



St. Paul Lutheran Church

Reformation Sunday

October 26, 2025

8:00 and 10:15 a.m.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *"Lead On, O King Eternal"* Choir

CONFESSION *Please rise*

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.

Silence is kept for reflection.

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.**

OPENING HYMN LBW #306 *"Chief of Sinners though I Be"*

INVOCATION

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.

REFORMATION LITANY:

O God before time, O God at the end, we delight in the splendor of your universe. Daily we laud your continuing creation, and we give thanks for all the homelands of your Reformation people.

We glorify you, now and forever. **We glorify you, now and forever.**

O God of the covenant, O God of the church, we hear you speaking to centuries of your people. We come as your children to this table, and we give thanks for your presence among Lutheran congregations around the world.

We praise you, now and forever. **We praise you, now and forever.**

You gave us Mary and Magdalene, Peter and Paul, Luther and Melanchthon, Henry Muhlenberg and Elizabeth Fedde— let us call out more names —Katharina Luther the homemaker, Cranach the artist, Bach the musician, Nicolai the hymnwriter, Kierkegaard the philosopher, Bonhoeffer the martyr, Hammarskjöld the statesman, countless other servants of the Reformation.

We bless you, now and forever. **We bless you, now and forever.**

You came as Jesus, our wisdom, our guide, embodying forgiveness, granting us grace, setting us free, dying for sin, and alive for the life of the world.

We worship you, now and forever. **We worship you, now and forever.**

O God before time, O God at the end, Father, Son, and Spirit, we laud you, Covenant Lord, our Redeemer, the Strength of truth. Glory and praise, blessing and worship, honor and power and might be to you, our God, forever and ever.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together,

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.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34

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. 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. 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. 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.

PSALM 46

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

**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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.

“Be still, then, and know that I am God;

I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”

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

SECOND READING: Romans 3:19-28

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. For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds pre-

scribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin. But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus. Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL John 8:31-36

Response



Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." 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'?" Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

Response



CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY LBW #229 *"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"*

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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

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

A brief silence.

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.**

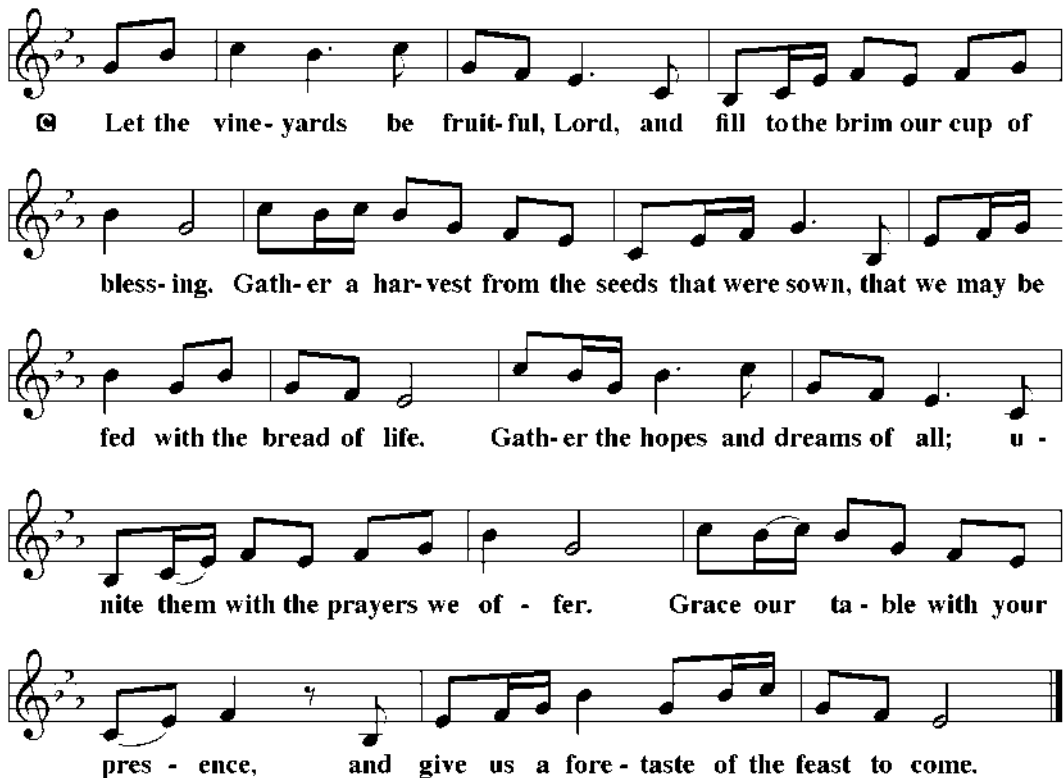
THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

(Those who desire to share the peace of the Lord with others are invited to greet one another; those who do not wish to share the peace, may be seated.)

OFFERING "By Grace We Have Been Saved"

North American traditional arr. By Rusty Edwards

OFFERTORY



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

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 GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

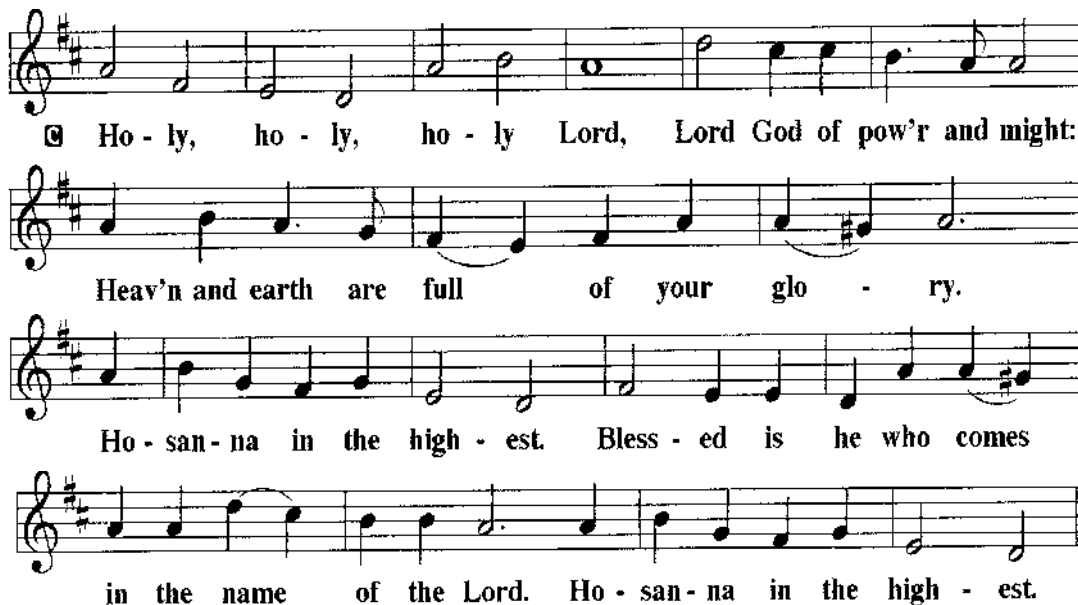
Lift up your hearts.

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, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through the great shepherd of your flock, our Savior Jesus Christ; who after his resurrection sent forth the apostles to preach the gospel and teach all nations, and promised to be with them, even to the end of the age. And so, with Martin Luther, Phillip Melanchthon and all the Reformers along with the glorious company of the apostles, with the choirs of angels and all the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

We praise you, all-holy God,
our maker, our sustainer, our keeper,
our Covenant Lord, our Redeemer, the Strength of Truth,

for the universe beyond our knowing,
for seas and forests and fields,
for the waters of Wittenberg and for flowers in this place,
for creatures seen and unseen,
for animals both wild and tame,
for our ancestors and godparents from around the globe,
and for the places we humans call home,
for cities and churches and schools,
for seminaries and missions and fellowship halls.

We praise you for your covenant people,
for Moses and Miriam and Aaron,
for Jeremiah and the psalmists,

and for centuries of faithful Christians,
for Mary Magdalene, Peter and Paul,
for Luther, Melanchthon, Muhlenberg and Fedde,
for Katie Luther and Cranach, Bach and Nicolai,
Nommensen and Kierkegaard,
Bonhoeffer and Hammarskjöld,
for all servants of the Reformation.

We praise you, O God, for Jesus Christ,
who saves us from sin and from evil,
embodying forgiveness, granting us grace, setting us free,

who on the night before he died,
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 we remember your Word,
his life, his death, and his glorious resurrection,
his presence in this meal around the world,
and we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We pray, O God, for your Spirit,
your breath, your fire, your wisdom,
your law, your grace, your freedom.

Bless this meal and all those who share it;
inspire your people for service;
continue the reformation of your churches;
and renew the world with your mercy,
with your healing, your justice, and your peace,
with the joy of life in your household.

We praise you, all-holy God,
the Father, the Son, the Holy Spirit,
mighty Fortress, victorious Champion, powerful Shield,
today, tomorrow, and forever.
Amen!

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

LAMB OF GOD



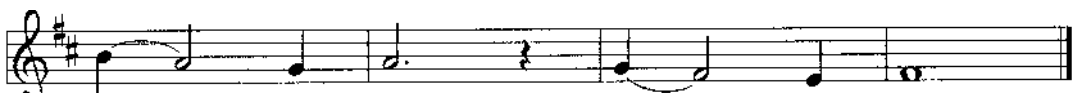
☉ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMNS: LBW #293 *"My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"*
LBW #200 *"For the Bread Which You Have Broken"*
LBW #309 *"Lord Jesus, Think on Me"*

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

POST COMMUNION



☐ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-calls his prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

PRAYER

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.**

BENEDICTION

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.

DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *"Christ Our Fortress, Christ Our Cornerstone"*
Christina Beckett

