Reformation Sunday

Sunday, October 25th, 2026

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.



LIVING FAITH LUTHERAN

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God, who pours love into our hearts, and healing upon the earth. **Amen.**

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: …Receive freely this healing gift of grace. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN **ELW 665**

Rise, Shine, You People!

GREETING

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Gracious Father, we pray for your holy catholic church. Fill it with all truth & peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in anything it is amiss, reform it; where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in need, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives & reigns with you & the Holy Spirit, one God, now & forever. **Amen**.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34

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.

Word of God. Word of life.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM 46

[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.

Amen.

SECOND READING: Romans 3:19-28

[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.

Word of God. Word of life.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION **ELW p. 142**

GOSPEL: John 8:31-36

The holy gospel according to John.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY **ELW 517**
Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM **ELW p.234**
Presentation

Profession of Faith
Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God,
the powers of this world that rebel against God,
and the ways of sin that draw you from God?
I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?
I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
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.

Affirmation
…People of God, do you promise to support Nathan & Dakota
and pray for them in their lives in Christ?
We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

…Let us welcome these siblings in Christ to Living Faith!
We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.
Together we will give thanks and praise to God
and proclaim the good news to all people.

HYMN **ELW 685**
Take My Life That I May Be

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION
Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

PEACE
The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING **ELW 466**
In the Singing

OFFERING PRAYER
Let us pray.
God of creation, you send rain, and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with
what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE
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.

PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY **ELW p. 144**

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE
…For as often as we eat of this bread and drink of this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

…And let the church say, "Amen." **Amen!** [2x]

…all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now 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.

COMMUNION HYMNS **ELW 504 & 654**

BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
Let us pray.
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
God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN **ELW 779**
Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

SENDING
Go in peace. You are free indeed.
Thanks be to God.

Thank you, worship leaders!

Greeter/Usher: Tim Kass
Accompanist: Gail Kass
Reader: Dakota Utesch
Communion Assistant: Nathan Rathke
Altar Guild: Kay Michaelson
Livestream: Angela Catton
Audio/Visual: Tim Kass & Kay Michaelson
Bulletin Art: Angela Catton

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