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October 27, 2024

Reformation Sunday



We Welcome Our Visitors who are with us this morning.

We hope that you are uplifted by the Gospel at our worship service.
We invite you to join us every Sunday. Please sign our guestbook in the entry.
If you would like more information about our church, please contact the pastor.

✠ Preparation for Worship: Read Psalm 46 (Lutheran Service Book or Pew Bible) ✠

Greeting and prayer: (Pastor)

Opening Hymn: 584 Faith and Truth and Life Bestowing

LSB 584

Invocation

We invoke ("call upon") the name of the one true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

- P** In the name of the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

We come before our Holy God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

- P** God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.
- C** **If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.**
- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** **If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** (1 John 1:5, 7-9)
- P** Let us pray...
- C** **Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer:**
We confess that we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have not loved You above all things. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Have mercy on us, and, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive us our sins.
- P** Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. We are forgiven! With boldness and confidence we may approach the throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the joy and peace of forgiveness let us praise the Lord...

“Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice” - v. 1

LSB 556 v. 1

I Dear Chris-tians, one and all, re-joice, With ex-ul-ta-tion
spring-ing, And with u-nit-ed heart and voice And ho-ly
rap-ture sing-ing, Pro-claim the won-ders God has done, How
His right arm the vic-t'ry won. What price our ran-som cost Him!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Richard Massie, 1800–87, alt. Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, 1524, Wittenberg Text and tune: Public domain

Prayer of the Day

P We pray:

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. We pray this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The “Reformation” Psalm

*The responsive reading of **Psalm 46** and singing of “A Mighty Fortress is Our God” (Hymn 774 W.S.)*

P God is our refuge and strength,

C A very present help in trouble.

P Therefore we will not fear, even though the earth be removed,

C And though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea.

P Though its waters roar and be troubled,

C Though the mountains shake with its swelling.

♪ *A mighty Fortress is our God, A trusty shield and weapon;
He helps us free from every need That has us now o'er taken.
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.*

Ⓟ There is a river whose streams shall make glad the city 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 kingdoms were moved;

Ⓞ **He uttered His voice, the earth melted.**

Ⓟ The LORD of hosts is with us;

Ⓞ **The God of Jacob is our refuge.**

♪ *With might of ours can naught be done; Soon were our loss effected.
But for us fights the valiant One Whom God Himself elected.
You ask, "Who is this?" Jesus Christ it is, The Almighty Lord.
And there's no other God; He holds the field forever.*

Ⓟ Come, behold the works of the LORD,

Ⓞ **Who has made desolations in the earth.**

Ⓟ He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;

Ⓞ **He breaks the bow and cuts the spear in two; He burns the chariot in the fire.**

♪ *Though devils all the world should fill, All eager to devour us,
We tremble not, we fear no ill; They shall not over pow'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.*

Ⓟ Be still, and know that I am God;

Ⓞ **I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!**

- P** The LORD of hosts is with us;
C **The God of Jacob is our refuge.**

♪ *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 do what they will—Hate, steal, hurt, or kill—
Though all may be gone, Our victory is won;
The Kingdom's ours forever!*

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 2:1-10 (EHV)

- P** The second reading is from 1 Corinthians 2:1-10.
C **Sanctify us by Your truth, O LORD. Your Word is truth!**

As for me, brothers, when I came to you, I did not come with superior speech or wisdom in order to proclaim to you the testimony of God. ² For I had no intention of knowing anything among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. ³ I came to you in weakness, in fear, and with much trembling. ⁴ My message and my preaching were not marked by persuasive words of human wisdom, but by a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵ so that your faith would not rest on human wisdom, but on God's power.

⁶ Yet we do speak wisdom among those who are mature, but it is not a wisdom of this world or of the rulers of this world, who are being reduced to nothing. ⁷ Instead we speak God's wisdom that has been hidden in mystery—before the ages, God foreordained that this wisdom would result in our glory. ⁸ None of the rulers of this world knew it. (If they had known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.) ⁹ But as it is written:

What no eye has seen and no ear has heard
and no human mind has conceived—

that is what God has prepared for those who love him.

¹⁰ But God revealed it to us through his Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God.

- P** Here ends our Scripture readings.

"God Has Spoken by His Prophets"

LSB 583



1 God has spo - ken by His proph - ets, Spo - ken His un - chang - ing Word;
2 God has spo - ken by Christ Je - sus, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Son,
3 God is speak - ing by His Spir - it, Speak - ing to our hearts a - gain,



Each from age to age pro - claim - ing God, the one, the righ - teous Lord.
Bright - ness of the Fa - ther's glo - ry, With the Fa - ther ev - er one;
In the age - less Word de - clar - ing His own mes - sage, now as then.



In the world's de - spair and tur - moil, One firm an - chor holds us fast:
Spo - ken by the Word In - car - nate, God of God, be - fore time was;
Through the rise and fall of na - tions One sure faith yet stand - ing fast;



God is king, His throne e - ter - nal; God the first, and God the last.
Light of Light, to earth de - scend - ing, He re - veals our God to us.
God a - bides, His Word un - chang - ing; God the first, and God the last.

Text: George W. Briggs, 1875-1959, alt. Tune: Henry T. Smart, 1813-79
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Tune: Public domain

Confession of Faith - 2nd Article of the Apostles' Creed *Luther's Catechism (Sydow, p. 87)*

☑ 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, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sits on the right hand of God, the Father Almighty; from there He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

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.

He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sin, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and His innocent suffering and death.

He did this that I should be His very own, live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in eternal righteousness, innocence, and joy; just as He is risen from death, lives and reigns in eternity. This is most certainly true!

Hymn of the Day: 578 Thy Strong Word

LSB 578

Sermon Text: Philippians 3:12-16 (ESV)

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵Let those of us who are mature think this way, and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal that also to you. ¹⁶Only let us hold true to what we have attained.

Sermon Theme: Press On!

- † In what ways do we have a “clean slate” together as we gather for this first service with me as your new pastor?

- † How can we use this to our advantage as we “press on” and move forward serving each other and serving with each other?

- † How was the Apostle Paul a good example of how to “press on” and move forward, despite past sins and difficulties? **(v. 13-14)**

- † What was the key for Paul, and for us, to “press on” and move forward in continued service as brothers and sisters in Christ? **(v. 13-14, Hebrews 12:1-2)**

Offertory

LSB 956

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new
a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way
from Thy pres - ence; and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va - tion;
and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

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Offering *We offer our gifts to the Lord, remembering that He has first given to us that we might have to give to Him.*

Choir Hymn: "O Word of God"

(Choir: v. 1-3) **(Congregation: v. 4 – see below)**

(Choir) O Word of God incarnate, O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky;
We praise You for the radiance that from the hallowed page,
A lantern to our footsteps, shines on from age to age.

The church from You, our Savior, received the gift divine,
And still that light is lifted o'er all the earth to shine.
It is the sacred vessel where gems of truth are stored;
It is the heav'n-drawn picture of Christ, the living Word.

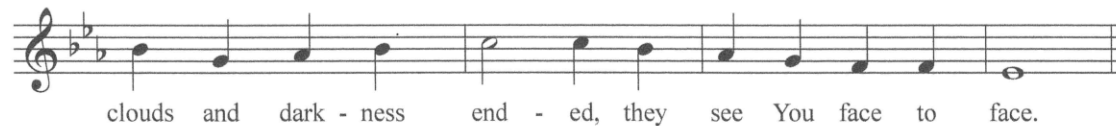
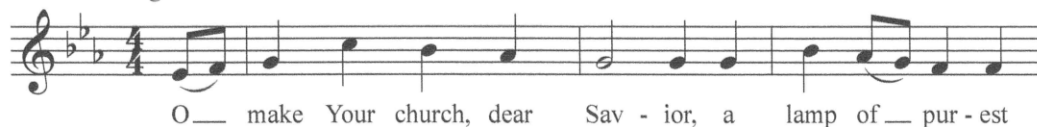
The Scripture is a banner, before God's host unfurled;
It is a shining beacon above the dark'ning world.
It is the chart and compass that o'er life's surging tide,
Mid mists and rocks and quicksands, to you, O Christ, will guide.

O Word of God

William W. How

MUNICH
Gesangbuch, Meiningen
Arranged by CRAIG COURTNEY
(ASCAP)

Sing when directed



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Reformation Prayer & Prayer for the Church (RESPONSIVE)

- P** Let us pray to the Lord for the Church on earth and for all people everywhere.
For all who gather here today and for our congregations, that through the Gospel the Lord would give us growth in faith and increase our love:
- C We ask You to bless us, O Lord.**
- P** For the spreading of the Gospel throughout the world; for all pastors, missionaries, and their families, that they may boldly proclaim Christ to the nations:
- C We ask You to hear us, O Lord.**
- P** For the comforting, absolute truth of the Gospel, that salvation is found in Christ alone, in His work, and not in anything we might have to produce or provide:
- C We glorify Your name, O Lord.**
- P** For the people of our country; for our government and for the election of Godly leaders and the implementation of God-pleasing policies and laws; for the Lord's blessings on our work; for those seeking employment; for good health and strength:
- C We ask You to help them and us according to your will, O Lord.**
- P** For all who are sick in body or mind; for the hungry and the homeless; for those who are in prison; for those who are dying; we pray special prayers today for Laura (Ude) Stutzman, who continues to recover in the ICU after suffering a brain aneurism, and for her family and loved ones who are praying for her recovery:
- C We praise and thank You for Your loving care, and ask You to help and heal, protect and comfort, and turn their hearts to You, according to your grace and mercy, O Lord.**
- P** We praise You for revealing Yourself in Your Word to us as our Savior, Friend, and Shepherd. We ask for Your blessings upon our congregation, on our school, and on all our shared ministries. Help us to "press on" and run together in unity, bonded by Your love and Your Word, for the advancement of Your Gospel and Your Kingdom and to the glory of Your saving name.
- C We ask You to bless us, O Lord.**
- P** For our students and our teachers, that they would have willing hearts and minds to learn and to teach, especially the "one thing needful"—Your Holy Word.
- C We ask You to bless us, O Lord.**

P For the strength, the ability, and the stamina to serve this congregation and school to which You have called me, and to remember to lean on You and to turn to You for all things.

C We ask You to bless our pastor, O Lord.

P For our members to have a renewed willingness and zeal to hear and learn from Your Word, to apply it to our lives, and share it with others; for all of us to use our gifts, our time, and the treasures You have given us to encourage growth in Your Body, the Church.

C We ask You to bless us, O Lord.

P For the indifference and shallowness that so often characterizes our faith; for all the times we have abused Your saving grace as well as every instance of neglecting Your Word and Sacraments.

C We ask You to forgive us, correct us, and renew us O Lord.

P To the praise and glory of Your name we ask all this, O Father, through your Son, Jesus Christ, who has taught us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

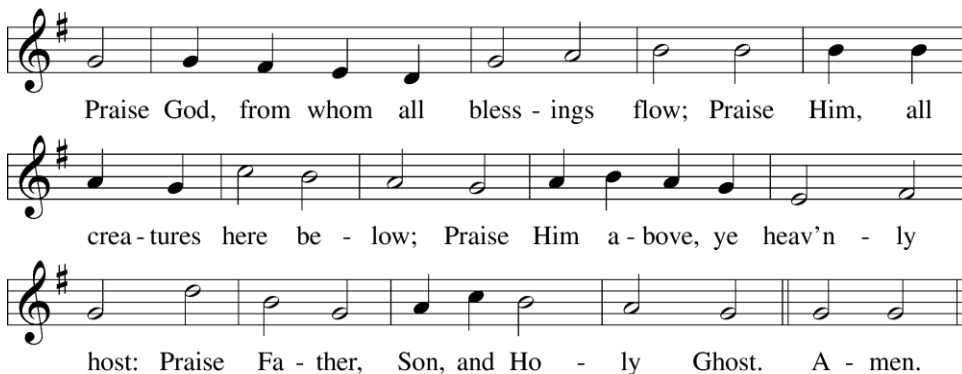
**C Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is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

Benediction *The blessing given by God for the blessing of His people (Numbers 6:24-26).*

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

The Doxology

LSB 805



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Him, all
crea - tures here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly
host: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

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Closing Hymn: 582 *God's Word Is Our Great Heritage*

LSB 582

Announcements



Welcome! We welcome all our visitors this morning.
Please sign our guest book and come worship with us again soon.

Today: **Joint Reformation Service – Faith Lutheran, Markesan – 4pm**

This Week: **Monday – Unloading U-Boxes at the Parsonage – 3:30pm**
Saturday – Fall Work Day – 9am (see announcement below)

⊕ **Daylight Saving Time Ends (“Fall Back”) – Turn Clocks Back 1hr** ⊕

Next Sunday: **Worship w/ Communion – 9am**
11/3/24 **Sunday School & Bible Class – 10:15am**
Quarterly Voters’ Meeting – 11:15am
Piano Recital (church sanctuary) – 1pm

Joint Reformation Service in Markesan – TODAY, Sunday, October 27, 2024

3:30 pm - Choir practice † 4pm – Worship Service † 5:30 pm – Supper

Children’s Hymn: TLH 261 Lord, Keep us Steadfast in Thy Word † Adult Choir: Foundations of Faith

Fall work day at church is planned for **Saturday, November 2 at 9:00 AM**. The list of tasks are posted on the cupboard doors. You're welcome to check items off the list before Saturday. If you have questions contact James Schaser or e-mail property@messiahhc.org.

Quarterly Voters' Meeting – NEXT Sunday, November 3rd, at 11:15am – A reminder that our quarterly voters' meeting will be held **next Sunday 11/3 at 11:15am**. Voters' please plan to attend and participate in this important meeting regarding the work of our congregation and school. The congregation is invited to attend the meeting as well.

Pastoral "Get to Know Each Other" Visits / Pastor Luke's Contact Info – I intend to begin my initial visits with our members beginning this week. I would like to have an "face to face" visit, which would include a short devotion, with each family and/or individual in the congregation over the next few months. Wherever is most convenient and comfortable for you will work just fine for me (my office, your home, a coffee shop, etc.). Feel free to contact me via email, text, or phone call if you know of a day and time that will work for you. If I don't hear from you, rest assured, I will be contacting you! I look forward to meeting you all and getting to know each other better soon! In Christ, Pastor Luke

Pastor's Contact Info

Email: LBernthal@messiahhc.org † Cell: **402-389-2147** † Church Office: **414-427-9337**

Unloading Help Needed at the Parsonage – Monday @ 3:30pm - If anyone is available and willing to help us unload the U-Boxes (moving "pods") on Monday afternoon/evening, Jewels and I would be very grateful and appreciative. **3:30pm** is our tentative start time. If you can only come for a little while, that is just fine. Any and all help is appreciated. Pizza will be provided. Thank you, Pastor Luke & Jewels Bernthal

Heartfelt Thank You from Pastor Luke and Jewels - Thank you all for your generosity, your helpfulness, and your warm welcome. We are both blown away by the generous welcome gifts and kitchen supplies, as well as the warm welcome we've received from you all. From the bottom of our hearts: Thank you! We are very blessed to be with you. In Christ, Pastor Luke & Jewels

Wednesday Evening Bible Study Resumes After the New Year – With Wed. Advent services starting soon and Pastor Luke beginning to ramp up his pastoral duties, the Elders have decided that our Wednesday evening Bible Studies will resume again after the New Year.

Ladies' Group is starting a new study book called *Pew Sisters* (available on Amazon) and will be discussing the first chapter at church on **November 19 at 6:30 PM**. Contact Lisa Lisak with questions or see the flyer on the bulletin board.

CLC Call News - Teacher Collette Krause of Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, Watertown, SD has announced her **retirement** effective the end of the current school year.

2025 CLC Mission Helper Trip - Applications are now being accepted for the 2025 Mission Helper Trip to Nepal. Space is limited for this trip, so please apply early. Find more information at: <https://mht.lutheranmissions.org/>

Bible Readings:

10/27	Jeremiah 23-24; 2 Timothy 2
10/28	Jeremiah 25-26; 2 Timothy 3
10/29	Jeremiah 27-28; 2 Timothy 4
10/30	Jeremiah 29-30; Titus 1
10/31	Jeremiah 31-32; Titus 2
11/1	Jeremiah 33-35; Titus 3
11/2	Jeremiah 36-37; Philemon



SCAN FOR
ONLINE
OFFERING

November Ushers

Mike Traub
Mike Cutler
Mark Kuhne

November Slideshow

Alex Saunders

Cleaning Team 11/1-11/8

D/C Albrecht
Weibye
Weaver
R. Busse

Fruits of Faith	Last Week:	To Date:
Budgetary Offerings*:	\$8,502.35	\$119,151.11
Budgetary Needs:	\$8,571.29	\$137,140.64
Over (Under) Budget:	(\$68.94)	(\$17,989.53)
Missions:	\$100.00	\$630.00
MSAF:	\$25.00	\$225.00

*Includes 10/1-10/15 E-giving: \$4,019.25

Attendance Last Sunday: 125

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