

REFORMATION SUNDAY October 27, 2024 at 10:00am

Saint Luke Lutheran Church and School

9100 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, MD www.saintluke.us | 301-588-4363

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.

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE ● A Mighty Fortress

arr. Kathleen Wissinger Reformation Bells

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be God, the one who forms us,

Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

Amen.

Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

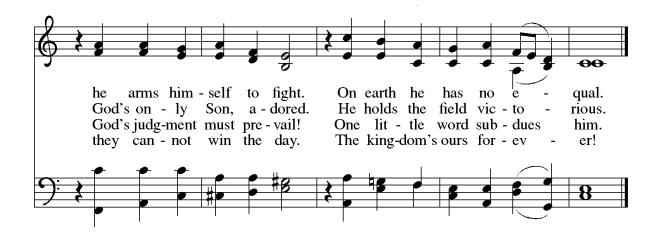
Steadfast and faithful God,

you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us. In ♣ Christ, you are already and always forgiven. Amen.



Continued on the next page



GREETING

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever.

There is one body and one Spirit;

There is one hope in God's call to us;

One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

One God and Creator of all.

Blessed be God who sustains and protects God's holy Church.

And blessed be God who guides and confirms us in our faith. Amen. Alleluia!

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

Let us pray.

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.

Please be seated.

THE WORD

FIRST READING • Jeremiah 31:31-34

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the Lord means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the Lord will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.

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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

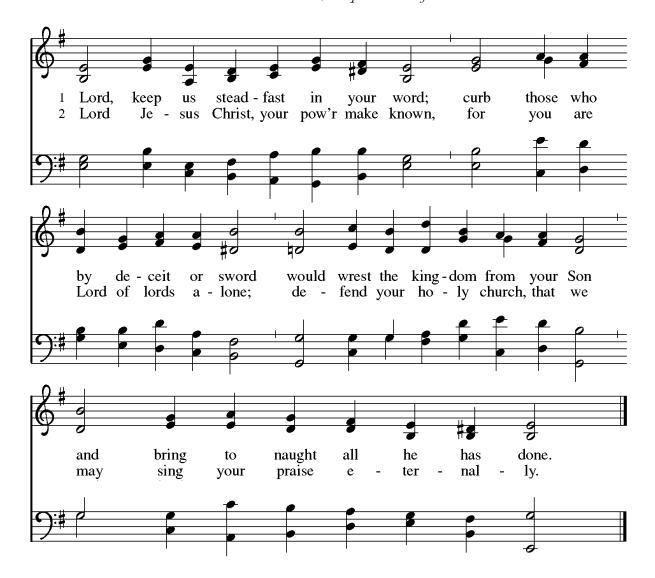
SECOND READING ● Romans 3:19-28

Paul's words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ's death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

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 prescribed 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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



GOSPEL READING ● John 8:31-36

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

The holy gospel according to Saint John the eighth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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." When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. So Jesus called them and said to them, "You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. But it is not so among you; but

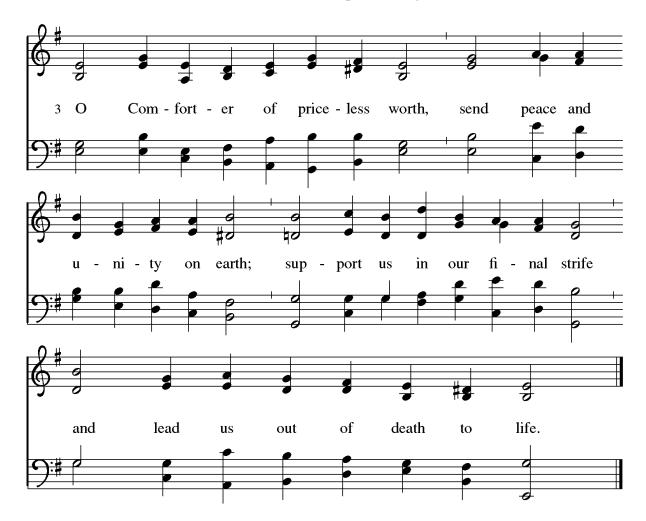
whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION • ELW 517 Lord, Keep Us Steadfast

ERHALT UNS HERR



CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON Dr. Gudeta

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY • All the Ways of God Are Justice

Commissioned in thanksgiving for Dr. Paul Wee: prophet, advocate for justice, peace, and grace for all



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APOSTLE'S CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Challenged by God's Word in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and the whole creation.

After each portion of the prayers:

God of grace,

Hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in the saving grace you freely give, both now and forever.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

All may share a sign of Peace.

Please be seated.

THE MEAL

OFFERING

We invite you to give your offering online at <u>saintlukegive.us</u> You may also mail your checks to:

Saint Luke Lutheran Church 9100 Colesville Road Silver Spring, MD 20910

OFFERTORY ANTHEM ● "Lead Me, Lord"

Franz Joseph Haydn (1685–1759)

Bethany Brookshire, Soprano & Alix Evans, Mezzo-Soprano

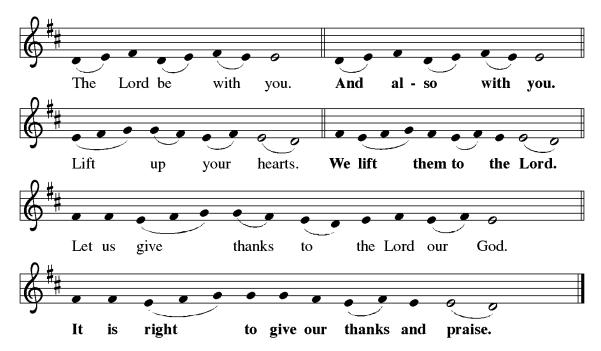
OFFERING PRAYER

Please stand as you are able.

Let us pray.

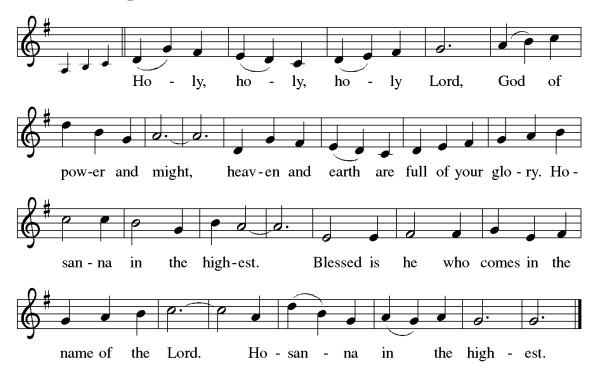
Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



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 our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS • ELW Setting One



In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus 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.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Please pray in your own preferred language.

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.

Padre Nuestro, que estas en los cielos, santificado sea tu nombre, venga a nosostros tu reino, hagase tu voluntad, asi en la tierra como en el cielo. Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada dia; perdona nuestras ofensas, como nosotros perdonamos a los que nos ofenden; y no nos dejes caer en la tentacion, mas libranos del mal. Porque tuyo es el reino, el poder, y la gloria, por los siglos de los siglos. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready. Thanks be to God!

Please be seated.

COMMUNION

All are invited to the Lord's table, a table of grace and mercy. There are stations at the foot of the chancel steps.

Please stretch out your hand, palm up, to receive the host, the body of Christ.

(Gluten-free wafers are available; please ask your server)

Then receive in the individual cup the blood of Christ. You may deposit your cup in the basket near the side wall. Those who wish to receive a blessing instead of the Lord's supper are also encouraged to come forward. Those who wish to receive the sacrament in the pew, please inform an usher. All are welcome to the Lord's table.

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say:

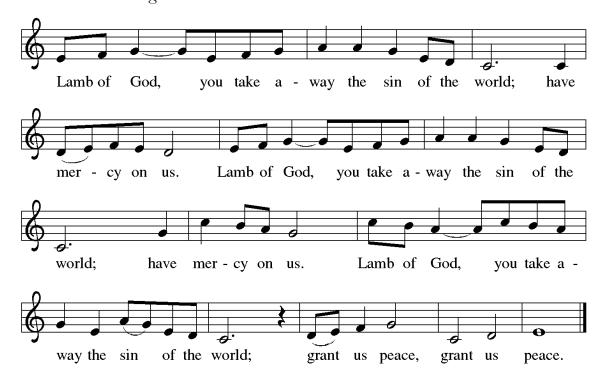
The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

The communicant may say:

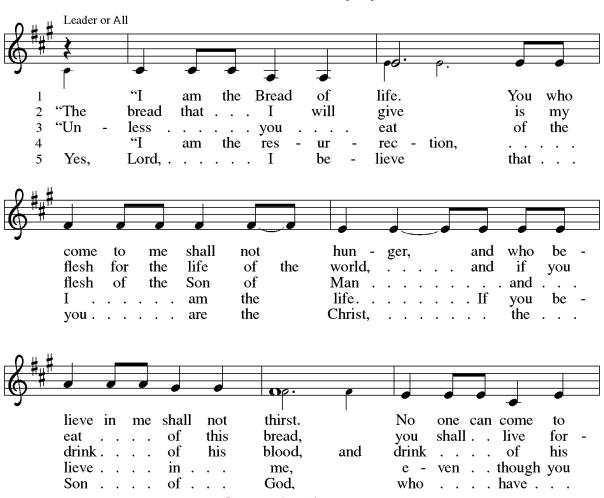
Amen.

AGNUS DEI ● ELW Setting One



COMMUNION HYMN ● ELW 485 *I Am the Bread of Life*

Bread of Life





POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Please stand as you are able.

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

Amen.

NUNC DIMITTIS • ELW Setting One



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

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

Amen.



DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Saved by grace. God is at work in you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE • Royal Fireworks Musick – Allegro

arr. Cheryl (Sutton) Baker Reformation Bells

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WORSHIP LEADERS

PRESIDING MINISTERS

The Rev. Connie A. Miller Senior Pastor Bishop Richard Graham Pastor In Residence

PREACHING MINISTER

Dr. Ebisse Gudeta Mekane Yesus Seminary Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

ASSISTING MINISTERS

The Rev. Gary Nuss

Support Pastor

Deacon Kyle Warfield

Director of Discipleship and High School Ministries

COMMUNION SERVERS

The Rev. Rosario Hernandez
Former Saint Luke Pastor
The Rev. Franklin Morales
Former Saint Luke Pastor
Canon Missioner for Latino/Hispanic Ministry
Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina
The Rev. Richard Zawistoski
Confirmation Pastor

INTERCESSOR

Dr. Paul Wee Forgotten Luther IV Committee

READERS

The Rev. Eleanor Abarno

Pastoral Liaison

Women in Community

The Rev. Elizabeth Platz

Teaching Pastor

CRUCIFER

Abraham Guamuch

MUSICIANS

Adam Scott Graham Director of Music

Schola Cantorum

Reformation Bells Edie Venit, Director

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WE CELEBRATE THE GREAT MESSAGE THAT WE ARE SAVED BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH—such a wonderful gift. It was October 31, 1517, the eve before All Saints Day, when people would be coming to church. Martin Luther posted his 95 Theses on the church door (a bulletin board) to invite discussion about the selling of indulgences for forgiveness. This started the reformation of the church. We are saved not based on our own works, but because of the sheer grace of God in Jesus Christ. What a message. What a gospel! This reformation, however, was not just a one time event. We are always reforming, always making sure we stay true to the gospel message. Where is our hope? Jesus. Where is our trust? Jesus. Where is our faith? Jesus. We celebrate that the one who saves is Jesus, thanks to the unconditional love of our God. A blessed day of grace.

WE WELCOME AS OUR PREACHER THIS MORNING, DR. EBISSE GUDETA. Dr. Gudeta serves as a theological educator and director of female theologians' fellowship at Mekane Yesus Seminary in Addis Abbaba, Ethiopia. From 2020-2024 she served as Academic Dean there, as well. Dr. Gudeta earned her Ph.D in Practical Theology from the University of Stavanger, Norway, her Master of Arts in Intercultural Theology from the University of Gottingen, Germany, and her Bachelor of Theology from Mekane Yesus Seminary. Dr. Gudeta is a champion for women in the Mekane Yesus Church, one of the fastest growing church bodies in the Lutheran World Federation. She has been here for a consultation with the ELCA this past week.

DID YOU KNOW ETHIOPIAN CHRISTIANITY HAD TIES TO THE REFORMATION?

So often we think of the Reformation as a European phenonenom, yet Martin Luther was in fellowship with Ethiopean cleric Michael the Deacon. He discovered his readings of grace in scripture were already present in the Ethiopean Church. This ancient church outside the papacy, was already communing in both kinds, worshiping in the vernacular, clergy could marry and so forth. This morning, welcoming Dr. Gudeta with us, we celebrate all these possible links of Ethiopian Christianity as a forerunner to the Reformation.

WE ALSO WELCOME HOME today Pastor Elizabeth Platz, a treasure of our Saint Luke community. Pastor Platz now resides in Northeast Ohio but thanks to technology can still serve as our teaching pastor as she is able. Most know that Pastor, in 1970, was the first Lutheran woman to be ordained in North America. We welcome back Pastor Rosario Hernandez, our former associate pastor and pastor of La Sagrada Familia. Pastor Hernandez was very instrumental in the formation of the Latino Ministry and birth of La Sagrada Familia. She continues to be a faithful Saint Luke member while living in her home in Mexico. We also extend a warm welcome to Pastor Franklin Morales, former associate pastor and pastor of La Sagrada Familia. Pastor is now the Canon Missioner for Latino and Hispanic Ministry in the Eposcopal Diocese of North Carolina. How blessed we are to have these wonderful leaders continue to be part of the Saint Luke family!

Today, October 27

Its An Oktoberfest

Following Worship in the Great Hall

Live German Band
Delicious Food
Bounce House
and More!

Reminder Next Sunday All Saints Sunday

On All Saints' Sunday, November 3, Saint Luke will remember those Saint Luke members who have died since last All Saints' Day. Their names will be read and a handbell tolled. This will happen just before the people of God approach the table for Holy Communion. We give thanks for these saints who dine at the feast table that knows no end.

Susan Margaret Paape
Esther Weber
Mirl ("Ray") Bendt
Alison ("Ali") Kelley Bliss
George ("Bill") Stecklein
Carolyn Larson

All will be invited to light a candle on their way back from the table, remembering a loved one who now rests with God.

COMMEMORATIONS:

Monday, October 28 – Simon and Jude, Apostles: We know little about these apostles. Simon is listed as "the zealot" or Cananean in New Testament lists. Jude, also called Thaddeus, asked Jesus at the last supper why he had revealed himself to the disciples but not to the world.

Thursday, October 31 – Reformation Day: By the end of the seventeenth century, many Lutheran churches celebrated a festival commemorating Martin Luther's posting of the Ninety-five Theses, a summary of abuses in the church of his time. At the heart of the reform movement was the gospel, the good news that it is by grace through faith that we are justified and set free.

Friday, November 1 – All Saints Day: The custom of commemorating all of the saints of the church on a single day goes back at least to the third century. All Saints Day celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who make up the body of Christ. On this day or the following Sunday, many congregations will remember the faithful who have died during the past year.

THIS WEEK AT SAINT LUKE

SUNDAY, October 27 - Reformation

Sunday

8:30am Tech Rehearsal 9:00am Schola Cantorum **10:00am Worship (Hybrid)**

11:00am Oktoberfest

5:00pm AA

MONDAY, October 28

9:00am CDS Classes1:30pm CDS Aftercare

TUESDAY, October 29

9:00am CDS Classes 1:30pm CDS Aftercare

1:30pm Program Staff Meeting

7:00pm Reformation Bells

WEDNESDAY, October 30

7:00am Zoom Faith Connections

9:00am CDS Classes 9:15am CDS Chapel

10:00am Women in Community

1:30pm CDS Aftercare

5:30pm Trunk or Treat

7:30pm Schola Cantorum

7:30 pm AA

THURSDAY, October 31

Reformation Day

9:00am CDS Classes 1:30pm CDS Aftercare

7:30pm Centering Prayer (Zoom)

8:30pm AA

FRIDAY, November 1

All Saints Day

9:00am CDS Classes

SATURDAY, November 2

9:30am AA

11:00am Al-Anon

SUNDAY, November 3 – All Saints

Sunday

7:30am Tech Rehearsal 8:00am Schola Cantorum

8:45am Worship (Hybrid)

10:00am Up for Discussion (Hybrid)

10:00am First Holy Communion Workshop

10:00am Sunday School

10:00am Affirmation of Baptism Class

5:00pm Misa Español

5:00pm AA

6:00pm Reception