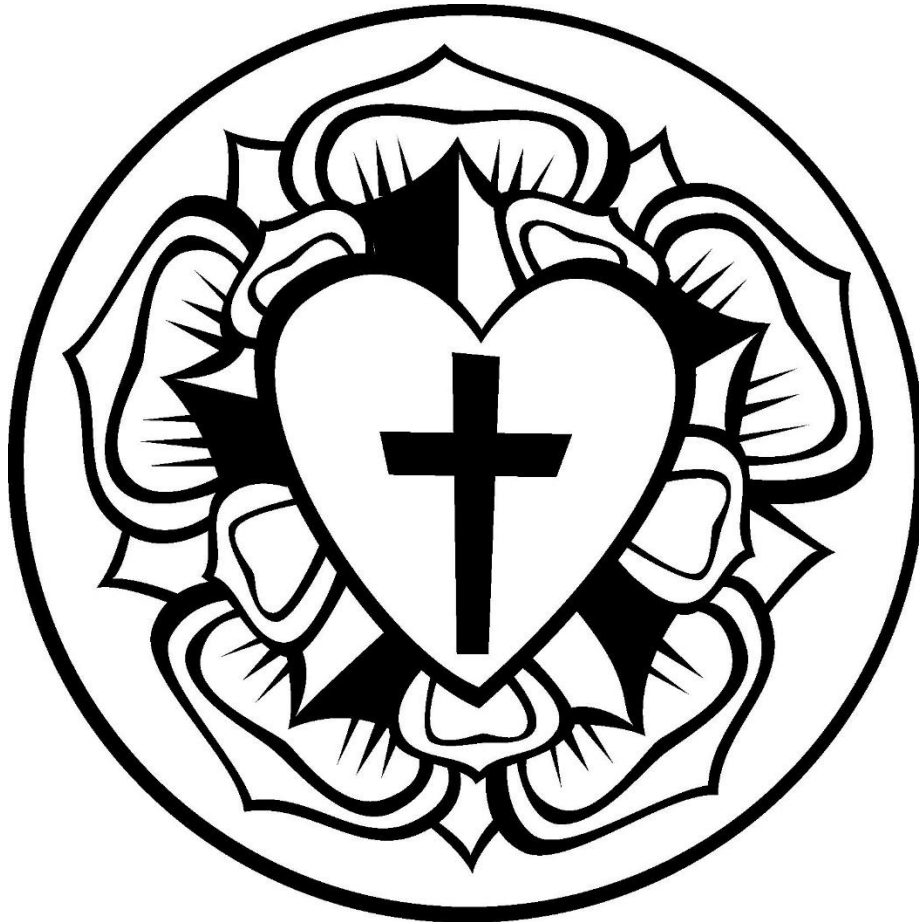


REFORMATION SUNDAY
OBSERVED

October 27, 2024



LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS-LCMS

*Welcoming all to walk together
toward abundant life in Christ.*

2024 THEME: JOY COMES IN THE MORNING

For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a lifetime.

Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning. Psalm 30:5 (ESV)

THE ORDER OF DIVINE SERVICE SETTING FOUR

A WORD TO OUR FRIENDS ABOUT COMMUNION:

As members of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, we believe that the body and blood of Christ are truly present “in, with, and under” the bread and wine when we receive the Sacrament. We do *not* believe that the bread and wine somehow mystically “change” into something other than bread and wine, *nor* do we believe that the bread and wine merely “represents” Christ’s body and blood; rather, we are bound by the words of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, when He said “Take eat, this is my body” and “Take drink, this is my blood.” We believe and teach that when we receive the bread and wine, we are also truly receiving the body and blood of Christ (because of His divine Word.) We also believe that the Sacrament of Holy Communion is more than just a memorial, we believe it is Christ truly coming to us and offering His body and his blood in an outward sign of His love for us and as an outward assurance of the forgiveness He won for us by His death on the cross. This is our belief and confession regarding the Sacrament of Holy Communion. If you are not a member of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and if you have any questions or concerns about our Communion practices and desire to partake of Holy Communion, will you please consult with the pastor beforehand. *Gluten free communion wafers are available* by taking one from the paten (plate) that is sitting separately in a white container. *Non-alcoholic wine* (clear liquid) *is available* in the center of the tray containing individual cups of regular wine (red liquid). Having read this Communion Statement and prayerfully considered what you believe and confess, please complete the Pew Card found in the pew rack. After you place your tithes and gifts in the offering plate, please pass your Pew Card to the center aisle and the ushers will pick them up. May God truly bless our Communion Service this day.

COMMUNION OPTIONS FOR THOSE WITH ALLERGIES:

- *Gluten-free communion wafers* are available by taking one from the paten (plate) that is sitting separately in a white container.
- *Grape Juice* (clear liquid) is available in the center of the tray containing individual cups of regular wine (red liquid).

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME, The TOLLING OF THE BELLS



1. A mighty fortress is our God, A trusty shield and weapon;
He helps us free from ev'ry need That hath us now o'ertaken.
The old evil foe Now means deadly woe;
Deep guile and great might Are his dread arms in fight;
On earth is not his equal.
2. With might of ours can naught be done, Soon were our loss effected;
But for us fights the valiant One, Whom God Himself elected.
Ask ye, Who is this? Jesus Christ it is,
Of Sabaoth Lord, And there's none other God;
He holds the field forever.
3. Though devils all the world should fill, All eager to devour us,
We tremble not, we fear no ill; They shall not overpow'r us.
This world's prince may still Scowl fierce as he will,
He can harm us none. He's judged; the deed is done;
One little word can fell him.
4. The Word they still shall let remain Nor any thanks have for it;
He's by our side upon the plain With His good gifts and Spirit.
And take they our life, Goods, fame, child, and wife,
Though these all be gone, Our vict'ry has been won;
The Kingdom ours remaineth.

Text: tr. composite; Martin Luther, 1483–1546

Text: Public domain

THE INVOCATION

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

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit. *LSB pg. 151*

C **Amen.** *Matthew 28:19b [18:20]*

OPENING SENTENCES

Psalm 41:13; 79:9, 13; 125:1–2

P Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel,

C **from everlasting to everlasting!**

P Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of Your name; deliver us, and atone for our sins, for Your name's sake!

C **We Your people, the sheep of Your pasture, will give thanks to You forever; from generation to generation we will recount Your praise.**

P Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved, but abides forever.

C **As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the Lord surrounds His people, from this time forth and forevermore.**

T Confession and Absolution T

P It is by grace alone that we are saved. How glad we are that this is true, for today we come in confession, realizing that we are indeed totally unworthy of God's forgiveness and love. Yet we confess our sin honestly to God because we know of His grace. Desiring to lay ourselves bare before Him, that we might then turn in repentance and hear His gracious word of forgiveness, we make confession of our sin. As the Scriptures declare:

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

1 John 1:8-9

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P 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 T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

[John 20:19-23]

C **Amen.**

T Service of the Word T

HYMN OF PRAISE This Is The Feast

Revelation 5:12-13; 19:5-9

LSB pg. 155

Refrain

C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

- 1 — Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
- 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
- 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
- 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
- 5 For the Lamb _____ who was slain has be -

blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*
gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*

Final Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people. Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and deliver us in times of temptation, defend us against all enemies, and grant to Your Church Your saving peace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

REFORMATION SEQUENCE

Part 1

P One of the most famous documents of the Reformation Era is the set of the Ninety-Five Theses posted on the door of the Castle Church at Wittenberg, Germany, on October 31, 1517. In this set of ninety-five statements that Dr. Luther wished to have debated was a challenge to accepted practices in the church of his time that Luther felt were at odds with the biblical witness and therefore were not true. His introduction to the set of statements he had written is highlighted by two words: “love” and “truth.” We now hear what Luther wrote as the introduction to his now famous Ninety-Five Theses.

P “Out of love for the truth and the desire to bring it to light, the following propositions will be debated at Wittenberg, under presidency of the Reverend Father Martin Luther, Master of Arts and of Sacred Theology, and the Lecturer on Ordinary* on the same at that place. For that reason, he requests that those who cannot be present and debate orally with us may do so by letter.”

**In medieval universities, particularly in the context of Martin Luther's time, a "Lecturer on Ordinary" (or Ordinary Lecturer) referred to a regular faculty member who gave lectures on specific standard texts as part of the regular curriculum. In this case, Luther was lecturing on "ordinary" subjects - meaning the standard, established texts that were part of the regular course of study at the University of Wittenberg.*

P The challenges to Luther that resulted from his posting of the Ninety-Five Theses remained a constant factor throughout his life. A few years before his death, he wrote the words to the stirring hymn “Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word.” Both the text and the tune are attributed to the great reformer.

HYMN

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

LSB 655 st. 1

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.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Text: Public domain

FIRST READING

Revelation 14:6–7

(The messenger proclaims the enduring message of deliverance from evil, just as the new song (v 3) proclaims redemption anew. At first blush, this announcement does not sound much like the Gospel. However, it is indeed good news for the faithful, since the saints are repeatedly depicted as suffering at the hand of evildoers in Revelation.)

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

P This is the Word of the Lord,
C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

Romans 3:19–28

(While we are tempted to think that obedience to the Law can save, Paul shows the Law’s diagnosis: we are sinners incapable of saving ourselves (v 20). Only when we see this are we prepared for the Good News of what Christ has done for us.)

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.

P This is the Word of the Lord,
C **Thanks be to God.**





Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
 words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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

John 8:31–36



Glo - ry 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.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Praise to You, O Christ.

1. Amazing grace—how sweet the sound—that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found, Was blind but now I see!
2. The Lord has promised good to me, His Word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be As long as life endures.
3. Through many dangers, toils, and snares I have already come;
His grace has brought me safe thus far, His grace will lead me home.
4. Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail And mortal life shall cease,
Amazing grace shall then prevail In heaven’s joy and peace.

(continued)

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.

Text: Public domain

SERMON

Rev. David Barber

NICENE CREED

C 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.

REFORMATION SEQUENCE

Part 2

- P A major focus of Luther’s Ninety-Five Theses was his concerns about the marketing of indulgences or letters of pardon for sins committed that were sold by traveling salesmen sent out by the church to raise funds for cathedral construction and other church projects. This money-raising strategy turned the forgiveness God gives freely through Jesus Christ into a commodity that could be purchased for the right price. Indulgences were readily available to wealthy people but not to the masses of common people—the kind of people that Luther knew well and preached to week by week. In Theses 36 and 37, he rightly asserts that God’s forgiveness is equally available to all who repent.
- P “Every truly repentant Christian has plenary [full] remission of penalty and guilt, even without letters of pardon. Every true Christian, whether living or dead, has a part in all the benefits of Christ and the church, given him by God, even without letters of pardon.”
- P Luther’s love for the truth and his desire to bring it to light led to dark times for those who saw the light of the Gospel in the writings of the great reformer. In the second stanza of “Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word,” Luther prays that God would defend and protect the church and its people. His prayer in his day is our prayer today as well.

HYMN

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

LSB 655 st. 2

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.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Text: Public domain

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P God, our Father in heaven, look with mercy on us, Your needy children on earth, and grant us grace that Your holy name be hallowed by us and all the world through the pure and true teaching of Your Word and the fervent love shown forth in our lives. Graciously turn from us all false doctrine and evil living whereby Your precious name is blasphemed and profaned. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C **hear our prayer.**

P May Your kingdom come to us and expand. Bring all transgressors and those who are blinded and bound in the devil's kingdom to know Jesus Christ, Your Son, by faith that the number of Christians may be increased. Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

P Strengthen us by Your Spirit according to Your will, both in life and in death, in the midst of both good and evil things, that our own wills may be crucified daily and sacrificed to Your good and gracious will. Into Your merciful hands we commend [*Ariana (family of Noel & Linda Hyde), Holly Beyer (cousin of Ron McCormick), The family of Jan Cigalio (friend of Reine Obermier), Michelle Golembieski (daughter in law of Stan & Betty Golembieski), Brenda Hanak (friend of LCC), Rick McCormick (nephew of Ron McCormick), the family of Siobhan Rhodes (friends of Amber Maestas), Phil Woodruff*]. and all who are in need, praying for them at all times: Thy will be done. Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

P Grant us our daily bread, preserve us from greed and selfish cares, and help us trust in You to provide for all our needs. Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

P Forgive us our sins as we also forgive those who sin against us so that our hearts may be at peace and may rejoice in a good conscience before You, and that no sin may ever frighten or alarm us. Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

P Lead us not into temptation, O Lord, but help us by Your Spirit to subdue our flesh, to turn from the world and its ways, and to overcome the devil with all his wiles. Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

P And lastly, O heavenly Father, deliver us from all evil of both body and soul, now and forever. Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

P We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
C **Amen.**

OFFERING

OFFERING MUSIC

The Lord, My God, Be Praised

LSB 794 sts. 1–3

1. The Lord, my God, be praised, My light, my life from heaven;
My maker, who to me Has soul and body given;
My Father, who will shield And keep me day by day
And make each moment yield New blessings on my way.
2. The Lord, my God, be praised, My trust, my life from heaven,
The Father's own dear Son, Whose life for me was given,
Who for my sin atoned With His most precious blood
And gives to me by faith The highest heav'nly good.
3. The Lord, my God, be praised, My hope, my life from heaven,
The Spirit, whom the Son In love to me has given.
His grace revives my heart And gives my spirit pow'r,
Help, comfort, and support In sorrow's gloomy hour.

† Service of the Sacrament †

PREFACE

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 Him thanks and praise.**



PROPER PREFACE

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

LSB 161



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. 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.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and have given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. We thank You for having called us as Your people who are kept by Your abiding care in this, our contentious world. Grant that all who partake of Christ's holy body and blood this day be filled with Your heavenly peace and joy. As we join at Your Table, grant that we be sanctified in body and soul and spirit and finally be granted our place in Your eternal kingdom. This we ask through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

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

*Mathew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24
Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25*

P 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 T 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 T 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

LSB 163

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



AGNUS DEI

LSB 163

A musical score for the Agnus Dei hymn, consisting of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the staves. A square box containing the letter 'G' is positioned below the first note of the first staff.

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.

DISTRIBUTION

The pastor and those who assist distribute the body and blood of Christ in, with, and under the bread and wine to those who come to receive, saying:

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins. **Amen.**

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins. **Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Thy Strong Word

LSB 578

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!
3. Thy strong Word bespeaks us righteous; Bright with Thine own holiness,
Glorious now, we press toward glory, And our lives our hopes confess.
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!
4. From the cross Thy wisdom shining Breaketh forth in conqu'ring might;
From the cross forever beameth All Thy bright redeeming light.
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!
5. Give us lips to sing Thy glory, Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,
Throats that shout the hope that fills us, Mouths to speak Thy holy name.
Alleluia, alleluia! May the light which Thou dost send
Fill our songs with alleluias, Alleluias without end!
6. God the Father, light-creator, To Thee laud and honor be.
To Thee, Light of Light begotten, Praise be sung eternally.
Holy Spirit, light-revealer, Glory, glory be to Thee.
Mortals, angels, now and ever Praise the holy Trinity!

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907–76

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DISTRIBUTION HYMN

O Lord, We Praise Thee

LSB 617

1. O Lord, we praise Thee, bless Thee, and adore Thee,
In thanksgiving bow before Thee.
Thou with Thy body and Thy blood didst nourish
Our weak souls that they may flourish:
O Lord, have mercy!
May Thy body, Lord, born of Mary,
That our sins and sorrows did carry,
And Thy blood for us plead
In all trial, fear, and need:
O Lord, have mercy!

2. Thy holy body into death was given,
Life to win for us in heaven.
No greater love than this to Thee could bind us;
May this feast thereof remind us!
O Lord, have mercy!
Lord, Thy kindness did so constrain Thee
That Thy blood should bless and sustain me.
All our debt Thou hast paid;
Peace with God once more is made:
O Lord, have mercy!

3. May God bestow on us His grace and favor
That we follow Christ our Savior
And live together here in love and union
Nor despise this blest Communion!
O Lord, have mercy!
Let not Thy good Spirit forsake us;
Grant that heav'nly-minded He make us;
Give Thy Church, Lord, to see
Days of peace and unity:
O Lord, have mercy!



DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise

LSB 680

1. Thine the amen Thine the praise Alleluias angels raise
Thine the everlasting head Thine the breaking of the bread
Thine the glory Thine the story Thine the harvest then the cup
Thine the vineyard then the cup is lifted up lifted up.
 2. Thine the life eternally Thine the promise let there be
Thine the vision Thine the tree All the earth on bended knee
Gone the nailing gone the railing Gone the pleading gone the cry
Gone the sighing gone the dying what was loss lifted high.
 3. Thine the truly Thine the yes Thine the table we the guest
Thine the mercy all from Thee Thine the glory yet to be
Then the ringing and the singing Then the end of all the war
Thine the living Thine the loving evermore evermore.
- (continued)*
4. Thine the kingdom Thine the prize Thine the wonder full surprise
Thine the banquet then the praise Then the justice of Thy ways
Thine the glory Thine the story Then the welcome to the least
Then the wonder all increasing at Thy feast at Thy feast.
 5. Thine the glory in the night No more dying only light
Thine the river Thine the tree Then the Lamb eternally
Then the holy holy holy Celebration jubilee
Thine the splendor Thine the brightness only Thee only Thee.

THANK THE LORD

LSB 164



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek 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.

REFORMATION SEQUENCE

Part 3

P In the final two of the Ninety-Five Theses, Martin Luther gave an indication that he was well aware of the pathway that Christians would be taking as they followed the truth of the Gospel. No matter how contentious and challenging the world might be in a given era, the gracious guidance of Christ would be sufficient to lead His faithful flock to the joys of everlasting glory. Hear now Theses 94 and 95.

P “Christians should be exhorted to be diligent in following Christ, their Head, through penalties, death and hell.” (Thesis 94) “And thus be confident of entering into heaven through many tribulations rather than through the false security of peace (Acts 14:22).” (Thesis 95)

P In Thesis 62, Luther shared the heart of his message in a most straightforward way, as he writes, “The true treasure of the church is the most holy gospel of the glory and grace of God.” May you receive God’s blessing as you take the cross of Christ with you into the community around us.

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

P 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 T give you peace.


C **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN


Lift High the Cross

LSB 837 sts. ref-1, 5-6

Refrain




Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro-claim Till




all the world a - dore His sa - cred name.

1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our Cap - tain trod,
5 Let ev - 'ry race and ev - 'ry lan - guage tell
6 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:



Refrain



Our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
Of Him who saves our lives from death and hell.
Praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

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SILENT PRAYER

DEPARTING ANNOUNCEMENTS & POSTLUDE

You have been a blessing to us! Please use this time to “check-in” with your Christian brothers and sisters around you. Coffee and donuts are being served for fellowship at 9:00am in the Fellowship & Ministry Center along with our Adult Bible Class and Youth Sunday School. Please stop by and enjoy.



Acknowledgments

Introductions to Scripture readings are from Edward A. Engelbrecht, *The Lutheran Study Bible* (St. Louis, MO: Concordia Publishing House, 2009), 2221, 1914. Some quotations from Martin Luther's *Ninety-Five Theses* © 2016 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 4. Copyright © 2024 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2024 Concordia Publishing House. Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from One License with license #A-731332.

**LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS VOTERS MEETING
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2024**

Under our bylaws, President William Heffernan has the ability to call a special meeting of the Voters Assembly for a specific purpose. This is notice that he has called a Special Meeting of the Voters Assembly for Sunday, November 3rd, immediately following the 10:30 AM service at Noon. The meeting will be held in the sanctuary, not in the Fellowship and Ministry Center. The purpose of the meeting will be to advise the congregation of the status of our Hurricane Ian claim with the progress of the insurance settlement as well as additional November Voter's Meeting business items. Please be sure to put this meeting on your calendars and attend. Thank you!

The originally planned meeting set for November 17th will not take place as these items will be covered at this meeting.



The Military Appreciation Team would like to extend a huge **THANK YOU** to Alex & Alison Sherer! They own and operate the ***UPS Store*** at *1133 Bal Harbor Blvd #1139 in Punta Gorda* and were generous enough to provide their creativity talents to develop and print out our display materials for our Military Appreciation and Veteran's Day efforts! What a blessing we are to have them in our church family!

Pastor: Rev. Dr. R. Brian Stolarczyk ~ Winter Assistant Pastor: Rev. Jerry Menk
Guest Pastor: Rev. David Barber ~ Organist: Stephen Kopp III
Handbell Co-Directors: Bill & Ronna Trueman
Clarinet: Bill Trueman ~ Drums: Chris Wrightsman ~ Flute: Raymond Stolarczyk
Saxophone: Cheryl Domingo ~ Trombone: Arnie Piering

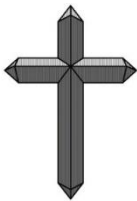
October 27, 2024

Welcoming all to walk together toward abundant life in Christ

The **ETERNAL LIGHT** this month is provided to the Glory of God by
Cliff Stratton in memory of his sainted father, Cliff Stratton, Sr.
The **FLOWERS** on the altar this week are provided to the Glory of God by
Diana Chesen to thank God for His healing.

WORSHIP SERVANTS

Bell Tollers	Barb Powell, Luke Stolarczyk
Elders on Duty	Ron McCormick, Chris Trapp
Lay Readers	Dorothy Christman, Fred Spier
Greeters/Ushers	Key Helgerson, Steve & Lori Nelson
Altar Servers	Nancy Bird, Suzanne Fadely, Barb Hilgendorf, Joyce Spier
Safety Team	David Aiken, Mark Keck
Streaming Team	Wayn Nelson, Marita Noe, Luke Stolarczyk



OFFICE HOURS:

By Phone: Monday – Friday 9:00am to 3:00pm
(941) 627-6060 ~ Fax: (941) 627-5467

By email: secretary@lccross.org

Find us on the Web: www.lccross.org

Subscribe to our YouTube Channel or Like us on Facebook.

IF YOU HAVE any comments, questions or suggestions, please contact:

Parish Administrator	Jennifer Strefling:	941-627-6060
Head Elder	Jim McCabe:	847-471-1421

In case of Emergency you may reach	<u>Pastor Stolarczyk:</u>	<u>Cell: 941-979-7490</u>
	<u>Pastor Menk:</u>	<u>Cell: 941-327-9453</u>

IN OUR PRAYERS

Homebound Care:

John & Lois Arens, Laura Cox, Millie Cox, Ann La Fave, Dave & Gayle DeBraccio, Marv & Lil Fitzwater, Aida Florit, Bruce & Connie Frilstad, Janet Jackson, Cris & Linda Kelly, Dale Kuhn, Dale Sawicki, Millie Tyczka

Strength, Healing, Guidance: *

Holly Beyer	Cousin Ron McCormick; thanksgiving
Fran Boatwright	Recovery
Carol Burgess	Strength & healing
The family of Jan Cigalio	Friend of LCC; peace & understanding
Michelle Golembieski	Daughter in law Stan Golembieski; thanksgiving
Brena Hanak	Friend of LCC; strength & God's Plan
Cheryl Heffernan	Recovery & healing
Val Korman	Hospice Care
Rick McCormick	Nephew Ron & RoseMarie McCormick; healing
Tom Rittenhouse	Pain relief & healing
The family of Siobhan Rhodes	Friends of Amber Maestas; peace & understanding
Chris Sabin	Healing & recovery
Dale Sawicki	Healing & comfort
Anna Vazquez	Sister of Augusto Vazquez; healing & recovery
Ken & Mary Werring	Continued strength & healing
Phil Woodruff	Medical guidance, strength & healing

**Prayers will run for four consecutive weeks unless otherwise notified.*

Battling Cancer:

Adriana	Family Noel & Linda Hyde; diagnosed lymphoma
Eric Sr.	Family of Rene & Sue Richard; terminal cancer
Ivana	Friend of Augusto & Isabel Vazquez; battling cancer
Karen	Daughter Ann LaFave; battling cancer
Mike	Son of Phil Woodruff; battling cancer
Rick Bausch	Son Barbara Durst; battling cancer
Cate Bocassi	Friend of LCC; battling cancer
Diana Chesen	Battling cancer
Dave DeBraccio	Battling with Leukemia, healing & strength
Lisa Anne Denofrio	Daughter Tom & Krystyna Johnson; palliative care
Bill Docherty	Brother-in-law Joy Hougan; battling cancer, surgery
Matt Doctor	Brother-in-law of Diane Barton; strength & peace
Mack Gonzales	Battling cancer

Steve Kirkland	Brother of Bruce Kirkland; battling cancer
Todd Klietz	Battling cancer
Audrey Kowalski	Friend of Dorothy Christman; terminal cancer
Phil Miller	Battling cancer
Patricia Ruiz	Family of Fadely/Maestas family; battling cancer
Kathy Sanders	Friend of LCC; battling cancer
Lisa Sayers	Friend of LCC; battling cancer
Barb Sullivan	Friend of LCC; diagnosed with cancer
Carmen Torres	Sister-in-law of Augusto & Isabel Vazquez; cancer
Lori Truelove	Niece Joyce Schankin; cancer battle; strength, peace
Connie Warner	Friend of Mary Woodruff; diagnosed lymphoma

Military:

US Army SSG. Paul Behling	Son of Ron & Cohleen Nottingham; stationed FL
USAF TSGT David Cope Jr.	Son of David and Shelly Cope stationed in NM
US Army CSM Matt Hopkins	Grandson of Dave & Gayle DeBraccio; in Kuwait
USAF Sr. Airman Shawn Golembieski	Grandson of Stan & Betty Golembieski; in FL
US Navy ENS Joe Golembieski	Grandson of Stan & Betty Golembieski; in VA
US Navy Seaman Nick Golembieski	Grandson of Stan & Betty Golembieski; Seabound
USCG SCPO Robert Kecken	Son Jerry & Meredith Kecken; stationed in CA
USAF A1C Riley Latarski	Granddaughter Bill & Dorothy Christman in ND
Marines LCPL Jonathan Metz	Grandson of Jerry & Joyce Metz; in MD
Marines LCPL Kyle Spilker	Grandson in law Chuck Anderson; in CA
USAF TSGT Kalin McDonnell	Granddaughter Bill & Dorothy Christman; in MA
US Army PFC Parker Woodruff Bragg	Grandson of Larry & Delila Woodruff; in Fort

Family Prayer: We remember all our **families** during times of personal and family **trial and tribulation.**

If you know of someone needing church prayers, please contact the church office at 941-627-6060. Be sure to have the name, relationship to the church family and what is the need for the prayer.

LCC ATTENDANCE REPORT & WEEKLY INCOME AND EXPENSE REPORT 2024

Week Of: 10/20/2024			
On-Site Attendance		Weekly Contributions	
39 / 103		Income:	\$ 6,152
		Expense:	\$ 13,846

LCC Things to Note!

✝ **MILITARY APPRECIATION COLLECTION** is underway! Cash donations, cards and general well wishes are being collected to send to those soldiers whom we pray for each and every week! We would also like to encourage veterans and families of active military personnel to submit photos and/or sign their names on posters that are displayed in the Narthex! Please see the flyer in the Narthex or reach out to Nancy Carter, Dorothy Christman or Marita Noe or for questions on this outreach event!

✝ **OUR NEXT POTLUCK LUNCH HAS BEEN SCHEDULED!**

We will be having a Military Appreciation Pot Luck Luncheon on Sunday, November 10th immediately following the late worship service in the FMC! Please be sure to sign up in the Narthex if you plan to attend and indicate on the sign-up what dish you will be supplying – but please note – a dish is not required to attend! We hope to see you there!

✝ **SAVE THE DATE!**

On Saturday November 23rd we will need the help of some volunteers to set up the LCC Annual Nativity Display. Set up will begin at 10:00am and we will need some men and a few strong arms to get this display put in place! The more hands available makes for lighter work for all!

Your Financial Donations are Needed

Please prayerfully consider giving financial assistance directly to FLGA District Disaster Response. 100% of your donation will go to the congregations and staff affected and in need following the recent storms.

Please visit their website to give online or learn where to mail in a check at flgadistrict.org/give

The image shows a screenshot of the FLGA District website's donation page. The page header includes the logo for 'florida georgia district THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD' and the URL 'flgadistrict.org/give'. The main content area is titled 'Online Donation or Payment' and contains a 'Donation or Payments' section with instructions. A red box highlights the 'Disaster Response Funds' section, which includes a form for '-Disaster Response:' with a value of 0.00. A red arrow points from this box to a larger, detailed view of the 'Disaster Response Funds' form on the right side of the page, which also shows the '-Disaster Response:' field with a value of 0.00. The page also features a 'Log In' section and a 'Create Your Online Profile' section.



UPCOMING CHURCH EVENTS

Oct 25 – Nov 1 – CFO Mike Barzona will be out of the office.

He will return Mon. Nov 4

Please note On-Site Office Hours may be limited while he is away.

<u>Tues. Nov 5</u>	Sarasota Circuit Meeting – Faith Lutheran Church, Parrish, FL
<u>Thurs. Nov 7</u>	LifeLight: Life of David Begins @ 10:00am - FMC LWML Parish Guild Meeting @ 1:00pm - FMC
<u>Sat. Nov 9</u>	Stephen Ministry Supervision @ 9:00am – FMC
<u>Sun. Nov 10</u>	Military Appreciation Sunday Military Appreciation Pot Luck Luncheon @ 11:45am - FMC
<u>Tues. Nov 12</u>	Board of Christian Education Meeting @ 3:30pm – FMC
<u>Wed. Nov 13</u>	Board of Elders Meeting @ 3:30pm - OFH
<u>Thurs. Nov 14</u>	Altar Communion Set Up @ 9:00am – Sacristy/Sanctuary Shepherding Leaders Meeting @ 9:00am – FMC
<u>Sat. Nov 16</u>	LWML Fall Rally @ 9:00am – Faith Lutheran, Punta Gorda
<u>Sat. Nov 23</u>	LCC Nativity Scene Set Up @ 10:00am – Outdoor Campus
<u>Thurs. Nov 28</u>	Thanksgiving Worship Service @ 10:30am - Sanctuary

WEEKLY RE-OCCURRING CAMPUS EVENTS:

- † **AA Meetings:** Meets weekly in the FMC @ 7:00pm
Monday (Women Only)
Tuesday & Wednesday (Open to all)
- † **Christian Education & Fellowship:** Every Sunday in the FMC @ 9:00am
- † **Handbell Choir Rehearsal:** Meets every Thursday in the Sanctuary @ 4:30pm
- † **LCC Garden Committee:** Meets every Wednesday in the Prayer Park @ 9:30am
- † **Raise Right Fundraising Team:** Meets every Sunday in the FMC
Operates at 9:00am & after the 10:30am services
- † **SON-Seekers Bible Study:** Meets every Monday in the FMC @ 11:30am
- † **The Chosen Bible Study:** Meets every Thursday in the FMC @ 10:00am
October 31 - Episode 8 & Reformation Day Class Party
- † **Vocal Choir Rehearsal:** Meets every Thursday in the Sanctuary @ 5:45pm
- † **Youth Confirmation Class:** Meets select nights in Pastor's Study @ 6:30pm