

Reformation Sunday



Sunday, October 27, 2024

Lutheran Church of the Living Christ
2725 Concord Drive
Florissant, MO 63033

Introduction: Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

PRELUDE

“Be Thou My Vision”

by Paul Manz

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS *(Details are on the slides and at the end of bulletin)*

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Because our fear, love, and trust has wandered away from God to other things, let us call to mind our sin and confess it before God so that we may live in the forgiveness promised in our Holy Baptism.

(Silence for meditation.)

Pastor: Almighty God,

People: our Creator and Redeemer: we confess that we have been careless in our appreciation of Your mercy and grace. We have been forgetful of all that You have done for our salvation and the world. Our neglect of Your Word has impoverished our faith from receiving Your gifts. By the blood of Jesus pleading for us before Your throne and in Your great mercy cleanse us of our sin and create in us new hearts that we may truly fear, glorify, and worship You all the days of our life.

Pastor: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. In the name of Jesus and by His authority I proclaim to you the forgiveness of all your sins. Live in the freedom of your Holy Baptism in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

“The Church's One Foundation”

ELW#654

GREETING

P: Beloved of God, called to be saints: Grace, mercy, and peace be with you all.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

CHOIR ANTHEM

“Stand Up For Jesus”

Please be seated.

Jeremiah 31:31-34

³¹ 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. ³² 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. ³³ 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. ³⁴ 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.

L: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 46

L: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

C: Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;

L: though its waters rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

C: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

L: God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken; God shall help it at the break of day.

C: The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake; God speaks, and the earth melts away.

L: The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

C: Come now, regard the works of the LORD, what desolations God has brought upon the earth;

L: behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world; who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

C: "Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth."

L: The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

SECOND READING Romans 3:19-28

¹⁹ 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. ²⁰ 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.

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

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

L: Word of God, Word of life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL READING - *Please stand, as you are able, to welcome the gospel.*

P: The holy Gospel according to **John, the 8th chapter (verses 31-36)**

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

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

³⁴ Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin.

³⁵ The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever.

³⁶ So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

P: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Following the reading the assembly is seated.

SERMON

Pastor Matt

PROFESSION OF FAITH – From Luther’s Explanation of the Apostles’ Creed

Pastor: I believe 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. On the third day he rose [again]; he ascended into heaven, seated at the right hand of God, the almighty Father, from where he will come to judge the living and the dead. What does this mean?

People: I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death,
that I may be His own, and live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

Please be seated.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Challenged by God’s Word in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and the whole creation.

A brief silence.

Lord of all, we give thanks for the whole church throughout the world. Open wide the paths toward unity between denominations so that all followers of Christ may join in shared worship and mission. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Renewing God, as the dying leaves display their beauty, we are reminded that nature’s cycle of life includes and requires both life and death. Instill in your people a mission of preservation for trees, animals, and waterways threatened by climate collapse. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Gracious God, in the spirit of reformation we pray for all who cry out for relief from systemic oppression. May the hearts of those who occupy seats of power be reformed so that peace becomes the center of our life together. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Comforting God, be with all who are sick, suffering, or grieving in our own community and beyond (*especially*). Surround them with the promise of your love, comfort, and grace that never ends. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Divine Guide, continue to challenge this community to be ever reforming in our ministries and outreach efforts. Inspire creative ideas among us so that the communal, grace-filled word of God remains at the heart of our ministry. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Almighty God, in Christ’s resurrection you ensure that though life be wrenched away, death cannot win the day. May the truth of your saving grace through faith sustain our hope for life in you. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

God, creator of generations, you have worked through families to bring faith, hope, and love since creation. Continue to nurture, guide, and inspire our family of faith, especially our brothers and sisters in the *M. Becker, K. Haynes & M. Johnson* families. Guide, protect, and build these families up in faith. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in the saving grace you freely give, both now and forever.

Amen.

MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT - Many talented people contributed their crafts and baked goods for our recent sale. Many thanks to all of you and to those who purchased items. The sale was a big success.

SHARING OF THE PEACE *Please stand as you are able*

P: The peace of Christ be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

Share God's peace in whatever way you are comfortable. Following this please be seated.

GATHERING OF OFFERINGS

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

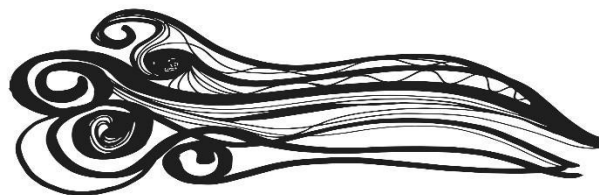
P: Lift up your hearts.

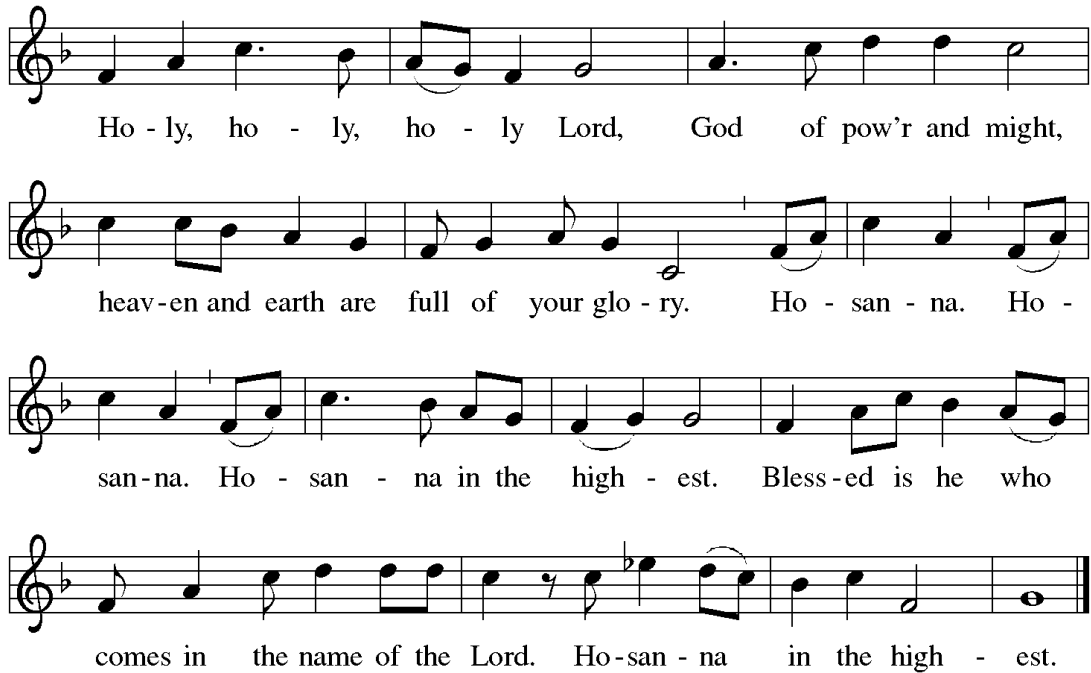
C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: 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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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





Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
 san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. **C: Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Remember us and teach us to pray,

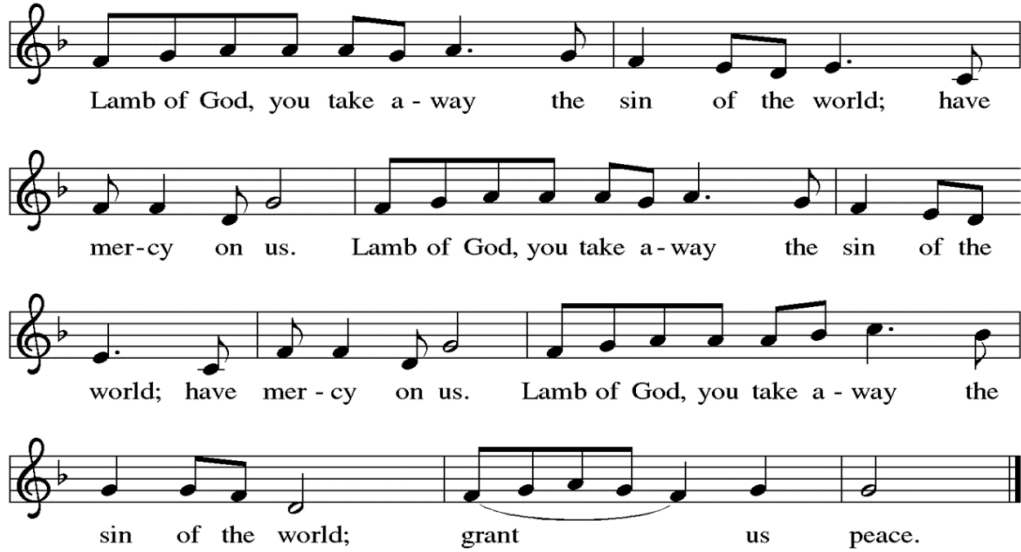
C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Come to the banquet, for all is now ready. **C: Amen.**



Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION *Time is given for the sharing of bread and wine.*

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“Amazing Grace”

ELW#779

COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you in God’s grace unto eternal life.

C: Amen.

PRAYER

L: Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. **C: Amen.**

BENEDICTION

P: The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD’s face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD look upon you with favor and give you peace. **Amen.** (Num. 6:24)

SENDING HYMN

“A Mighty Fortress”

ELW#504

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Follow Jesus. **C: Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

“A Mighty Fortress”

Jan Bender



ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Week at LCLC -

Sunday (10-27) 8:00 AM Vocal Choir
9:15 AM Worship
10:30 AM Adult Ed

Tuesday (10-29) 10:00 AM Bible Study - Acts
NO Exercise Class

Wednesday (10-30) 7:00 PM Reformation Service at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church

Thursday (10-31) **NO** Exercise Class

Friday (10-25) 11:00 AM Bells

Friday (11-1) 9:00 AM Create Day

- LIVE STREAMING** –We are now streaming on YouTube Live. To live stream, there are links on lc-livingchrist.org, facebook.com/LCLivingChrist (click on the blue “Go To Link” button), youtube.com/@LC-LivingChristWorship/streams, or search @LC-LivingChristWorship on the YouTube app. This can work with any Smart Device, tablet, computer, and more!
- TIME AND TALENT SHEETS** available on the hallway table. Please fill one out and return it by **Oct. 27**.
- REFORMATION WORSHIP** - Shepherd of the Hills, 4161 Cypress Rd. 63074, **Oct 30@ 7pm** (see flyer)
- ZION LUTHERAN** will be here on **November 10** to worship with us.
- CELEBRATING LIFE, All Saints Day, Dia de los Muertos...** During the 10:30 Adult Education Hour on **November 3rd** we will learn about the Mexican celebration that acknowledges deceased loved ones, similar to All Saints Day celebrations. We are asking members to bring a photo of a deceased loved one, share a story about the person and food the family member/friend enjoyed eating or making. Feel free to bring a sample of the food to share.

October 27, 2024

Preaching/Presiding: Pr. Matt

Assisting Minister: Randy Henning

Lector: Bill Kaepfel

Live Streaming: Erle Craig

Musician: David Eggers

Ushers: Levaughn & Sheila Smart

Greeter: Jim Stoeber

Altar Guild: Maureen Buchek & Marjorie Becker

November 3, 2024

Preaching/Presiding: Pr. Matt

Assisting Minister: Randy Henning

Lector: Terry Calderwood

Live Streaming: Gary & Laurie Brown

Musician: Greg Ott

Ushers: Randy Henning & Dave Endorf

Greeter: Judy Holmes

Altar Guild: Cathie Lehr & Joyce Meyer



Luther Posting His Ninety-Five Theses