

Reformation Day

October 25th, 2026 - Divine Service 4 - LSB 203ff



The Son of God Has Set Us Free from Sin and Death by His Grace
“Wisdom is justified by her deeds” (Matt. 11:19), and the true wisdom of God, Christ Jesus, the incarnate Son, justifies us by His deeds. He prepares His way by the preaching of repentance, but He has suffered the violence of the Law and voluntarily handed Himself over to violent men, in order that we may eat and drink with Him in His Kingdom and “remain in the house forever” (John 8:35). He is “a friend of tax collectors and sinners” (Matt. 11:18–19), and He has rescued us by His grace from the slavery of sin and death. By the proclamation of His eternal Gospel “to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people” (Rev. 14:6), “the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law” (Rom. 3:21), “that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus” (Rom. 3:26). And by the hearing of that Gospel of Christ Jesus, “whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith” (Rom. 3:25), “you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free” (John 8:31–32).

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Announcements

Call To Worship | Children’s Choir “Do Lord”

Opening Hymn | 555 “Salvation Unto Us Has Come”
v1-3, 8

Confession and Absolution

Please stand.

*The sign of the cross may be made by all
in remembrance of their Baptism.*

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** [Matt. 18:20; 28:19b]

Our help is in the name of the Lord
who made heaven and earth. [Psalm 124:8 32:5]

If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared. [Psalm 130:3-4]

Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner. [Luke 18:13]

Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority. I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

[John 20:19-23]

Hymn of Praise | 555 “Salvation unto Us Has Come”
v9-10

Salutation and Collect of the Day [2 Timothy 4:22]
The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Almighty God, You invite us to trust in You for our salvation. Deal with us not in the severity of Your judgment but by the greatness of Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

Today’s Readings from God’s Word

The Old Testament Reading is from Revelation 14:6-7

“Then 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.

“And he said with a loud voice, “Fear God and give him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Epistle Reading is from Romans 3:19-28

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. 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.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand to greet the Gospel reading singing the Alleluia verse.



The Holy Gospel according to John, the 8th chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

³¹So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

³³They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?"

³⁴Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. ³⁶So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated

Creedal Hymn | 953 "We All Believe in One True God"

Children's Message

Children are invited to come forward for a message by Pastor Fitch.

Sermon Hymn | 865 "Lord, Help Us Ever To Retain"

Sermon

Sermon Notes:

The Reformation began with a return to **S**_____, to what the Bible really says about **G**____ and **m**____ and how we are made **r**____ with God.

"If you **a**____ in my word, you are truly my **d**____, and you will know the **t**____, and the truth will set you **f**____."

Jesus says **s**____ is man's natural state.

We will never do enough to earn **s**_____.

Justification is by **g**____ through **f**____, apart from works of the law.

F_____ in the saving person & work of Jesus Christ is what sets us free from our slavery to **s**____ & **d**_____.

"Let the **w**____ of Christ **d**____ in you richly." (Col. 3:16a)

That's what the **c**_____ is for, so that you will indeed **a**____ in -l____ in- Christ's word.

This is a way for you to know the truth of your **i**____ in Christ and to live it out.

Remember, the **t**____ of Christ has set you **f**_____.

The catechism is nothing other than a **s**____ **g**_____ in the Christian faith, meant to **s**_____ & orient you in your daily living, your whole-life long.

"For the **w**____ of the Lord endures forever." (1 Peter 1:25)

Prayers of the Church

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

After each petition, the pastor will say, "...Let us pray to the Lord;" the congregation responds "Lord have mercy."

Offering

In Person | Mail to Church | Bank Bill Pay | Scan QR

Please stand.



Preface

The Lord be with you.

And also with you

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

It is right to give Him thanks and praise

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

[Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 21:9]

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;
Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation. for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all theri children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

The Lord's Prayer

[Matthew 6:9-13]

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.

The Words of Our Lord

[Matt. 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Cor. 22:23-25]

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

Agnus Dei

[John 1:29]

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Distribution of Holy Communion

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us. [Matt. 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-29]

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith confessed at this altar, any who have not been instructed, in doubt, or holding a different confession from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or an elder. [1 Cor. 11:17-34]

Choir Chimes

Dist. Hymn | 930 "All You Works of God, Bless the Lord"
| **571 "God Loved the World So That He Gave"**

When all have communed, please stand.

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 211

1 O Lord, now let to Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry it, Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in lead the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Post-Communion Collect

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Benedicamus

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with His favor and † give you peace. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

Closing Hymn | 657 "A Might Fortress Is Our God"

Sending

Go in peace and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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Verbum Domini Manet in Aeternum
"The Word of the Lord Endures Forever"



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The purpose of this congregation shall be to serve its members and community and to spread the Kingdom of God by preaching the Word of God, by the administration of the Sacraments and by the religious instruction of youth and adults, according to the confessional standard of the Lutheran Church, and to foster Christian fellowship and charity. It shall also be the purpose and the responsibility of this congregation to provide a Christian and parochial education for its children to the best of its ability.