear your Word,
who here this promise is bringing:**

**“I know my own, my own know me;
you, not the world, my face shall see;
my peace I leave with you. Amen.”**

Text: Nicolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783-1872;
tr. Carl Doving, 1867-1937, adapt.

511

Thy Strong Word

**1. Thy strong word did cleave the darkness;
at thy speaking it was done.**

**For created light we thank thee,
while thine ordered seasons run.**

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise to thee who light dost send!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia without end!

**2. Lo, on those who dwelt in darkness,
dark as night and deep as death,
broke the light of thy salvation,
breathed thine own life-breathing breath.**

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise to thee who light dost send!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia without end!

**3. Thy strong Word bespeaks us righteous;
bright with thine own holiness,
glorious now, we press toward glory,
and our lives our hopes confess.**

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise to thee who light dost send!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia without end!

**4. From the cross thy wisdom shining
breaketh for in conqu'ring might;
from the cross forever beameth
all thy bright redeeming light.**

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise to thee who light dost send!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia without end!

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907-1976

Go in peace. Encourage one another.
Thanks be to God.

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