



ST. PAUL'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH



Reformation Sunday

October 25th, 2026

GATHERING

PRELUDE

PROCESSIONAL HYMN – ELW 665

Rise, Shine, You People!



- 1 Rise, shine, you peo - ple! Christ the Lord has en - tered
- 2 See how he sends the pow'rs of e - vil reel - ing;
- 3 Come, cel - e - brate; your ban - ners high un - furl - ing,
- 4 Tell how the Fa - ther sent the Son to save us.



our hu - man sto - ry; God in him is cen - tered. He comes to
he brings us free - dom, light and life and heal - ing. All men and
your songs and prayers a - gainst the dark-ness hurl - ing. To all the
Tell of the Son, who life and free-dom gave us. Tell how the



us, by death and sin sur-round - ed, with grace un - bound - ed.
wom - en, who by guilt are driv - en, now are for - giv - en.
world go out and tell the sto - ry of Je - sus' glo - ry.
Spir - it calls from ev - 'ry na - tion God's new cre - a - tion.

Text: Ronald A. Klug, b. 1939, alt.

Music: WOJTKIEWIECZ, Dale Wood, 1934–2003

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***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

C: Amen.

P: Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Compassionate God,

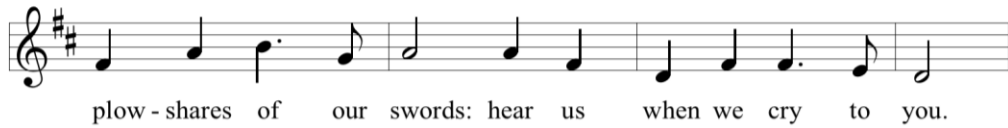
C: we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.

P: Hear this good news: We have peace with God through † Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

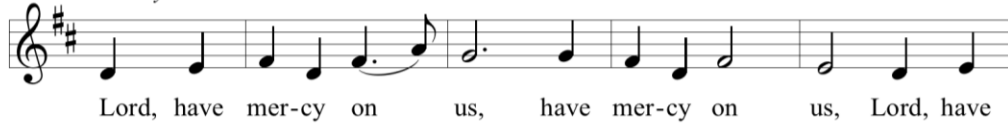
C: Amen.

KYRIE

Cantor



Assembly



Cantor



Assembly



Cantor



Assembly



Glory

1 A - bove the hills the an - gel hosts
 2 In heav'n, on earth reigns God Most High, sing
 3 Sing jus - tice, mer - cy, joy, and peace, sing
 4 We wor - ship you, our thanks we bring, bring, sing
 5 To Je - sus Christ, God's Son, our Lord,

glo - ry! Glo - ry! Glo - ry! God's love is come to
 Yet ten - der - ly God
 God's own good will grants
 We bow be - fore you
 The Lamb of God, e -

seek the lost.
 hears our cry.
 sin's re - lease. Give glo - ry to God in the high - est!
 as we sing.
 ter - nal Word.

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also, with you.

P: Let us pray. O Lord God, you are the holy lawgiver, you are the salvation of your people. By your Spirit renew us in your covenant of love, and train us to care tenderly for all our neighbors, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Choir Anthem

WORD

First Reading: Revelation 7:9-17

After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. And they cried out in a loud voice:

"Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb."

All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying: "Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and strength be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!"

Then one of the elders asked me, "These in white robes—who are they, and where did they come from?"

I answered, "Sir, you know."

And he said, "These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore,

"they are before the throne of God
and serve him day and night in his temple;
and he who sits on the throne
will shelter them with his presence.

'Never again will they hunger;
never again will they thirst.

The sun will not beat down on them,'
nor any scorching heat.

For the Lamb at the center of the throne
will be their shepherd;

'he will lead them to springs of living water.'

'And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.'"

Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-3

See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

A: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

*GRADUAL HYMN



1 O God, whose word well-plant - ed yields fruit a hun - dred - fold,
2 O God of seed and har - vest, of sun and soil and rain,
3 O God, your fi - nal har - vest of his - t'ry's an - cient field



we praise your grac - es grant - ed to those who sowed of old,
at - tend the word we sow, lest its plant - ing be in vain.
will test with truth the proud - est that hu - man work can yield.



who by their wit - ness scat - tered good seed up - on the soil
Send show - ers of your Spir - it, bright sun - shine of your grace,
Op - pres - sion's blight will van - ish, fair free - dom's fruits in - crease;



where oth - ers, reap - ing, gath - ered the har - vest of their toil.
that mul - ti - tudes who hear it your gos - pel may em - brace.
and love and joy will flour - ish to clothe the earth with peace.

*GOSPEL

P: The Holy Gospel, according to St. Matthew, the 5th chapter, beginning with the 1st verse.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them.

He said:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they will see God.

*STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE

Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ**

Sermon

HYMN OF THE DAY – ELW 645

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ, our head and
 2 To this tem - ple, where we call you, come, O Lord of
 3 Here be - stow on all your ser - vants what they seek from
 4 Praise and hon - or to the Fa - ther, praise and hon - or

cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord and pre - cious,
 hosts, and stay; come with all your lov - ing - kind - ness,
 you to gain; what they gain from you, for - ev - er
 to the Son, praise and hon - or to the Spir - it,

bind - ing all the church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's
 hear your peo - ple as they pray; and your full - est
 with the bless - ed to re - tain; and here - af - ter
 ev - er three and ev - er one: one in might and

help for - ev - er and our con - fi - dence a - lone.
 ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in these walls to - day.
 in your glo - ry ev - er - more with you to reign.
 one in glo - ry while un - end - ing a - ges run!

Text: Latin hymn, c. 7th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.
 Music: WESTMINSTER ABBEY, Henry Purcell, 1659–1695; arr. Ernest Hawkins, 1802–1868

***APOSTLES' CREED**

P: Let us now confess our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed

C: **I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. 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 to the dead; on the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I 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.**

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

A: Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

A brief silence.

As we celebrate Reformation Sunday, we remember the witness of Martin Luther and the reformers of the church in every generation. Empower us to continue the work of reform and renewal in our own day. Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

A: We pray for the healing of natural places despoiled by pollution and human greed. Give all living creatures access to safe land, water, and air. Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

A: We pray for our criminal justice systems and all those whose lives are affected by them. Give wisdom and discernment to police, probation officers, judges, and attorneys; give courage and peace to prisoners and the formerly incarcerated. Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

A: We ask your blessing upon all people who have been harmed by the church and its leaders, that the truth may make them free. We pray for the relief of all those who are sick or suffering, especially Rosemary Rizzo, Tony Rizzo, Erin Jankowski, Dee Marinov, Diane Busdiecker, Sarah Burke, Pat Nowak, Mary Ann and Chip Orlando, and all those we name in our hearts. Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

A: We give thanks for those exploring or returning to a life of faith. Encourage and guide them, that they may find their hope in you. Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

A: With gratitude, we remember those disciples who paved the way for us and all of our beloved dead. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

PEACE

P: The Peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also, with you.

P: Let us share God's peace with each other now.

MEAL

OFFERING AND SETTING THE TABLE



1 Ac - cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to
2 The vines were plant - ed, seeds were sown. They
3 Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares we



place up - on your ta - ble. We do not wor - ship
grew in your good plea-sure. What once was com - mon,
lift in prayer be - fore you. Lord, by your grace now



as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble.
dai - ly food be - comes a ho - ly trea - sure.
come to us, as hum - bly we a - dore you.

*OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray.

C: God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. Amen.

***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.

***THE PROPER PREFACE**

P: We praise and thank you, God of Abraham and Moses, because you have made your creation out of nothing, you have come among us in liberation and covenant, and in your Son's dying and rising you have opened up your life to share your holiness with us. In your tender mercy you have broken upon us the dawn from on high and shown us your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. You cover us with your loving hand that we may dare to stand in your presence, and you tell us your name that we may see into your heart. And so we come before you with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, to sing the hymn of your unending praise.

Verses: Cantor or choir



1 Long, long a - go in Je - ru - sa - lem, as the
2 High on a throne sat the might - y Lord, robes
3 Oh, what a sight it was to see and

scrip - tures do re - cord, I - sa - iah to the
flow - ing through the hall, while six - wing - ed an - gels
oh, what a sound to hear! The tem - ple door - posts

tem - ple came to see the ho - ly Lord.
flew a - bove. I - sa - iah heard them call.
shook and quaked, and smoke was in the air.

Refrain: Assembly



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, God's

glo - ry fills all heav'n and earth, God of pow - er and might.

Words of Institution

P: 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.

And so Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as our Lord Jesus taught us.

*STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE

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: Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

COMMUNION MUSIC



1 O Lamb of God, to earth you came to
 2 O Lamb of God, the on - ly Son, to

save us all from grief and shame. Shorn of your life, up -
 us show mer - cy, Ho - ly One. You save the world from

on the tree you hung in deep hu - mil - i - ty.
 all its sin. Lord, give to us your peace. A - men.

*STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE

COMMUNION HYMN – ELW 591

That Priceless Grace

The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the first four lines of the hymn, with lyrics numbered 1 through 4. The second staff contains the next four lines of the hymn. The third staff contains the final line of the hymn. The lyrics are as follows:

1 That price-less grace, that price-less grace, that price-less
2 That price-less blood, that price-less blood, that price-less
3 That pain-ful death, that pain-ful death, that pain-ful
4 That pre-cious word, that pre-cious word, that pre-cious

grace, which gave me life: Je - sus' life is price-less grace.
blood was shed for me: Je - sus' blood is price-less grace.
death took sins a - way: Je - sus' death is price-less grace.
word, which brought me light: Je - sus' word is price-less grace.

That price - less grace is life for me.

Text: Emmanuel F. Y. Grantson, b. 1949

Music: THAT PRICELESS GRACE, Ghanaian traditional

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SENDING

***PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION**

P: And now may this, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, strengthen and keep you in his grace forever.

C: **Amen.**

A: Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

C: **Amen.**

***BENEDICTION**

P: The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus. The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit. The God of grace ☩ bless you now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Sending Hymn – ELW 713

DISMISSAL

A: Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who

to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
 ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
 vour us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
 fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with

wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
 God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
 weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,

has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
 in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
 goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,

he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
 they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
 Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther
 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

*STAND /

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE PRAY FOR...

ROSEMARY RIZZO
TONY RIZZO
ERIN JANKOWSKI
DEE MARINOV
MARYANN AND CHIP
ORLANDO
JOHN VEIDEFFER
SARAH BURKE
DIANE BUSDIECKER
THE DICKIE FAMILY
PAT NOWAK
THE SHAY FAMILY

GEORGE TROESTER- SON OF MAUREEN SIETESKI
MAYA CHAKRABORTY
KATHERINE SIKORSKI
ANGELA ROESER
EMILY- NIECE OF PATTY WALKER
JANICE DARVEAU- FRIEND OF KATHY BUSDIECKER
DAVID JINKS- FATHER OF SARAH KUEHFUS
REED AND MARSHALL WHITE- COUSINS OF NANCY STOEHR
KEVIN MACIVER- SECOND COUSIN OF ANNETTE BERG
WANDA ZYGMUNTOWICZ- FRIEND OF JOE SOMMA
DAN GRAUPMAN- COUSIN OF SUE GIBBONS
JAMES STONER - BROTHER-IN-LAW OF KATHY HABERMEHL
GRACE - GRANDDAUGHTER OF PAT NOWAK
RICHARD HITCHCOCK- FATHER OF MATT HITCHCOCK

BOOK CLUB

Book Club will meet on November 22nd to discuss The Correspondent by Virginia Evans.

The Correspondent is written in epistolary format. Through letters to various recipients, Sybil Van Antwerp examines her life and confronts a painful past, learning to find forgiveness and move forward.

Discussion Leader: Kathy Hannon | Hostess: Tim Madsen

The altar flowers are given by Nancy Stoehr, in memory of the people killed in the Tree of Life synagogue shooting.



SCAN HERE FOR ST. PAUL'S DONATION PAGE

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ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

The worship bulletin is intended to help guide us through our worship. Sections in bold print are for congregation response. Non-communing children and adults are welcome to come forward for a blessing. Please contact an usher if you need to be communed in the pew.



ALL ARE WELCOME!

We believe our risen Lord Jesus is truly present in the bread and wine of Holy Communion and we extend our Lord's invitation to all who are baptized to share in this meal. We have both red wine and grape juice in the center of the communion tray available for all who come to the Lord's table. Gluten free wafers are also available. If you need gluten free, please let Pastor know upon reaching the front of the communion line.



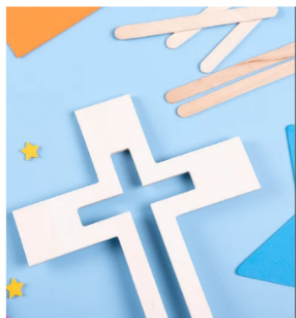
COFFEE HOUR

All are welcome to join us for Coffee Hour before service. We meet for coffee, muffins or danish, and conversation! If you'd like to bring some goodies, please see the sign up in the kitchen. We hope to see you there!



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School meets from 9:00 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.



Scan here for St. Paul's donation page

Jesus Is Really into Relationships!

Love God, love neighbor, and love yourself. Jesus is really into relationships! Oftentimes, even if unintentionally, we put loving ourselves first, and because “we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves” (ELW, p. 95) we usually do a poor job of actually loving ourselves. This means we have less love to give to God and our neighbors. Jesus puts relationship with God first. He doesn’t do this to make us last but so that we can fully understand love and relationship the way God desires it for us.

Today’s readings give us insight into the ways God desires us to be in relationship: by being just in all our dealings with others, by not being led astray by the wicked, by sharing the gospel with humility and tender care, and by loving God and neighbor. It might sound simple, but relationships are far from simple. Even the best relationships include struggle.

People in our congregations struggle with relationships each and every day. Love should be an easy thing, but it takes work and effort to love God, love others, and love oneself. The psalmist uses the image of trees planted by streams of water to describe people who “delight in the law of the Lord” (Ps. 1:2). These are not weak, brittle, or dying trees; these are strong trees that prosper. Our faith plants us, nourishes us, and strengthens us to love. How can we be like trees planted by streams of water? In what ways can the church help people to make and maintain healthy relationships? How do we encourage self-worth and humility? This is an excellent day to ask these questions, to create forums where answers can be discussed, and to remind one another how much God truly loves us.

PASTOR ASHLIN MARCHESE

PREACHER / PRESIDER

PATRICK GARD

ORGANIST

DEBORAH WALDROP

LITURGICAL ASSISTANT

KIM BROWN

COMMUNION ASSISTANT

DAWN DEMORROW & JOHN DOERFLER

USHERS

CATHY LAMBERT

ALTAR GUILD

