

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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THE LUTHERAN CHURCH – MISSOURI SYNOD

REFORMATION DAY: TRUE FREEDOM

October 25 & 26, 2025

5:30PM & 8:00AM

WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN **“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”** *LSB 656, sts. 1-4*
(Please stand)

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

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

People: **The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

Pastor: “Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth!”

People: **The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

Psalms 46:1, 7, 10–11

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Isaiah 35:10*

Pastor: Let us confess our sins to God, our Father.

People: **Almighty God, You are our mighty fortress. But, so many times we try to live according to the so-called wisdom of the world and make the world our fortress. We don’t remember, that only in Christ, are we free indeed. We forget that You are with us when we celebrate Your works, but then we claim those as works we have done. Remove these selfish thoughts and deeds and forgive our sins for Jesus’ sake. Gladden our hearts and set us free.**

Pastor: The prophet Isaiah reminds us, “The ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.”

This is the promise that God gives us through Jesus! God forgives us and sets us free. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive You all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit. **People: Amen**

HYMN OF PRAISE “This Is the Feast” *LSB* p. 155, sts. 1-5**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray together:

People: O God of glory, we worship You who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water. We worship You who freely forgives us through the sacrifice of Jesus' blood. We thank You that we are justified freely by Your grace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and rules with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

Please sit

FIRST READING *Revelation 14:6–7*

⁶Then 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. ⁷And he said with a loud voice, “Fear God and give him glory, because

(Fear God and worship Him.)
the hour of his judgment has come, and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water.”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE *Romans 3:19–28* (All have sinned and are freely justified by God's grace.)

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. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. 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.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM *Psalm 46 (To be read responsively, whole verse, by whole verse)*

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

People: **Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.**

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

People: **God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;**

Pastor: God will help her when morning dawns.

People: **The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;**

Pastor: He utters His voice, the earth melts.

People: **The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

Pastor: Come, behold the works of the LORD, how He has brought desolations on the earth.

People: **He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; He burns the chariots with fire.**

Pastor: "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"

People: **The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

All: **Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen**

Please stand

VERSE *Luke 12:32*

Pastor: Alleluia, Alleluia!

People: **Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.**

Pastor: Alleluia. Alleluia!

HOLY GOSPEL *John 8:31–36* (It is only through Jesus that we become free.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter.

People: **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."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Please sit

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY “Thy Strong Word” *LSB* 578, sts. 1-6△

SERMON “BE ENCOURAGED IN HARDSHIP” (*Text: Acts 23:1-11*)

Please stand

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God,

the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,

the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.

And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.

And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

Please sit

OFFERING (8:00 ONLY – “Built on the Rock” ~ Trinity Choir)

Please stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

O Lord of hosts, we give You glory and thanks for being our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble, especially on this Reformation festival. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

People: Thank You for the gift of Your grace that alone sets us free through the blood of Your Son, Jesus. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Faithful and forgiving God, thank You for bringing us to faith in You. It is through this faith alone that we are saved. Grow us in Your grace and guide us by Your Spirit in living our faith daily. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: O Word who became flesh and dwelt among us, You have given us the Word of Life. Strengthen us by Your Word. Lead and guide us by Your truth. Give Your church on earth faithful pastors who preach and teach the Gospel in all its purity. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lord Jesus, You are the One who sets us free. In You alone our hope is found. You are our strength and our refuge. Remember all who have requested our prayers for healing and help, [*especially . . .*]. Comfort, strengthen, and heal them by Your Holy Spirit. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Preserve Your church, O Lord, and each of us as members of Christ's Body, that we may not surrender the true Gospel for any reason but be kept in this faith throughout the days of our earthly pilgrimage, until that day when we and all Your people shall stand before the judgment seat of Christ to receive the reward You have prepared for us and all who have loved His appearing. To You alone be all glory, now and forever, for You rule and reign as one God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: Together, let us pray as our Lord Jesus has taught us:

People: **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.**

PREFACE *2 Timothy 4:22*

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is good and right that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, our God, our refuge and strength, for You are with us. O God of Jacob, You are our fortress. You still our souls and gladden our hearts as You forgive our sins with the body and blood of Your Son. With angels and archangels and all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS “Holy, Holy, Holy” *LSB p. 208*



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

Pastor: Blessed are You, O Lord of hosts, the God of Jacob, our fortress, for You have had mercy on all whom You have created by sending Your Son, Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by His blood, to be received by faith.

Pastor: As we gather in Your name and the memory of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Lead us to faithfully eat and drink His body and blood. Gather us together as we celebrate the freedom we have in Christ. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

WORDS OF OUR LORD

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

Please sit

AGNUS DEI

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 HYMNS

“Salvation unto Us Has Come” *LSB 555, sts. 1,2,8,9,10*

“O Lord, We Praise Thee” *LSB 617, sts. 1-3*

COMMUNION DISMISSAL

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart in peace.

People: **Amen**

BENEDICTION *Psalms 46:1, 7, 10–11; Numbers 6:24–26*

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

People: **The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

Pastor: “Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!”

People: **The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

HYMN **“The Lord, My God, Be Praised”** *LSB 794, sts. 1-4△*

Pastor: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

*** * * TO GOD BE THE GLORY * ***

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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