## Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church Smithtown, New York 11787



Info@standrewsofsmithtown.org Nicholas Suminski, Organist and Music Director

Reformation Sunday
Worship with Holy Communion
October 29, 2023 + 10:00 a.m.

## **GATHERING**

## **PRELUDE**

## \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The assembly stands as they are able. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom 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 Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

#### Gracious God.

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of  $\pm$  Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.** 

<sup>\*</sup>Asterisk indicates where the assembly is invited to stand as they are able.

## \*GATHERING SONG # 504 A Mighty Fortress



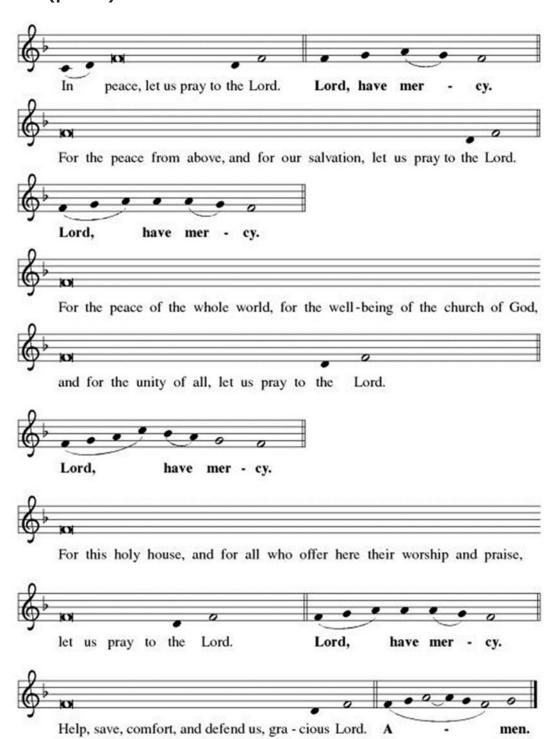
#### **GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

## And also with you.

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## **KYRIE (p. 138)**



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## **CANTICLE OF PRAISE**



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#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you! And also with you!

O Lord God, you are the holy lawgiver, you are the salvation of your people. By your Spirit renew us in your covenant of love, and train us to care tenderly for all our neighbors, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.** 

## **ANTHEM (CHOIR)**

## WORD

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34

A reading from Jeremiah

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the LORD means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the LORD will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.

<sup>31</sup>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. <sup>32</sup>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. <sup>33</sup>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. <sup>34</sup>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.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

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## **PSALM: Psalm 46**

<sup>1</sup>God is our ref- | uge and strength, a very present | help in trouble.

<sup>2</sup>Therefore we will not fear, though the | earth be moved, and though the mountains shake in the depths | of the sea;

 $^{3}$ though its waters  $^{\dagger}$  rage and foam,

and though the mountains tremble I with its tumult.

<sup>4</sup>There is a river whose streams make glad the cit- | y of God, the holy habitation of | the Most High.

<sup>5</sup>God is in the midst of the city; it shall <sup>1</sup> not be shaken; God shall help it at the <sup>1</sup> break of day.

<sup>6</sup>The nations rage, and the | kingdoms shake; God speaks, and the earth | melts away.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD of <sup>1</sup> hosts is with us; the God of Jacob <sup>1</sup> is our stronghold.

\*Come now, regard the works | of the LORD, what desolations God has brought up- | on the earth;

<sup>9</sup>behold the one who makes war to cease in <sup>1</sup> all the world; who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the <sup>1</sup> shields with fire.

<sup>10</sup>"Be still, then, and know that | I am God;

I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted | in the earth."

11The LORD of I hosts is with us;

the God of Jacob I is our stronghold.

## **SECOND READING: Romans 3:19-28**

A reading from Romans

Paul's words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ's death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

<sup>19</sup>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. <sup>20</sup>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.

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<sup>21</sup>But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, <sup>22</sup>the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, <sup>23</sup>since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; <sup>24</sup>they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup>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; <sup>26</sup>it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

<sup>27</sup>Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. <sup>28</sup>For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

#### \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



**GOSPEL: John 8:31-36** 

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

<sup>31</sup>Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; <sup>32</sup>and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." <sup>33</sup>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'?"

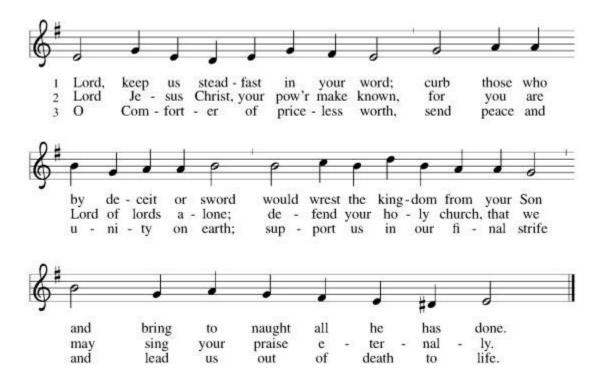
<sup>34</sup>Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. <sup>35</sup>The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. <sup>36</sup>So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.** 

#### **SERMON**

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## HYMN OF THE DAY #517 Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word



#### **NICENE CREED**

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. 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.

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We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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 INTERCESSION**

Trusting in the transformative power of God's loving Spirit, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Holy God, you give the law that your people live by it and flourish. Write your law on the hearts of all who bear your name, and teach us to love your commandments, that we live as you intend. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Holy God, you plant the earth and water it and bring forth a fruitful harvest. Send favorable weather, just wages, and the bounty of your abundance to all who are engaged in the labor of harvest. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Holy God, you watch over the ways of the righteous and judge your people with fairness. Guide judges, courts, elected officials, and all those tasked with upholding the law, inspiring them with your wisdom and zeal for justice. Bring peace to the Middle East and our world. God of grace, hear our prayer.

Holy God, you hold your people in love and surround them with your mercy. Draw near to all who are in need especially Jennifer, Lucy, Rachel, and Mary Ellen; those serving in the military, all on the prayer list; all people affected by COVID-19, for the victims of the ongoing violence in the Middle East and those we name before you now (pause). Be their rest and comfort. God of grace,

## hear our prayer.

Holy God, you call us to love one another as we love ourselves. Give us the will and patience to love those who are difficult to love. Bless all the ministries of this congregation through which we show love for our neighbors. God of grace,

## hear our prayer.

## Here other intercessions may be offered.

Holy God, you have broken the chains of death and daily make all things new. We give you thanks for the witness of reformers like Martin Luther and all the saints. We pray that your transformative spirit is at work in us. God of grace,

## hear our prayer.

(Pastor) Gracious God, into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your unending love and amazing grace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.** 

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## **MEAL**

#### **OFFERING**

Thank you for your generous financial support of the ministries of Saint Andrew's, you may give in person, by mail or by visiting our website for online giving. Donations: standrewsofsmithtown.org/donate

## **OFFERTORY (Bells)**

#### \*OFFERING PRAYER

God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen

# GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE AND PREFACE

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** 

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

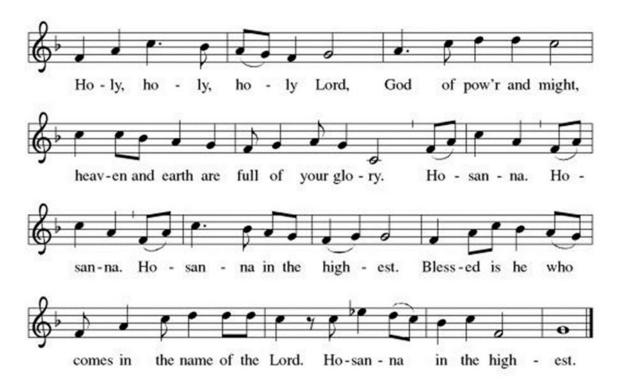
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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## **SANCTUS**



## **EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. **Amen.** 

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## **LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

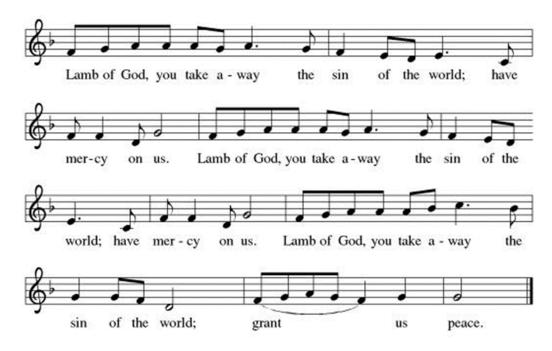
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat and live.

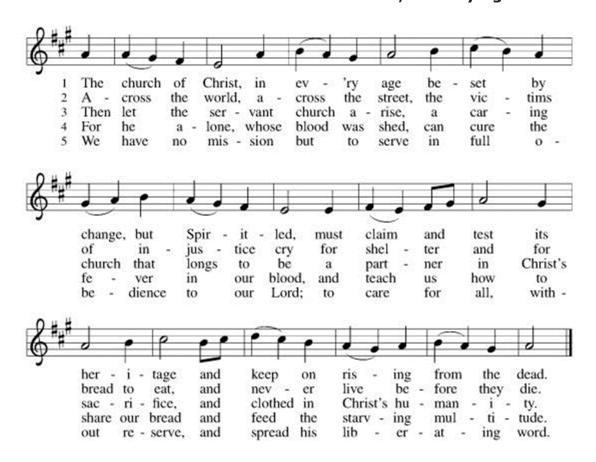
## **LAMB OF GOD**



Body of Christ, given for you. Blood of Christ, shed for you.

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## **COMMUNION HYMN # 729 The Church of Christ, in Every Age**



## \*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

## **SENDING**

## **BLESSING**

The God of glory,

+ Jesus Christ, name above all names,
and the Spirit who lives in you,
bless you now and forever.

Amen.

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#### **SENDING HYMN # 654 The Church's One Foundation**



## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. God is at work in you.

Thanks be to God.

#### **POSTLUDE**

This morning we welcome Pastor John Krahn

**Important Congregational Meeting Today - Immediately following the 10AM service** in the church building for the purpose of electing Church Officers and Church Council Members under the provisions of the new St. Andrew's Constitution.

All Saints' Sunday, Nov 5<sup>th</sup> is when we will commemorate those who have died over the last year since November 1, 2022. If you would like the people of Saint Andrew's Church to remember a departed loved one in prayer, please email the church office **no later than** October 30th at admin@standrewsofsmithtown.org.

\*Kindly use the subject "All Saints' Prayer List" and include the name(s) of the deceased and the date(s) of their deaths.

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**Please support Operation Christmas Child.** Boxes are available in the Church and at the Church office. Boxes are due on Nov. 12th. If you have any questions, please contact Danielle Lloyd.

The food pantry is currently in need of basic non-perishable foods, such as: Laundry detergent, cereal, peanut butter, mac and cheese, tomato sauce, tuna fish, canned chicken. We thank you for any donations.

**Community Outreach and Ministry** St. Andrew's is collecting the following items to support Trinity Lutheran Church, Wyandanch:

Toothbrush, toothpaste, mouthwash, small hard candy (ex. Jolly Ranchers), travel size lotion, sanitizer, maxi pads individually wrapped tampons, travel size shaving cream, razors wrapped, men and women deodorant, bandaids, lip balm, packs of tissues.

Please bring these items to the office or to the collection box located in the Narthex. Thank you for your donations!

Pastor Paul Downing of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Port Jefferson Station serves as our coverage pastor. He can be reached anytime for pastoral care and emergencies at cell# 347-423-3623. If he is unable to answer, please leave a message and he will return your call as soon as possible. He can also be reached by email at <a href="mailto:pastorpauldowning@yahoo.com">pastorpauldowning@yahoo.com</a>. Questions about meetings and day to day activities at St. Andrew's should still be directed to the office at 631.265.2288 or <a href="mailto:info@standrewsofsmithtown.org">info@standrewsofsmithtown.org</a>.

# Pastor Paul Downing invites you to join him and the St. Paul's community for weekly Bible Study and/or Prayer Group.

Bible Study: 9:30am Wednesday mornings on Zoom (meeting ID 977-887-967)

Bible Study: 10:30am Wednesday mornings In Person at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran

Church, Port Jefferson Station

Prayer Group: 10:30am Friday mornings In Person and via Zoom (meeting ID 800-555-016) at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church.

**St. Thomas of Canterbury would like to invite** our congregation to Wednesday evening *Contemplative Night Prayer* at 7 p.m., the first Wednesday of each month through December 2023. This is a liturgy of prayer, meditation, and sacred silence.

90 Edgewater Ave. Smithtown, NY 11787

Phone 631-265-4520

E-mail: <a href="mailto:stthomasofcan@optonline.net">stthomasofcan@optonline.net</a>

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#### PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

## THOSE IN NEED OF HEALING:

Eddie Hope [requested by Jane and Paul DeRosa]

Noam Gilbert Lieberman [requested by Eve Overton]

Jeff Taylor [requested by Fred Swanson]

Richard Angelo, Rocky Cinque [requested by Marianne Spagna]

Lucy Harris and her family, Sara Larson [requested by the Francis family]

Jeff Hanson, Jennifer Meisenkothen, Rachel Boccio Chris Kelly, John Sullivan [requested by Dorothy & Jim Clavell]

Carolyn Bennett [requested Jill Spage]

Arthur Schaeffler [requested by the Poulos Family]

Mary Ellen Sconzo [requested by Grabrielle Sconzo]

Margie Costello and the brother of Joe Costello [requested by Joe Costello & family]

Brett D, Bill Michalski, father in law of Jessica Davis Michalski [requested by Cindy Davis]

Robert & Pat Richards [requested by Mary Fjellstad]

Bob Blagriff, Bill Davey [requested by Tom & Pat Pernice]

Barbara McCanlis, Patty DeGoveia [requested by Jill Breimann]

Ellen Bell [requested by Dorothy Graf]

Gavin Lahann[requested by Grandmother Violet Lahann]

Emilie Diehl [requested by daughters Cyndie & Kathy]

Kathy Greaney, Andrew Madarasz, Gerard Tuohy [requested by Leslee & Steve Mathieson]

Valerie Ruckert, Bob Widmer, Carmine Colasanto, Richard & George Mengert [requested by Carolyn Gabelman]

Tracey Parisi, Margo Naranjo, John Hochuli [requested by Barbara English]

Marilyn Havighorst [requested by Martha Hahn]

Kerri Swanson [requested by Linda & Jud Taylor]

Andy Hazin & the Hazin family, Ilse Gunther [requested by the Hoffman family]

David Travis [requested by Richard Travis]

The family of Elaine Robinson [requested by Deborah Cella]

Viola Giovinco [requested by Liz DeLuca]

#### THOSE IN MILITARY SERVICE:

Sgt Eric Hodosky Captain Zachary Hinsch [nephew of Judy & John Hinsch] Major Lenore Livingston [daughter of Helen & Art Fortin] Corporal August Detting Major William Fortin

(Please advise the office of any updates in your prayer requests.)

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Every year on the last Sunday in October, many Lutheran churches mark Reformation Sunday. If you didn't grow up with this practice, you may wonder where the tradition comes from, and why we still practice it.

The story dates back to the 16th century – to the year 1517.

Across Europe, the Roman Catholic Church was engaged in one of the greatest fundraisers in history. If a person, as a sign of repentance for their sins, made a financial gift to help with building Saint Peter's Basilica in Rome, the church furnished them with a certificate (or indulgence) recognizing the gift and promising that they or their loved ones would be freed from a portion of the time expected in purgatory, in the afterlife.

November 1<sup>st</sup>, known as All Saints Day on the church calendar, was an important day for selling and buying these indulgences. In 1517 on the day before All Saint's Day, October 31<sup>st</sup>, German monk Martin Luther posted a list of 95 Theses – 95 reasons that he objected to this practice of selling indulgences on the door of All Saints Church in the town of Wittenberg, Germany. Those 95 Theses (reasons) went viral.

Luther insisted that we are not forgiven because of anything we do, including buying indulgences or doing enough good work. *Instead, we are forgiven because of who God is.* We are loved and forgiven because God is full of grace and mercy.

Martin Luther's teachings and writings got him kicked out of the church. But he didn't go alone. Others agreed with him, and after his death those who agreed with Luther became known as Lutherans, and also as Protestants. All Protestant churches trace their roots back to this moment in history.

Every Reformation Sunday, we return to the core of our faith: that God loved us first, and God continues to shower us with grace and mercy.

## Happy Reformation Sunday!

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