God's love, Our service.

St. Mark's Lutheran Church
Sunday, October 25, 2026
Reformation Sunday

INTRODUCTION

Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

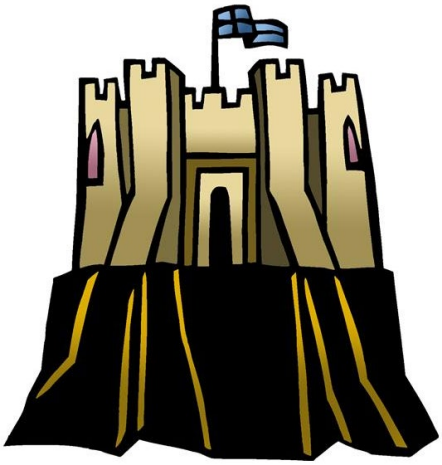
WELCOME/ANNOUCEMENTS

The October Noisy Offering collection will go to the Starfish Project food pantry, chosen by our 3 yr. old—2nd grade class.

The flowers today are from:

- The Mensch family, in celebration of Clarissa's 18th birthday. ***Happy Birthday, Clarissa!***
- The Andersons, in celebration of Don's birthday. ***Happy Birthday, Don!***

Talk in Worship #2 – Vicki Larson



Confession and Forgiveness

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,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.
Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
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.

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.
Amen.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN ELW 504, vs. 1 & 2

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.

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.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*

Greeting page 203
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

KYRIE Pg. 203

CANTICLE OF PRAISE page 204

PRAYER OF THE DAY
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.

CARILLON RINGERS & CHOIR Tom- organ; Lisa Erickson – flute Song to be announced

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34
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.**

Psalm: Psalm 46

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.

Second Reading: Romans 3:19-28
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.**

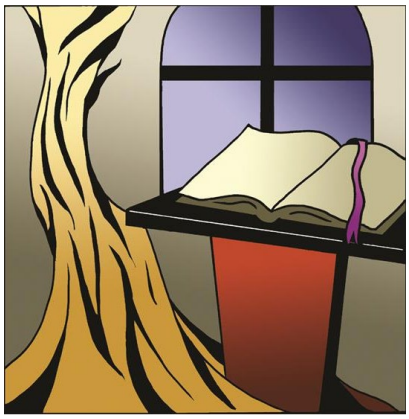
Gospel Acclamation pg. 205
Holy Gospel, according to John, the 8th Chapter.
Glory to You, O Lord.

Gospel: John 8:31-36
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.”



CHILDREN’S SERMON Pastor Kris Dietzen
SERMON Pastor Kris Dietzen

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 665

Rise, Shine, You People!

1 Rise, shine, you people! Christ the Lord has entered
our human story; God in him is centered.
He comes to us, by death and sin surrounded,
with grace unbounded.

2 See how he sends the pow'rs of evil reeling;
he brings us freedom, light and life and healing.
All men and women, who by guilt are driven,
now are forgiven.

3 Come, celebrate; your banners high unfurling,
your songs and prayers against the darkness hurling.
To all the world go out and tell the story
of Jesus' glory.

4 Tell how the Father sent the Son to save us.
Tell of the Son, who life and freedom gave us.
Tell how the Spirit calls from ev'ry nation
God's new creation.

Text: Ronald A. Klug, b. 1939, alt.
Text © 1974 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the
virgin Mary and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius
Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the
Living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped
And glorified, who has spoken through the
prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and
Apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism
for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

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.

Your mercy is great.

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.

Your mercy is great.

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.

Your mercy is great.

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*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

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.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

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

Your mercy is great.

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

Amen.

PEACE p. 206

In Jesus Christ, God has made his peace with us.

The peace of the Lord be with you always,

And also with you.

Let us share God's peace with one another.

OFFERING/ NOISY OFFERING

OFFERTORY ELW 752

GREAT THANKSGIVING
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.
It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, ...
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

Holy, Holy pg. 207
WORDS OF INSTITUTION
LORD'S PRAYER

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



COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONG pg. 208

COMMUNION HYMNS ELW 517

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

1 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.

2 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.

3 O Comforter of priceless worth,
send peace and unity on earth;
support us in our final strife
and lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.

ELW 461

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly

1 All who hunger gather gladly;
holy manna is our bread.
Come from wilderness and wand'ring.
Here in truth we will be fed.
You that yearn for days of fullness,
all around us is our food.
Taste and see the grace eternal.
Taste and see that God is good.

2 All who hunger, never strangers;
seeker, be a welcome guest.
Come from restlessness and roaming.
Here in joy we keep the feast.
We that once were lost and scattered
in communion's love have stood.
Taste and see the grace eternal.
Taste and see that God is good.

3 All who hunger, sing together,
Jesus Christ is living bread.
Come from loneliness and longing.
Here in peace we have been fed.
Blest are those who from this table
live their days in gratitude.
Taste and see the grace eternal.
Taste and see that God is good.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993
Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
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.
Amen.

SENDING
Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother’s tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist us in this ministry on which we are sent forth. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those to whom we bring this sacrament, that through the body and blood for your Son we all may know the comfort of your abiding presence.
Amen.

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

RECESSIONAL HYMN ELW 511, vs. 1 & 2

Thy Strong Word

1 Thy strong word did cleave the darkness;
at thy speaking it was done.
For created light we thank thee,
while thine ordered seasons run.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise to thee who light dost send!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia without end!

2 Lo, on those who dwelt in darkness,
dark as night and deep as death,
broke the light of thy salvation,
breathed thine own life-breathing breath.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise to thee who light dost send!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia without end!

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907-1976
Text © 1969 Concordia Publishing House

DISMISSAL
Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.
Thanks be to God.



PRAYER REQUESTS & CONDOLENCES

Contact Janet Anderson at 913.638-9331 to add names to the prayer chain or to join the prayer chain.
Please contact the church office to make changes to this list.

St. Mark's members:

The people of St. Mark's,
Ginny Schwartzbeck,
Roger Trester,
Clarence Linsey,
Lucas Niccoli,
Donna Nichols,
Pete Cagle,
Linda Cagle,
Janet Nichols,
Chuck Vandenberg,
Janet Schmidt,



Family & friends:

Family of Willa Dean Brown, aunt of Tom Bryer,
Family of Sandra Borg, sister of Joyce Johnson,
Billy Howe, friend of Dave & Janie Best,
Mike Rex, friend of Mark Schmideskamp,
Sherry Anderson, friend of the Lathams,
Rhonda Bernie, cousin of Linda Cagle,
Shane & family, friends of Joe & Debbie Van Kempen,
Family of Sally Gieschen, friend of St. Mark's,
Adam, cousin of Nancy Bryer,
Michel El Haddad, extended Fetsch family member,
Audrey Varner, friend of Mark Schmideskamp,
Mitch Shaffer, friend of Susan and Bob Fetsch,
Patty, friend of Vicki Larson,
Barry Hansen, cousin of Paula Quade,
Family of Irene, mother of Janet Krievins,
Garry Thomas, father of Mark Thomas,
Kathryn Young, cousin of Mark Schmideskamp,
Steve, cousin of Tom Bryer,
Liz Zybko, friend of Pam Wilson,
Tony Berg, son of Arlyn & Jan Berg,
Donna Trester, Mother of Linda Cagle,
Kerry O'Rourke, friend of Mark Schmideskamp,
Mindy Gustus, friend of Mark Schmideskamp,
Jessica Parker, great-niece of Jane Stresewski,
Bob Bergene, friend of Clarence Linsey,
Scott Miller, son-in-law of Jane & Mike Scherrer,
Dr. Owens, friend of Kathy Hinkle,
Elizabeth Applebaum, friend of Kathy Hinkle
Kara Campbell, niece of Pete Cagle,
Candy, sister of Tom Bryer,
Gary Stepenson, Uncle of Jason Howe,
Rebeka Gillette, friend of Janet Nichols,
Jackie Warriner, Sister-in-law of Linda Goodheart,
Don Thun, Father of Matt Thun,
Matt Warriner, Great Nephew of Linda Goodheart,
Neil Warriner, Linda Goodheart's brother,
Bruce Dawson, friend of the Goodhearts,
Kirk Wheeler, cousin of Verna McMullin,
All People affected by natural disasters

Those in the Military:

A.J. Simons, nephew of Stan and Karen Thompson,
Ryan Hunter Hillis, family friend of Trish Klima