

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church



Welcome to our visitors!

- It is our hope and prayer that the message you hear today from God's Word will fill your heart with the peace that only God can offer and the joy we have in knowing that Jesus Christ is our Savior from sin.
- Large print service folders are available from an usher. Assisted listening devices, including both ear bud and loop receivers for digital hearing aids, are also available from an usher.
- Children's service folders and worship notes are available in the round tract rack in the entry area.
- Parents may take small children into the entry area, mother's room (at the back of the church), or nursery (lower level of church) as needed and follow the worship service on the TV monitor. Changing tables are available in the mother's room and in the room adjacent to the nursery.
- Restrooms are located at the far end of the entry area.
- As the offering is received, members and guests are asked to sign the Friendship Register. Please pass the register to your neighbor and then return it to the center aisle. Visitors are also asked to fill out a guest card and give it to an usher.

Reformation

October 28 & 29, 2017

Reformation 500: Christ Alone

Prelude

Call to Worship (Sunday)

Adult Choir

Jubilate Deo

edited by Robert Kendall

Jubilate Deo, omnis terra, jubilate.
Psalmum dicite nomini ejus;
Date gloriam laudi ejus.

*O be joyful in God, all ye lands, O be joyful.
Singing psalms in the name of the Lord;
To give glory and honor to God.*

Please stand

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son ☩ and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

REFORMATION DIALOGUE (part 1) from Martin Luther's *Commentary on Galatians*

M: For the one doctrine which I have supremely at heart is that of faith in Christ, from whom, through whom, and unto whom all my theological thinking flows back and forth day and night.

C: **I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.**

Galatians 2:20

M: Justification is the doctrine that we are redeemed from sin, death and the devil, and made partakers of eternal life, not by ourselves but by the help of another, the only-begotten Son of God, Jesus Christ.

C: **The Scripture declares that the whole world is a prisoner of sin, so that what was promised, being given through faith in Jesus Christ, might be given to those who believe.**

Galatians 3:22

M: For in the righteousness of faith we work nothing, we render nothing unto God, but only we receive and suffer another to work in us, that is to say, God.

C: **We know that a man is not justified by observing the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ.**

Galatians 2:16a

Be seated

Hymn

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Adult Choir & Congregation

setting by Jeffrey Bleresch

*Congregation will sing all stanzas on Saturday and **bold stanzas** only on Sunday*

C: **A mighty fortress is our God,
A trusty shield and weapon;
He helps us free from ev'ry need
That hath us now o'ertaken.
The old evil foe now means deadly woe;
Deep guile and great might
Are his dread arms in fight;
On earth is not his equal.**

† Luther's Commentary on Galatians: Based on a series of lectures delivered by Luther in 1531 at the University of Wittenberg, the *Commentary on Galatians* stands as a beautiful exposition of salvation through Christ alone apart from observing the law. In the introduction, Luther writes, "I have taken in hand...to expound this Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians: not because I do desire to teach new things...but for that this we have to fear as the greatest and nearest danger, lest Satan take from us the pure doctrine of faith, and bring into the Church again the doctrine of works and men's traditions... wherefore this doctrine can never be taught, urged, and repeated enough."

**C: With might of ours can naught be done;
Soon were our loss effected.
But for us fights the valiant one
Whom God himself elected.
Ask ye, “Who is this?” Jesus Christ it is,
Of Sabaoth Lord,
And there’s none other God;
He holds the field forever.**

Choir: Though devils all the world should fill,
All eager to devour us,
We tremble not, we fear no ill;
They shall not overpow’r us.
This world’s prince may still scowl fierce as he will,
He can harm us none.
He’s judged; the deed is done!
One little word can fell him.

**C: The Word they still shall let remain,
Nor any thanks have for it;
He’s by our side upon the plain
With his good gifts and Spirit.
And take they our life, goods, fame, child, and wife,
Though these all be gone
Our vict’ry has been won;
The kingdom ours remaineth.**

Please stand

REFORMATION DIALOGUE (part 2)
from Martin Luther’s *Commentary on Galatians*

M: I rest only upon the righteousness of Christ and of the Holy Ghost, which we have not, but receive; God the Father freely giving it unto us through Jesus Christ.

C: All who rely on observing the law are under a curse, for it is written: “Cursed is everyone who does not continue to do everything written in the Book of the Law.” Clearly no one is justified before God by the law, because, “The righteous will live by faith.”

Galatians 3:10, 11

M: For I am baptized, and by the Gospel am called to the partaking of righteousness and of everlasting life, to the kingdom of Christ, wherein my conscience is at rest, where no law is, but altogether forgiveness of sins, peace, quietness, joy, health and everlasting life.

C: **You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.**

Galatians 3:26

Be seated (Sunday)

Response to the Word (Sunday)

Adult & Junior Choir

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

arranged by William Braun

Lord, keep us steadfast in your Word; curb those who by deceit or sword,
Would wrest the kingdom from your Son and bring to naught all he has done.

Lord Jesus Christ, your pow'r make known, for you are Lord of lords alone;
Defend your holy Church that we may sing your praise eternally.

Man's favor and might would be of little use
If you would not protect this little flock, O Comforter of priceless worth.
You know that the oppressed city of God
Has within it the most wicked enemy in the peril of false brethren.

Send peace and unity on earth; that we, the members of Christ's body, may be one in faith.
Support us in our final strife. The last enemy then breaks in on us
And would remove the comfort from our hearts;
But let yourself be known then as our helper,
And lead us out of death to life.

Grant peace, we pray in mercy, Lord; peace in our time, O send us!
For there is none on earth but you, none other to defend us.
You only, Lord, can fight for us.

Grant our leaders and all in dominion peace and good government,
That under them we may lead a peaceful and quiet life
In all godliness and in all honesty. Amen.

Please stand (Sunday)

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, in your undeserved love you sent us your Son, Jesus, to be the only Savior this world will ever know or need. He who had no sin became sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. Help us to daily live in repentance and to cherish his saving work for us, so that we no longer live for ourselves but for him who died for us and was raised again and lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Be seated

Hymn

You Are the Way; Through You Alone

Christian Worship 356

THE WORD

Scripture Lesson

Isaiah 45:5, 6, 18-25

Because the LORD is the only saving God, we will be found righteous.

“I am the LORD, and there is no other; apart from me there is no God.

I will strengthen you, though you have not acknowledged me,
so that from the rising of the sun to the place of its setting
men may know there is none besides me.

I am the LORD, and there is no other.”

For this is what the LORD says –

he who created the heavens, he is God;

he who fashioned and made the earth, he founded it;

he did not create it to be empty, but formed it to be inhabited – he says:

“I am the LORD, and there is no other.

I have not spoken in secret, from somewhere in a land of darkness;

I have not said to Jacob’s descendants, ‘Seek me in vain.’

I, the LORD, speak the truth; I declare what is right.

Gather together and come; assemble, you fugitives from the nations.

Ignorant are those who carry about idols of wood,

who pray to gods that cannot save.

Declare what is to be, present it – let them take counsel together.

Who foretold this long ago, who declared it from the distant past?
Was it not I, the LORD?
And there is no God apart from me,
 a righteous God and a Savior; there is none but me.
Turn to me and be saved, all you ends of the earth;
 for I am God, and there is no other.
By myself I have sworn, my mouth has uttered in all integrity a word that will not be revoked:
Before me every knee will bow; by me every tongue will swear.
They will say of me, 'In the LORD alone are righteousness and strength.' ”
All who have raged against him will come to him and be put to shame.
But in the LORD all the descendants of Israel will be found righteous and will exult.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 98 (see pg. 14)

Because the LORD has made his salvation known, we shout for joy.

Scripture Lesson

Romans 3:19-24

Because a righteousness from God has been made known, we are set free from the Law.

Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God. Therefore no one will be declared righteous in his sight by observing the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of sin.

But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

Anthem

Junior Choir

Entrust Your Days and Burdens

by Stephen R. Johnson

Entrust your days and burdens
To God's most loving hand;
He cares for you while ruling
The sky, the sea, the land.
For he who guides the tempests
Along their thund'rous ways
Will find for you a pathway
And guide you all your days.

Take heart, have hope, my spirit,
And do not be dismayed;
God helps in ev'ry trial
And makes you unafraid.
Await his time with patience
Through darkest hours of night
Until the sun you hoped for
Delights your eager sight.

Our hands and feet, Lord, strengthen;
With joy our spirits bless
Until we see the ending
Of all our life's distress.
And so throughout our lifetime
Keep us within your care
And at our end then bring us
To heav'n to praise you there.

Please stand

Scripture Lesson

John 14:1-6

Because Jesus is the way and the truth and the life, we will one day be in heaven with him.

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me. In my Father’s house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going.”

Thomas said to him, “Lord, we don’t know where you are going, so how can we know the way?”

Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ.

Be seated

Hymn

All Praise to God Who Reigns Above
Christian Worship 236

Because our salvation comes through Jesus, we are compelled to preach his message.

The priests and the captain of the temple guard and the Sadducees came up to Peter and John while they were speaking to the people. They were greatly disturbed because the apostles were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection of the dead. They seized Peter and John, and because it was evening, they put them in jail until the next day. But many who heard the message believed, and the number of men grew to about five thousand.

The next day the rulers, elders and teachers of the law met in Jerusalem. Annas the high priest was there, and so were Caiaphas, John, Alexander and the other men of the high priest's family. They had Peter and John brought before them and began to question them: "By what power or what name did you do this?"

Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: "Rulers and elders of the people! If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a cripple and are asked how he was healed, then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed. He is 'the stone you builders rejected, which has become the capstone.'

"Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved."

Please stand

Confession of Faith based on Luther's Smalcald Articles

- M:** With Martin Luther and the Christian Church, we believe and confess:
That Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, three distinct persons in one divine essence and nature, are one God, who created heaven and earth.
- C:** **That the Father was begotten by no one, the Son was begotten by the Father, and the Holy Spirit proceeded from the Father and the Son.**
- M:** That only the Son became man, and neither the Father nor the Holy Spirit.
- C:** **That the Son became man in this manner:
He was conceived by the Holy Spirit, without the cooperation of man, and was born of the virgin Mary.
Afterwards he suffered, died, was buried, descended to hell, rose from the dead, and ascended to heaven; and he is seated at the right hand of God.
He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

M: Inasmuch as this must be believed and cannot be obtained or apprehended by any work, law, or merit, it is clear and certain that such faith alone justifies us.

C: **Nothing in this article can be given up or compromised, even if heaven and earth and things temporal should be destroyed. Otherwise all is lost, and all our adversaries will gain the victory. Amen.**

Be seated

THANKSGIVING

Offering

The members of St. John's have joined together to do the Lord's work in our community and around the world, and our offerings are a joyful response of our faith. If you are a visitor today, you are welcome but not obligated to give an offering.

Please stand

Prayer of the Church for Reformation

M: Heavenly Father, your Word alone is able to make us wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. Without the gospel message of your forgiveness through Christ, we would still be dead in our transgressions and sins.

C: **We praise you for the precious treasure of your Word and pray that we might always diligently search and study it.**

M: Through the Reformation, you uncovered the long-hidden message of full and free salvation and restored the pure gospel to your Church.

C: **We praise you for guiding the efforts of the reformers and pray that we might always show the same zeal in our commitment to the truth.**

M: As children of the Reformation, we have been blessed with a rich heritage of faithful pastors and teachers who have been thoroughly educated in the truths found in your Word.

C: **We praise you for an exceptional Christian education system and pray that we might always support your called workers through our offerings and prayers.**

M: For many here today, our earliest memories of hearing your Word come from the lips of our parents. As our first teachers, they faithfully brought us up in your fear and wisdom.

C: **We praise you for Christian fathers and mothers and pray that we might always make your Word a priority in our homes and with our families.**

Special prayers and intercessions may follow

M: By your Spirit, enable us to serve you in faithful obedience to your Word all our days.

C: **We pray all this in the name of Jesus, through whom alone we stand righteous in your sight. Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

C: **Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

M: O Lord our God, we give you heartfelt thanks for the gift of your pure Word. Grant us the grace to hold fast this treasure given to us and the earnest desire to faithfully proclaim this true and living Gospel. Strengthen us in the one true faith until at last we are reunited with all the faithful before your throne; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

Now may the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever.

C: Amen.

Be seated

Closing Hymn

For Many Years, O God of Grace (stanza 1)

Christian Worship 622

Announcements

Postlude

If you do not wish to take your service folder home, please place it in the basket so it can be reused.

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“Jubilate Deo” Text based on Psalm 100:1 and Psalm 66:1-2.

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” Text public domain.

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“Holy, Holy, Holy” © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House.

Psalm 98

Refrain

Sing to the Lord a new song, for
he has done mar - vel - ous things.

Psalm tone

*

Sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvelous things.

The LORD has made his salvation known
and revealed his righteousness to the nations.

He has remembered his love and his faithfulness to the house of Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. *Refrain*

Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth,
burst into jubilant song with music;

make music to the LORD with the harp,
with the harp and the sound of singing.

Shout for joy before the LORD, the King.
He will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples with equity.

**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. *Refrain***

Serving at Worship

Ministers

Pastor Joel Leyrer
Pastor Eric Schroeder
Pastor Kyle Bitter
Pastor Joshua Yu

Adult Choir Director

Dr. William Braun

Junior Choir Director

Mandy Treder

Musicians

Carmen Rupprecht, piano (Saturday)
Tom Schneider, trumpet
Suzanne Swenson & Maria Froman, oboe
Rachel Althoff, Hannah Braun, Karis Strand, Abby Peterson, Abigail Ruchti & Anne Steeves, violin
Erik Pyatt & Austin Wagenknecht, viola
Tia Hankwitz, cello
Caleb Vollmers, double bass
Lynn Kozlowski, organ & continuo

Head Ushers

Jon Johnson (Saturday)
Mark Naumann (8:00 AM)
Matt Bahr (10:30 AM)

Greeters

Sharon Vander Veen & Barbara Weihing and Steve & Jennifer Wolf (8:00 AM)
Jessica Gromacki & Kathryn Hendee and Brian & Tracy Lampe (10:30 AM)

Readings for the Week of Reformation

M	Matthew 7:1-5.....	Exodus 34:1-9
T	Luke 17:1-4.....	1 Samuel 26:5-25
W	Matthew 6:9-15.....	Genesis 18:20-23
TH	1 John 3:18-22.....	Lamentations 3:37-44, 49, 50
F	1 Corinthians 5:9-13.....	Genesis 18:20-23
S	2 Peter 3:13-18.....	Isaiah 64:5-11

In Our Prayers

- Virginia Ruck and Ida Yorde, hospitalized and released this past week
 - Delores Schmeling, recovering at home from shoulder replacement surgery undergone last Monday.
-

New Bible Classes

A new Sunday Bible Class begins **next Sunday** at 9:15 AM.

A staffed nursery is available during Bible class.

A Return to Grace

Taught by Pastor Joel Leyrer in the Fellowship Hall

Using excerpts from the 2017 Reformation film *A Return to Grace*, we will explore how the Reformation and Martin Luther impacted the world both in 1517 and today. Through these film excerpts, we will examine and discuss a variety of facets of grace: grace hidden, grace rediscovered, grace defined, and grace confessed and enduring.

Parents' Preview for November 5

The Parents' Preview highlights an aspect of next week's service: a liturgical song, a Psalm refrain, or a hymn stanza. Our hope and prayer is that parents will teach this portion of the service to their children at home during the week so that children can participate more fully in the worship service.

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

This song of praise, sung immediately before the Words of Institution, echoes the words of the seraphim in Isaiah 6:3. It reminds us that one day, we will sing perfect praises to our God in heaven.

C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.

The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

You are my God, and I will ex - alt you.

I will give you thanks, for you have be - come my sal -

va - tion. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.

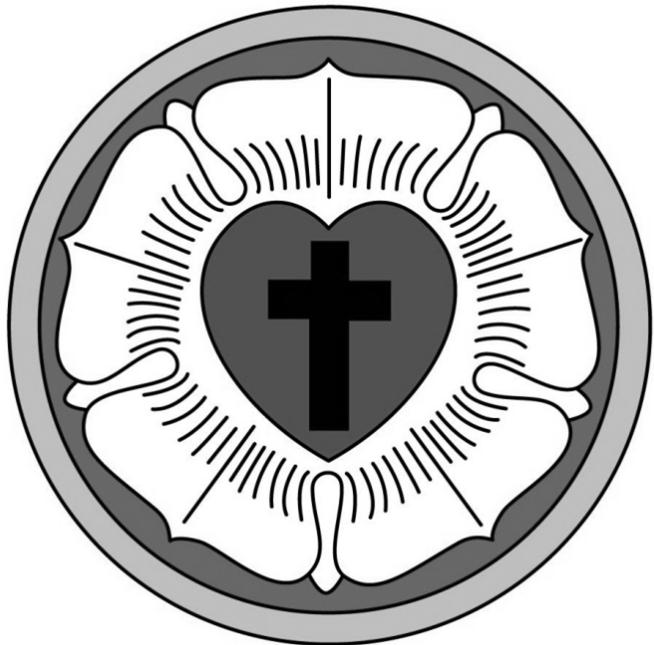
The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

The musical score is written on six staves in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

The Luther Seal

This coat of arms, or seal, was designed at the request of Martin Luther to be a summary of his theology and an expression of his faith. He explained the seal in this way:

- In the center is a black cross, indicative of Christ's dreadful sacrifice on the cross for every sinner who ever lived. The cross is a reminder that faith in this crucified Christ saves us.
- The cross is in the center of a red heart, to show that faith causes love, joy, and peace to grow in the human heart.
- The red heart sits on a white rose (Luther's favorite flower) because white is the color of angels and blessed spirits.
- The white rose rests against a sky-blue background to symbolize that the joy caused by faith is a beginning of the future joy of heaven, which is grasped in hope and not yet revealed.
- The seal is enclosed in a golden ring, showing that the bliss of heaven is unending and is as precious as gold.



As we approach the 500th anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation, our service folders will highlight several key theological emphases of the Reformation. Please also mark your calendars for the Southeastern Wisconsin District Reformation Festival service, held on Sunday, November 5 at 3:30 PM at the Miller High Life Theater.

The Significance of October 31, 1517

For more than a year Martin Luther had privately questioned the value of indulgences. Indulgences were certificates that freed people from performing acts of penance the church required to show sorrow for certain sins. Indulgences were never intended to let people “buy forgiveness.” They were supposed to express people’s inner desire to turn from sin. However, many medieval priests and popes distorted the original intent of indulgences. Now Luther found out some people were saying sorrow for sins was not necessary if you bought an indulgence.

Although he wasn’t calling for the total elimination of indulgences, Luther was convinced indulgences were being abused and people were being misled. When Luther posted his Ninety-Five Theses on October 31, 1517, he had no idea these statements would lead to the Reformation. He wrote them in Latin and not for public consumption. Luther was calling for an academic discussion. In these theses Luther did not suggest breaking with the Catholic Church. At this time, he still believed in purgatory and other teachings he would later reject. This was a beginning point, not a fully developed reform.

In his theses Luther emphasized two points. “Our Lord and Master Jesus Christ, in saying ‘Repent,’ wanted the entire life of the faithful to be one of penitence” (Thesis 1). “The true treasure of the church is the most holy gospel of the glory and grace of God” (Thesis 62). Repentance and the gospel – here Luther sowed the seeds of the Reformation. The harvest came later.



