



REFORMATION SUNDAY

OCTOBER 25, 2026 | 8:00 AND 10:30 AM

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH; CONCORDIA, MO

ABOUT TODAY'S WORSHIP

Classes have resumed, and students, families, faculty, and staff have settled into the routine of a new school year. In our worship during these early-autumn months, we focus on Jesus as teacher, explaining life in the Kingdom of God. *This is Part 8 of a year-long series, "A Year in Matthew."*

Today's liturgy is adapted from Divine Service, Setting Five in *Lutheran Service Book*, which is a traditional liturgy based on Martin Luther's 1526 *Deutsche Messe* (German Mass). Luther's setting replaces major sections of the communion liturgy with hymns and hymn tunes. This service uses the Reformation-era tune ES IST DAS HEIL (Wittenberg, 1524) for the Sanctus and Agnus Dei.

P Pastor **C** Congregation/All

✙ All may make the sign of the cross to remember their baptism.



Led by the Holy Spirit, we gather for worship.

We are prepared for worship through Confession and Absolution.

PRELUDE, WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION OF SINS & FORGIVENESS *Psalm 124:8; 32:5*

P In the name of the Father and of the ✙ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the

stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 656 *“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”*

OPENING SENTENCES *selected verses of Psalm 46*

P God is our refuge and strength,

C a very present help in trouble.

P Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,

C though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,

P though its waters roar and foam,

C though the mountains tremble at its swelling. ...

P The LORD of hosts is with us;

C the God of Jacob is our fortress.

P Come, behold the works of the LORD,

C how he has brought desolations on the earth.

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

C he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the chariots with fire.

P “Be still, and know that I am God.

C 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 fortress.

SALUTATION & COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

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

C Amen.

VERSE OF THE MONTH *James 3:17–18*

C The wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.



We hear God's Word read and proclaimed,
and we respond with our prayers and praise, tithes and offerings.

FIRST READING *Revelation 14:6–7*

In Saint John's revelation, John hears an angelic messenger who declares to all people of the world, "Fear God and give him glory."

⁶Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people. ⁷And he said with a loud

voice, "Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come, and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE *Romans 3:19–28*

Saint Paul describes the righteousness of God that is given by faith in Jesus Christ.

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

²¹But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: ²³for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴and are justified by his

grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. ²⁶It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

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

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *“God’s Word Is Our Great Heritage”*

For text and tune, see hymn 582.

C (sung) **God’s Word is our great heritage**

And shall be ours forever;
To spread its light from age to age
Shall be our chief endeavor.
Through life it guides our way,
In death it is our stay.
Lord, grant, while worlds endure,
We keep its teachings pure
Throughout all generations.

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 22:34–46*

The greatest commandments are to love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind and to love your neighbor as yourself.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-second chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

³⁴ But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together. ³⁵ And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶ “Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?” ³⁷ And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. ³⁸ This is the great and first commandment. ³⁹ And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. ⁴⁰ On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.”

⁴¹ Now while the Pharisees were gathered

together, Jesus asked them a question, ⁴² saying, “What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is he?” They said to him, “The son of David.” ⁴³ He said to them, “How is it then that David, in the Spirit, calls him Lord, saying, ⁴⁴ “The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet”?”

⁴⁵ If then David calls him Lord, how is he his son?” ⁴⁶ And no one was able to answer him a word, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

NICENE CREED *See the inside back cover of the hymnal.*

SERMON HYMN 708 *“Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart” (v. 2: choir)*

SERMON *Glimpses of God’s Kingdom: “Love God, Love Neighbor”*

GATHERING OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

All may sign the friendship register found in each pew.

Music during the offering (8:00 am):

ANTHEM “Built on the Rock” arr. Matthew Machemer

(Students at St. Paul’s Lutheran School)

SIXTH GRADE STEWARDSHIP MILESTONE (8:00 am)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

After each petition:

P Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.



We receive God’s gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation
as we share the Sacrament of the Altar.

PREFACE

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 Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary ... one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

SANCTUS | Holy, Holy, Holy Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

Tune: ES IST DAS HEIL (“Salvation unto Us Has Come”)

C (sung) O holy, holy, holy, Lord—

The song of praise unending.

Hosanna’s shouts have now been heard,

In Christ salvation sending.

Your glory fills the earth and heav’n;

The blessings of new life are giv’n.

Hosanna in the highest!

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

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.

P In the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, at His command, and with His own words, we receive His testament:

WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

PAX DOMINI | Peace of the Lord *John 20:19*

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI | Lamb of God *John 1:29*

Tune: ES IST DAS HEIL (“Salvation unto Us Has Come”)

C (sung) Behold the perfect Lamb of God,

The holy for the wicked.

You take our place and for the world

Stand guilty; we’re acquitted.

O Lamb of God, You take away

Our every sin, so that we may

Enjoy Your peace forever.

We believe that in the Lord’s Supper our Lord gives to us His true body and blood with the bread and the wine for the forgiveness of our sins. We recognize the charge that St. Paul offers in 1 Corinthians 11:27–28 that those who come to receive the Lord’s Supper ought to examine themselves so that they do not eat and drink in an unworthy manner. Therefore, out of concern for those who have not been instructed in the faith or who hold to a different confession, we ask that only members of Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod congregations receive the Sacrament. If you would like to learn more about what our congregation teaches, to inquire about becoming a member or have questions about our practice, please speak to one of the pastors. Adults and children who have not yet been baptized or instructed in the Christian faith are invited to come forward and receive a spoken blessing at the altar rail; please indicate this by crossing your arms across your chest.

For those who require it, diluted wine is found in the purple glasses in the center of the tray of individual cups; gluten free wafers are available upon request.

Music during distribution:

VOLUNTARY “Thy Strong Word” arr. John Behnke (Handbells, 8:00 am)

HYMN 575 “My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less” (v. 2: choir, 8:00 am)

HYMN 694 “Thee Will I Love, My Strength, My Tower”

HYMN 865 “Lord, Help Us Ever to Retain”

HYMN 556 “Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice”



Even as this time of worship ends, we go out of the church into the worship of our everyday lives, ready to be God's witnesses and do His will.

RECESSIONAL HYMN 655 “Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word”

SENDING & POSTLUDE

P Go in peace; serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

This week's takeaway: Each year, we celebrate the Reformation and the foundational doctrine of justification by grace through faith—a truly wonderful reality to celebrate! As we celebrate this year, Jesus, in Matthew 22, calls us to live in that justification, to live in the love of His grace, and to live and move and have our being in this new reality! This calling to live as forgiven and redeemed children of God is a call to love God and our neighbor. Jesus justifies us for this reformed life!

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“Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart” arr. Michael Burkhardt

“My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less” arr. John Behnke

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SERVING IN THIS SERVICE

Rev. Michael Pottschmidt, *Liturgist*

Rev. Andrew Lehenbauer, *Preacher*

Katie Drefs, *Organist*

Rachel Martens, *SPLS Choir Director*

Adalynn Nelson, *Flute*

Hannah Bingham, Anthony Brandt, Michael Heins, Clairia Martens,

Rachel Martens, Jameson Oetting, Mark Oetting, Elijah Rankin, *Brass Ensemble*

Eian Grass, *Crucifer (8:00 am)*

Jacob Beerman, *Crucifer (10:30 am)*

Kollin McKnight, Dallas Strobel *Acolytes (8:00 am)*

Keirsten Beerman, Jade Brandt, *Acolytes (10:30 am)*

Eddie & Linda Kammeyer, *Greeters (8:00 am)*

Roger & Carolyn Flandermeyer, *Greeters (10:30 am)*

Tim Bauer, Mark Heins, Russ Kruse, *Elders on Duty*

PREPARING FOR NEXT WEEK'S WORSHIP

Revelation 7:9–17; 1 John 3:1–3; Matthew 23:1–12

Hymns (*Lutheran Service Book*): 677, 671, 670, 672, 673, 676



"Making a Christ-centered difference in our community and world today and for eternity."

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

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