

Reformation Sunday
October 26, 2025
New Hope Lutheran Church
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Welcome - Thank you for sharing worship

Leading Worship

Presiding	Every Member and Friend
Music Director	Vicar Thania Drake
Worship Assistant	Gail Manago
Reader	Karen Miller
Ushers	George Drake
Tech Team	Leta Marsh & Larry Tarin
Sound	Kathy Brosch, Debbie Strom, Jeff Strom
Video	Howard Swan, Kitt Swan
Song Leaders	Craig Sharp, Steve Marshall
Flautist	Susan Hernandez, Martina Jackson, Christine Swan
	Carol Riley

Luther spent a great deal of time trying to know who God was and to find ways of expressing what he came to know and believe so that others would know God too. He used coarse language, drank beer, and wrote hymns using tunes people knew and recognized. When he wrote his catechism he used language his small son could understand. He even translated the Bible into the language people spoke. Truth about God and our faith, as complex as it is, should be something we can grasp and wrestle with.

Reformation Sunday is certainly a festival day where we celebrate and remember our history, but it should also be a day to reexamine our faith. Part of that is recognizing the truth about our inadequacies, our failings and our sinfulness. The law is like a mirror in a room with intense fluorescent lights; it shows us who we are with every flaw and wrinkle. But God doesn't look at us in that mirror. The truth about God brings us new knowledge about ourselves. God shines a new light on us, where iniquities are forgiven and sins forgotten.

The Rite of Confession & Forgiveness. *It first appeared in the Middle Ages. Confession was introduced as part of the Priest's personal preparation for worship. With the Reformation the confession was opened to the entire congregation.*

All may make the sign of the cross ✠ , the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

Amen.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Merciful and loving God,

**we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others.
We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins.**

Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found.

Amen.

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. You who were lost have been found. In the name of † Jesus, your sins are forgiven!

Amen.

LW 504 (Red) A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 A mighty fortress is our God,
a sword and shield victorious;
he breaks the cruel oppressor's rod
and wins salvation glorious.
The old satanic foe
has sworn to work us woe!
With craft and dreadful might
he arms himself to fight.
On earth he has no equal. | in battle we'll engage!
His might is doomed to fail;
God's judgment must prevail!
One little word subdues him. |
| 2 No strength of ours can match his might!
We would be lost, rejected.
But now a champion comes to fight,
whom God himself elected.
You ask who this may be?
The Lord of hosts is he!
Christ Jesus, mighty Lord,
God's only Son, adored.
He holds the field victorious. | 4 God's Word forever shall abide,
no thanks to foes, who fear it;
for God himself fights by our side
with weapons of the Spirit.
Were they to take our house,
goods, honor, child, or spouse,
though life be wrenched away,
they cannot win the day.
The kingdom's ours forever! |
| 3 Though hordes of devils fill the land
all threat'ning to devour us,
we tremble not, unmoved we stand;
they cannot overpow'r us.
Let this world's tyrant rage; | |

Prayer Of The Day— *this prayer collects us together in prayer before the triune God and turns us toward the scripture themes of the day.*

Let us pray. 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.

Come Holy Spirit and speak to us through the scripture readings,

Assigned but not read: Psalm 46 The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold. (Ps. 46:7)

The First Reading is from the 31st Chapter of 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.

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.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

The Second Reading is from the 3rd Chapter of 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.

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 will be justified before him by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin. ²¹ But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed and is attested by the Law and the Prophets, ²² the righteousness of God through the faith of 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 demonstrate his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶ it was to demonstrate at the present time his own righteousness, so that he is righteous and he justifies the one who has the faith of Jesus. ²⁷ Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law? That of works? No, rather through the law of faith. ²⁸ 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.

Psalm: Psalm 46 (Read responsively)

The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold. (Ps. 46:7)
)

¹ God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

² **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 rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

⁴ **There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.**

⁵ God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken; God shall help it at the break of day.

⁶ **The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake; God speaks, and the earth melts away.**

⁷ The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

⁸ **Come now, regard the works of the LORD, what desolations God has brought upon the earth;**

⁹ 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.

¹⁰ **“Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”**

¹¹ The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

The Gospel Reading is from the 8th Chapter of John

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

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."

Come Lord Jesus
Fill our hearts

Message:

Vicar Thania Drake

W&P144 Thy Word Is A Lamp

Chorus

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.
Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

1 When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way, still you're there right beside me,
And nothing will I fear as long as you are near. Please be near me to the end. *Chorus*

2 I will not forget your love for me, and yet my heart forever is wandering.
Jesus, be my guide and hold me to your side, and I will love you to the end. *Chorus*

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Creed The creeds were originally teaching tools used in preparing people for baptism. They were learned by heart and used in the celebration of baptism itself.

Please join with me and Christians across the ages in affirming our faith by reciting the ancient words of the Apostle's Creed:

We believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

We believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

The Prayers

Renewed in God's everlasting grace, let us pray for the church, the world, and all creation.

Free your church, O God, with grace, mercy, and love to be transformed by your word. Direct your church to be united in word and deed so that all creation knows the uniting and transforming power of the gospel. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Renew creation, O God, so that all living creatures thrive together. Guide those who work to restore and renew creation. Preserve and care for endangered species throughout the world. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Bring peace among the nations, O God, so violence and terror are not the norm on your earth. Inspire leaders of communities to work for peace and justice. Unite our politicians with a common mission and purpose. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Heal all who suffer, O God, and bring them peace. Draw near to people who are incarcerated. Give hope to people experiencing housing or employment insecurity, oppression, or discrimination. Heal those who are ill. Be our stronghold at all times. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Forgive us our sins, O God, and grant us your grace. Move us to understanding and reconciliation between people of other faiths and other Christian traditions in our community. Mend hurt feelings and heal wounds we have caused one another. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

We give you thanks, O God, for the life and witness of all your saints. Give us hope in your son's victory through the cross. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

We offer our prayers, O God, trusting in your everlasting grace and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Peace - *Matthew 5:23-24 If you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your sister or brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. Also Romans 16:16, 1 Corinthians 16:20, "greet one another," a symbol of peace and of love.*

The God of love and peace be with you always.
And also with you.

Our Offerings to God in gratitude to God we return a part of what he has given us as an offering realizing that all we have is God's. The offering that is gathered is for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need locally and worldwide.

Giving QR Code



Enjoy the special music as the gifts are gathered. Piano Music: Gail Manago, Flute: Carol Riley
After the gifts are gathered, please stand as you are able and join in singing.

Born, Reborn

ACS (Blue) 956

Refrain

Born, reborn! Born, reborn! Formed, reformed!
Souls with gladness now adorned!
Born, reborn! Born, reborn! Formed, reformed!
Praise our God forevermore!

- 1 Drown us. (Drown us.) Raise us. (Raise us.)
Mark us. (Mark us.) Claim us! (Claim us!) *Refrain*
- 2 Name us. (Name us.) Heal us. (Heal us.)
Wash us. (Wash us.) Seal us! (Seal us!) *Refrain*

Text: Justin Rimbo, b. 1980 Text © 2020 Augsburg Fortress

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Let us Pray, Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Meal

Communion ~ Simply being here makes you a part of the New Hope Family. We invite and welcome everyone to share this sacred time of fellowship, forgiveness and renewal. More importantly, it is Jesus himself who welcomes and urges you to come forward.

In this “meal” of Communion we believe that Christ is truly present and comes to us, in, with and under the bread and wine. Christ’s real presence is one of the great mysteries of faith. This gift of Christ’s very self in the bread and wine proclaims God’s saving Word, feeds and nourishes our faith, forgives our sins, and sends us into the world to continue to be Christ’s real presence in the world today.

Christ is here among us
Christ is truly with us.

It is indeed right, our privilege and our joy, all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Please join in singing the Lord's Prayer together:

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

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, forgive us our trespasses
As we forgive them, who trespass against us, forgive us our trespasses

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

Oh Lord, lead us not, into temptation, but, Save us from evil, and the, kingdom, the power and the, glory forever will be yours

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

Invitation To Communion

Come to God’s table.
There is a place for you and enough for all.

Communion Distribution

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say; The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you. Each person may respond, Amen. The wine is red, if you prefer grape juice is light color. Place your empty cups in the baskets on the side.

ELW 652 (Red) Built On A Rock

- 1 Built on a rock the church shall stand, even
when steeples are falling; crumbled have
spires in ev'ry land, bells still are chiming
and calling— calling the young and old to
rest, calling the souls of those distressed,
longing for life everlasting.
- 2 Surely, in temples made with hands
God the Most High is not dwelling—
high in the heav'ns his temple stands, all
earthly temples excelling.
Yet God who dwells in heav'n above
deigns to abide with us in love,
making our bodies his temple.
- 3 Christ builds a house of living stones:
we are his own habitation;
he fills our hearts, his humble thrones,
granting us life and salvation. Where two or
three will seek his face, he in their midst will
show his grace, blessings upon them
bestowing.
- 4 Yet in this house, an earthly frame,
Jesus the children is blessing;
hither we come to praise his name,
faith in our Savior confessing.
Jesus to us his Spirit sent,
making with us his covenant,
granting his children the kingdom.
- 5 Through all the passing years, O Lord, grant
that, when church bells are ringing, many
may come to hear your Word, who here
this promise is bringing: "I know my own,
my own know me; you, not the world, my
face shall see; my peace I leave with you.
Amen."

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Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray. O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants.
Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need.
We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen

Announcements

 **Sign up** sheet in the back –

Provide Meals for the Meal Train

Today at 4pm there will be a Reformation Service and Dinner Asking people to bring desserts

 **Please** see Karen for tickets for the Hand-stitched quilt in the back to be raffled off at the craft fair.

 **A new** Church Directory is available, see Karen for a copy

 **Any** other announcements?

 **For** other announcements, see your bulletin

ELW 654 (Red) The Church's One Foundation

- 1 The church's one foundation
is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
she is his new creation
by water and the word.
From heav'n he came and sought her to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her,
and for her life he died.
- 2 Elect from ev'ry nation,
yet one o'er all the earth,
her charter of salvation
one Lord, one faith, one birth:
one holy name she blesses,
partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses,
with ev'ry grace endued.

- 3 Though with a scornful wonder
this world sees her oppressed,
by schisms rent asunder,
by heresies distressed,
yet saints their watch are keeping;
their cry goes up: "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping
shall be the morn of song.
- 4 Through toil and tribulation
and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation
of peace evermore;
till with the vision glorious
her longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious
shall be the church at rest.
- 5 Yet she on earth has union
with God, the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion
with those whose rest is won.
Oh, blessed heav'nly chorus!
Lord, save us by your grace,
that we, like saints before us,
may see you face to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900 Music & Text: Public Domain

Blessing

The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, ☩ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

We Are Sent Into The World To Share What Has Been Given To Us

Please stand as you are able

Please join in singing the **Sending Song**

***Brothers, sisters, all are we part of God's great family.
As we go from this place, may God keep us in His grace.
May God keep us in His grace.***

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRESENCE TODAY.

We are so glad you worshipped here today and invite you again. If you are looking for a faith family we invite you to consider New Hope.

The Mission of New Hope is to discover, experience, and share God's love with our hearts, hands and voices.

New Hope's Vision: As followers of Christ we will:

- encourage a spiritual journey
- celebrate the diversity and gifts that each person brings
- learn from each other
- engage with the world around us

Commemorations

Philipp Nicolai, died 1608; Johann Heermann, died 1647; Paul Gerhardt, died 1676; hymnwriters, Sunday, October 26, 2025

These great hymnwriters all worked in seventeenth-century Germany in times of war and plague. Nicolai, a pastor, lost 1,300 parishioners to plague, 170 in one week. He wrote "O Morning Star, how fair and bright" and "Wake, awake, for night is flying." Heermann's hymns, including "Ah, holy Jesus," often express the emotions of faith. Gerhardt, perhaps the greatest Lutheran hymnwriter, was a pastor in Berlin.

Simon and Jude, Apostles, Tuesday, October 28, 2025

We know little about these apostles. Simon is listed as "the zealot" or Cananean in New Testament lists. Jude, also called Thaddeus, asked Jesus at the last supper why he had revealed himself to the disciples but not to the world.

Reformation Day, Friday, October 31, 2025

By the end of the seventeenth century, many Lutheran churches celebrated a festival commemorating Martin Luther's posting of the Ninety-five Theses, a summary of abuses in the church of his time. At the heart of the reform movement was the gospel, the good news that it is by grace through faith that we are justified and set free

All Saints Day, Saturday, November 1, 2025

The custom of commemorating all of the saints of the church on a single day goes back at least to the third century. All Saints Day celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who make up the body of Christ. On this day or the following Sunday, many congregations will remember the faithful who have died during the past year.

Readings for November 2: Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18 *The holy ones of the Most High shall receive the kingdom,* **Psalm 149** *Sing the LORD's praise in the assembly of the faithful. (Ps. 149:1), Ephesians 1:11-23* *God raised Christ from the dead and made him head over all the church,* **Luke 6:20-31** *Jesus speaks blessings and woes*

New Hope QR Code



God Be Merciful

We may expect the religious insider to be blessed, the moral person to be right with God. But as is so often the case, Jesus' parable for today sweeps away conventional expectations. Jesus surprises the disciples and us when he says it's not the Pharisee but rather the tax collector, that morally suspect, second-class citizen, who goes home "justified," right with God (Luke 18:14). Here is a strong reminder for those of us who are church "insiders." We are sinners who beg for God's mercy, utterly dependent on God's forgiveness and love—not merely for ourselves but for all in God's creation.



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

Interim Pastor
Vicar
Katie's Pantry Directors
Rocky Mountain Synod
ELCA Churchwide

Jeff Swanson
Thania Drake
Mary Anez & The Rev Jeff St. Clair
The Rev Dr. Meghan Johnston Aelabouni, Bishop
The Rev Yiehiel Curry, Presiding Bishop