



MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran Church -
Missouri Synod

1308 Whitley Rd.
Keller, TX 76248

Sunday School &
Adult Bible Class
9:30 am

Sunday Worship
8:00 am, 10:45 am



CHURCH OFFICE
(817) 431-2345

Rev. Thomas Chryst
Senior Pastor

Rev. Brennick Christiansen
Assistant Pastor

CLASSICAL ACADEMY
(817) 431-5486

www.messiahkeller.org

www.mlcatexas.org



*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.”*

Revelation 14:6-7

For Our Visitors....



Welcome! We encourage you to follow along with either the printed service or the hymnal. The hymnal page numbers are posted at the front of the sanctuary. We realize it can take a while for newcomers to become familiar with our liturgy, so please feel free to ask someone near you for assistance—he or she would be happy to help.

We love children in our church! But if your little one gets fussy, you may use the cry room that is located at the north end of the hallway behind the sanctuary on your right. You can see and hear the worship service from there.

We celebrate the Lord's Supper in our services today. In this supper, our Lord Jesus Christ graciously feeds the humble sinner with His true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. Scripture clearly teaches that anyone who eats and drinks the body and blood of Christ without discerning that body and blood receives a judgment rather than a blessing from God (1 Cor. 11:29). Therefore, out of a Christian concern for souls, we require a thorough instruction in the teachings of the Lutheran Church before participating in this Sacrament. Participation at the altar is also a testimony of unity of faith with all others who partake (1 Cor. 10:17). Since unity at the altar presupposes unity in doctrine and confession (Acts 2:42), we kindly request that only those who are in confessional fellowship with the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod participate. This includes active members in good standing of all sister Missouri Synod congregations.



We recognize that Closed Communion is a sensitive issue for many, and we have a brochure that explains it in more detail. It is available in the narthex or from an usher. If you have questions or concerns, please speak with our pastor. However, we welcome both children and adults who are not communicant members of the Lutheran Church to come to the altar during communion for a pastoral blessing. Please indicate the request for a blessing by crossing your arms over your chest.



Follow the QR code to visit our "Virtual Guestbook" and tell us about yourself and your visit with us.

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH



Blessed Reformation Day!

Today's service is a special occasion, and one of the most important celebrations of the year for Lutherans. Today we commemorate the events of the 16th century that led to the Reformation and the beginning of the Lutheran church! It was on October 31, 1517, that Martin Luther nailed his Ninety-five Theses to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg. This set in motion a series of events that led to a rediscovery of the Gospel and the reforming of the church so that grace, mercy, and forgiveness would be proclaimed as the free gift of God to all people. Today's service will be marked by music written by Martin Luther himself, including his settings of the songs from the communion rite when he first adapted it to the language of the people. The entire service is printed here in this bulletin. May our celebration together proclaim with joyfulness the goodness of God in sending his Son to bear our sin and be our Savior!

✠ SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE TODAY ✠

	8:00AM	10:45AM
ORGANIST	Josh Hatch	Josh Hatch
ALTAR GUILD	Linda Beecroft Nikki O'Dell Carrie Ratsch	Linda Beecroft Nikki O'Dell Carrie Ratsch
HEAD ELDER	Luis Munoz	Dale Addink
HEAD USHER	Chris Nietenhoefer	Paul Cigainero
ACOLYTE		Silas Christiansen
CRUCIFER	Nathan Munoz	Christian Hernandez
COUNTERS	Cathy Keto	Cathy Keto

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

Sunday	10/25	8:00 AM 9:30 AM 10:45 AM 12:00 PM	Divine Service – Live Streaming Sunday School – Live Streaming Divine Service Voters' Meeting – Fellowship Hall
Monday	10/26	6:00 PM	Ladies' Bible Study – Reception Room
Tuesday	10/27	9:30 AM 6:00 PM	JOY Group Bible Study – Fellowship Hall Board of Christian Education – Reception Room
Wednesday	10/28		
Thursday	10/29	6:00 PM	Pastor's Class – Reception Room
Friday	10/30		
Saturday	10/31		

The flowers that adorn the altar this morning are given to the glory of God and in celebration of Reformation Day.

Please keep in your prayers...

We continue to pray for our members and loved ones battling cancer: Rob Bentley, Rev. Ernie Bernet, Ken & Carolyn Blume, John DiCesare, Mandy Demick, Randy Gay, Sarah Jarrett, Wayne Kirkland, Denny Knutson, Linda Pancake, Janie Peter, Tim Speight, Gaelina Strader, Mike Vandergriff.

...also those with other illnesses and trials: Delia Baker, Natalia Boniek, Sharon Boniek, Jacob Brewer, Alli Burk, Brian Cade's mother, Abby Carpenter, Carole Cohen, Marilyn Curry, Marlene Eaton, Family of Dan Gholston, LaVina Goedecke, Adam Greer, David Gruben, Michael Hanson, Matt Hinde, Rose Hughes, William Johnstone, Dennis Kitzman, Aaron Koppelberger, Vicky Krolczyk, Brooke Lage, Bruce Lage, Chelsea Lage, Wes Liles, The Lewis family, The Lowry Family, Amy Lyon, Family of Bob Martin, Lee Masoian, Nikki McLeroy, Sandy McDougal, Family of Keith Leicht, Louise Nelson (daughter of Marilyn Kivett), Shelby Renfro, Todd Ramage, Connie Wesley Ramsey, Grant Smith, Patsy Smith, Terry Swender, Cheryl Traub, Tim Tomlinson, Peggy Wahlstedt, Wendell Wahlstedt, Jeff Wilson.

...and those who are unable to worship with us regularly: Carolyn Blume, Ron and Barbara Busse, Don & Marilyn Curry, Susan Gruben, Ronald and Brenda Patterson, Marvin Wilken.

...all of our college students in and out of state: Ashley Brewer, Jacob Brewer, Colby Carter, Seminarian David Christensen, Morgan Chryst, Maranda Crutchfield, Dorian Crutchfield, Ellie Johnson, Ethan Johnson, Erin O'Dell, Camilea O'Neill, Clara O'Neill, Danielle Osorio, Matthew Palmer, Felix Ping, Ethan Salgado, Mia Salgado, Max Tonniges, Charlie Umayam, Audrey Weber, Emily Weber.

We remember all those serving our country, particularly our members and loved ones in the military: Jesus Aranda, Tony Bourassa, Tyler Burk, David Cantrell, Cassie Gessling, Hannah Kajer, Joseph Kajer, Seth Kirch, Andrew Latham, Andrew Lowry, Hannah Pinkston, Carly Schwarzenburg, Brandon Towers, Nicolas Towers, Frank Wilde, Chaplain Peter J. Williams.

We also pray for...

- Our Braille ministry, that the Word will continue to reach the blind or visually impaired around the world.
- Messiah's educational ministry, especially our Academy, Preschool, Sunday School, and our Catechumens.
- Fellow Messiah members, married couples and children, young couples, singles, Pastor Chryst, and Pastor Christiansen.
- The voters, church council, and leaders of Messiah Church and School as they deliberate on the work the Lord has given His people to do.
- Our brothers and sisters in Christ around the world being persecuted for their faith.
- The spread of the Gospel around our nation and world and the work of our missionaries and relief workers.
- Rev. Dr. Michael Paul and his work in Taiwan.
- The Swaddling Clothes ministry and those who come seeking assistance.
- Those studying at seminary, including James Buhler (1st Year), Vicar Abram Egger, and Vicar Peter Williams, as they prepare to serve in the Holy Ministry.
- Prayers for peace in the Middle East and Ukraine.



A Life Thought in the Church Year for October 25 – Reformation Day: Our freedom from slavery to sin comes through the Son of God being nailed to a tree (John 8). The righteousness of God has come to us by faith. This sets us free from sin and also sets us free to love God and love our neighbors. The life we have from God, we live for the benefit of others (Romans 3). In so doing, we give glory to God for all that He has done for us (Revelation 14).



LCMS National Mission – Reformation Day – John 8:36 – “So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.” Today we celebrate Reformation Day. Luther is rightly remembered as a champion of the Gospel – but he also called himself “the apostle of good works.” For only by being set free by the Gospel can we do good works. Jesus has set us free. His blood covers our sins, and now we stand before God as His beloved children, invited to live our lives to His glory for the good of His kingdom.



PATHS TO LUTHERANISM SERIES... Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. You can listen to stories of guests who have come to Lutheranism from Islam, Mormonism, Atheism, Agnosticism, Eastern Orthodoxy, Roman Catholicism, Pentecostalism and more. You'll find the series at issuesetc.org/pathstolutheranism.



QUARTERLY VOTERS' MEETING is today, in the Fellowship Hall, immediately following the 10:45 am service. Please plan to attend!



Angel Tree 2026 is coming soon! Angel Tree provides Christmas gifts to strengthen relationships between incarcerated parents and their children by sponsoring gifts for the children. Angel Tags will soon be available. After you receive a tag, simply purchase a gift under \$25, wrap it, and place it under the Christmas tree in the Narthex. Check next week's Look Ahead and bulletin for important dates and deadlines.



On The Line (OTL) is a podcast featuring interviews with leading experts in theology, culture, and the Christian faith, and offering confessional Lutheran insights. This past week, host **Rev. Bryan Stecker** was joined by **Rev. Brian Wolfmueller, Pastor of St. Paul Lutheran and Jesus Deaf Lutheran churches in Austin, TX**, to discuss the Holy Spirit, Christian assurance, and the challenges facing modern Lutheranism, exploring the dangers of false teaching, the importance of Christian vocation, and how the Holy Spirit brings comfort, courage, and confidence in Christ. Please use the QR Code on the left to hear the latest episode.



BULLETIN PRAYER LIST UPDATES – We need your help to keep the prayer sections in the bulletin up to date!

COLLEGE STUDENTS – if you have a **new college student** this year, please let us know so we may add them to that section of the bulletin. Likewise, if you have a student **who recently graduated**, please let us know so we can remove them from that section of the bulletin.

ILLNESS AND OTHER REQUESTS – if you or a friend or loved one have been on the prayer list but are now doing better, please let us know that, as well, so we may remove those names from the bulletin.

Email churchoffice@messiahkeller.org, or call the church office at **817.431.2345** with prayer requests or updates.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY: 8:00 am: **94** 10:45 am: **101** (Total: **195**) Sunday School: **89**

OFFERINGS FOR THE WEEK: **\$24,488.90** (Plate and Online Giving to General Fund – all services)

OFFERINGS NEEDED EACH WEEK TO FUND CURRENT YEAR BUDGET: **\$18,317.25**

OFFERINGS REQUIRED THROUGH 09/30/26 (13 SUNDAYS): **\$238,124**

OFFERINGS RECEIVED THROUGH 09/30/26 (13 SUNDAYS): **\$165,419**

NOTE: MLC's current budgeting philosophy is that only offerings are counted as revenues in the annual budget plan; therefore, the Offerings Needed Each Week To Fund Current Year Budget is the amount in offerings that is required each Sunday during the fiscal year to fully fund the church. The actual number of offerings required is less due to other revenues that the church receives during the year; however, these additional revenues do not represent a material amount.

Reformation Day
(Observed)
October 25, 2026
Based on Luther's German Mass
Divine Service Setting Five—LSB 213

Prelude

Stand

Opening Hymn 656 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Choir only, stanza 3



1 A might - y for - tress is our God,
2 With might of ours can naught be done,
3 Though dev - ils all the world should fill,
4 The Word they still shall let re - main



A trust - y shield and weap - on;
Soon were our loss ef - fect ed;
All ea - ger to de - vour us,
Nor an - y thanks have for it;



He helps us free from ev - 'ry need
But for us fights the val - iant One,
We trem - ble not, the we fear no ill;
He's by our side up - on the plain



That hath us now o'er - tak - en.
Whom God Him - self e - lect ed.
They shall not o - ver - pow'r us.
With His good gifts and Spir - it.

The old e - vil foe Now means
 Ask ye, Who is this? Je - sus
 This world's prince may still Scowl fierce
 And take they our life, Goods, fame,
 dead - ly woe; Deep guile and great might
 Christ it is, Of Sab - a - oth Lord,
 as he will, He can harm us none.
 child, and wife, Though these all be gone,
 Are his dread arms in fight; On earth
 And there's none oth - er God; He holds
 He's judged; the deed is done; One lit -
 Our vic - t'ry has been won; The King -
 is not his e - qual.
 the field for - ev - er.
 tle word can fell him.
 dom ours re - main eth.

Text: tr. Composite Text and tune: Martin Luther, 1483–1546 Text and tune: Public domain



Confession and Absolution

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

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

[Hebrews 10:22]

P Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C Who made heaven and earth.

[Psalm 124:8]

P I said, I will confess my transgression unto the Lord.

C And you forgave the iniquity of my sins.

[Psalm 32:5]

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

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 34:1–2, 11, 22; antiphon: Psalm 119:46



I will speak of your testimonies before kings, | [O Lord,]*
and shall not be | put to shame.

I will bless the Lord at | all times;*
his praise shall continually be | in my mouth.

My soul makes its boast | in the Lord;*
let the humble hear | and be glad.

Come, O children, lis- | ten to me;*
I will teach you the fear | of the Lord.

The Lord redeems the life of his | servants;*
none of those who take refuge in him will | be condemned.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will speak of your testimonies before kings, | [O Lord,]*
and shall not be | put to shame.

942 Kyrie! God, Father



Ky-ri - e! God, Fa-ther in heav'n a-bove, You a-bound in gra-cious love,
Of all things the mak-er and pre-serv - er. E - le - i-son! E - le - i - son!
Ky-ri - e! O Christ, our king, Sal-va - tion for all You came to bring.
O Lord Je-sus, God's own Son, Our me-di - a-tor at the heav'n-ly throne:
Hear our cry and grant our sup-pli-ca - tion. E - le - i-son! E - le - i - son!
Ky - ri - e! O God the Ho - ly Ghost, Guard our faith, the
gift we need the most, And bless our life's last hour, That we leave this
sin-ful world with glad - ness. E - le - i-son! E - le - i - son!

Text: German version, Ordnung der ceremonien, 1537/38, Naumburg; tr. W. Gustave Polack, 1890–1950, alt. Text and tune: Latin, 9th cent.

Tune: adapt. Kirchen ampt Deutsch, 1525, Erfurt Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005149
Tune: Public domain

Gloria in Excelsis 947 All Glory Be to God on High

Choir only, Stanza 3



1 All glo - ry be to God on high And thanks for all His
 2 We praise and laud and wor - ship You; We give You thanks for
 3 O Je - sus Christ, the on - ly Son Be - got - ten of the
 4 O Ho - ly Spir - it, our de - light And source of con - so -

fa - vor; No harm can touch or ter - ri - fy A
 ev - er, O Fa - ther, for Your rule is true And
 Fa - ther, Your sav - ing death has made us one With
 la - tion, Pro - tect us from the dev - il's might Throug

child of God for - ev - er. God shows His good and
 just and chang - es nev - er. With bound - less pow'r, Your
 God and with each oth - er. O Lamb of God, to
 Je - sus, our sal - va - tion, Who by His death up -

gra - cious will And grants His peace, the world to fill—
 might - y reign Ful - fills what - ev - er You or - dain.
 You on high In our dis - tress we sin - ners cry,
 on a tree Has res - cued us from mis - er - y:

All strife at last has end - ed.
 Lord, grant us ev - 'ry bless - ing!
 Have mer - cy on us, a - men!
 To this we hold for - ev - er.

Text: Nicolaus Decius, c. 1485–after 1546; tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006 Tune: attr. Nicolaus Decius, c. 1485–after 1546

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Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

G 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.

G Amen.

Sit

Anthem: “Grant Us Thy Peace,” by Felix Mendelssohn

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

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual *sung by everyone*

Psalm 48:1a, 12–14a



Great is the Lord and greatly | to be praised*
in the city | of our God!

Walk about Zion, go around her, number her | towers,*
consider well her ramparts, go through her | citadels,
that you may tell the next gener- | ation*
that this is God, our God forever and | ever.

Epistle

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. 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.

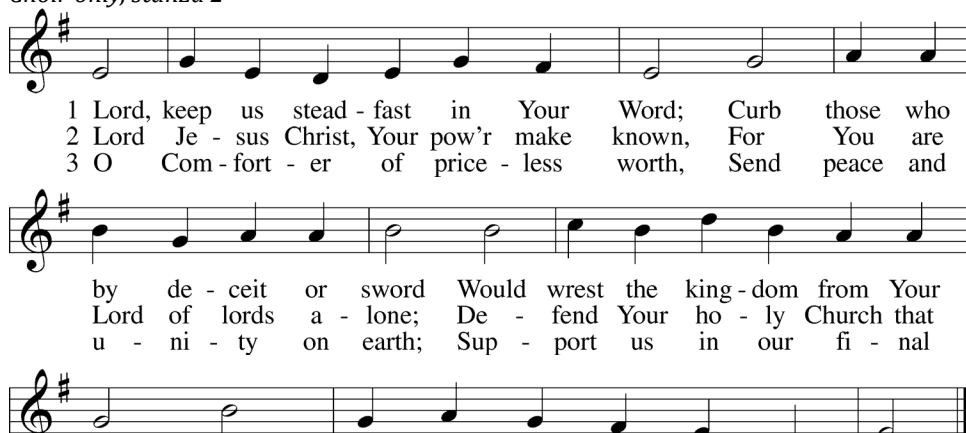
²⁷Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Hymn of the Day 655 Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

Choir only, stanza 2



1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in Your Word; Curb those who
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, Your pow'r make known, For You are
3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, Send peace and

by de - ceit or sword Would wrest the king - dom from Your
Lord of lords a - lone; De - fend Your ho - ly Church that
u - ni - ty on earth; Sup - port us in our fi - nal

Son And bring to naught all He has done.
we May sing Your praise e - ter - nal - ly.
strife And lead us out of death to life.

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

Tune: Geistliche Lieder auff's new gebessert, 1543, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug

Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Holy Gospel

John 8:31–36

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

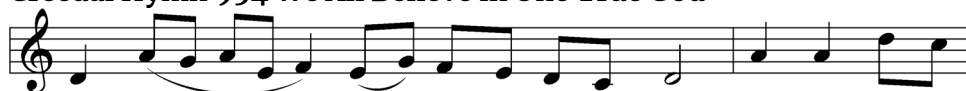
³¹So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” ³³They answered him, “We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, ‘You will become 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.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Creedal Hymn 954 We All Believe in One True God



1 We all be - lieve in one true God, Who cre - at - ed
 2 We all be - lieve in Je - sus Christ, His own Son, our
 3 We all con - fess the Ho - ly Ghost, Who, in high - est



earth and heav - en, The Fa - ther, who to us in love
 Lord, pos - sess - ing An e - qual God - head, throne, and might,
 heav - en dwell - ing With God the Fa - ther and the Son,



Has the right of chil - dren giv - en. He in soul and
 Source of ev - 'ry grace and bless - ing; Born of Mar - y,
 Com - forts us be - yond all tell - ing; Who the Church, His



bod - y feeds us; All we need His hand pro - vides us;
 vir - gin moth - er, By the pow - er of the Spir - it,
 own cre - a - tion, Keeps in u - ni - ty of spir - it.



Through all snares and per - ils leads us, Watch - ing that no
 Word made flesh, our el - der broth - er; That the lost might
 Here for - give - ness and sal - va - tion Dai - ly come through



harm be - tide us. He cares for us by
 life in - her - it, Was cru - ci - fied for and
 Je - sus' mer - it. All flesh shall rise, and



day and night; All things are gov - erned by His might.
 all our sin And raised by God to life a - gain.
 we shall be In bliss with God e - ter - nal - ly.



A - men, a - men. A - men.

Sit

Sermon

Stand

Prayer of the Church

P Friends in Christ, I urge you all to lift up your hearts to God and pray with me as Christ our Lord has taught us and freely promised to hear us.

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 [name(s)] 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.

Reception of the Offering

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]

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.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to 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. Grant us Your Spirit, gracious Father, that we may give heed to the testament of Your Son in true faith and, above all, firmly take to heart the words with which Christ gives to us His body and blood for our forgiveness. By Your grace, lead us to remember and give thanks for the boundless love which He manifested to us when, by pouring out His precious blood, He saved us from Your righteous wrath and from sin, death, and hell. Grant that we may receive the bread and wine, that is, His body and blood, as a gift, guarantee, and pledge of His salvation. 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.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

C 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

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 ✠ 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."

960 Isaiah, Mighty Seer in Days of Old

The musical score is written on ten staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below each staff. The lyrics are: I - sa-iah, might-y seer in days of old, The Lord of all in spir-it
did be-hold High on a loft-y throne, in splen-dor bright, With robes that
filled the tem-ple courts with light. A-bove the throne were flam-ing ser-a-phim;
Six wings had they, these mes-sen-gers of Him. With two they veiled their
fac-es as was right, With two they hum-bly hid their feet from sight,
And with the oth-er two a-loft they soared; One to the oth-er
called and praised the Lord: "Ho-ly is God, the Lord of Sab-a-oth!
Ho-ly is God, the Lord of Sab-a-oth! Ho-ly is God, the Lord of
Sab-a-oth! His glo-ry fills the heav-ens and the earth!" The beams and lin-tels
trem-bled at the cry, And clouds of smoke en-wrapped the throne on high.

Text: tr, The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.
Text and tune: Martin Luther, 1483–1546
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Pax Domini

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the
world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that
tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the
world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Sit



Distribution

555 Salvation unto Us Has Come

1 Sal - va - tion un - to us has come By God's free grace and
 2 What God did in His Law de - mand And none to Him could
 3 It was a false, mis - lead - ing dream That God His Law had
 4 From sin our flesh could not ab - stain, Sin held its sway un -
 fa - vor; Good works can - not a - vert our doom, They
 ren - der Caused wrath and woe on ev - 'ry hand For
 giv - en That sin - ners could them - selves re - deem And
 ceas - ing; The task was use - less and in vain, Our
 help and save us nev - er. Faith looks to Je - sus
 man, the vile of - fend - er. Our flesh has not those
 by their works gain heav - en. The Law is but a
 guilt was e'er in - creas - ing. None can re - move sin's
 Christ a - lone, Who did for all the
 pure de - sires The spir - it of the
 mir - ror bright To bring the in - bred
 poi - soned dart Or pu - ri - fy our
 world a - tone; He is our one Re - deem - er.
 Law re - quires, And lost is our con - di - tion.
 sin to light That lurks with - in our na - ture.
 guile - ful heart— So deep is our cor - rup - tion.

5 Yet as the Law must be fulfilled
 Or we must die despairing,
 Christ came and has God's anger stilled,
 Our human nature sharing.
 He has for us the Law obeyed
 And thus the Father's vengeance stayed
 Which over us impended.

6 Since Christ has full atonement made
 And brought to us salvation,
 Each Christian therefore may be glad
 And build on this foundation.
 Your grace alone, dear Lord, I plead,
 Your death is now my life indeed,
 For You have paid my ransom.

7 Let me not doubt, but truly see
Your Word cannot be broken;
Your call rings out, "Come unto Me!"
No falsehood have You spoken.
Baptized into Your precious name,
My faith cannot be put to shame,
And I shall never perish.

8 The Law reveals the guilt of sin
And makes us conscience-stricken;
But then the Gospel enters in
The sinful soul to quicken.
Come to the cross, trust Christ, and live;
The Law no peace can ever give,
No comfort and no blessing.

9 Faith clings to Jesus' cross alone
And rests in Him unceasing;
And by its fruits true faith is known,
With love and hope increasing.
For faith alone can justify;
Works serve our neighbor and supply
The proof that faith is living.

△10 All blessing, honor, thanks, and praise
To Father, Son, and Spirit,
The God who saved us by His grace;
All glory to His merit.
O triune God in heav'n above,
You have revealed Your saving love;
Your blessed name we hallow.

Text: Paul Speratus, 1484–1551; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt. Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, 1524, Wittenberg Text and tune: Public domain



582 God's Word Is Our Great Heritage

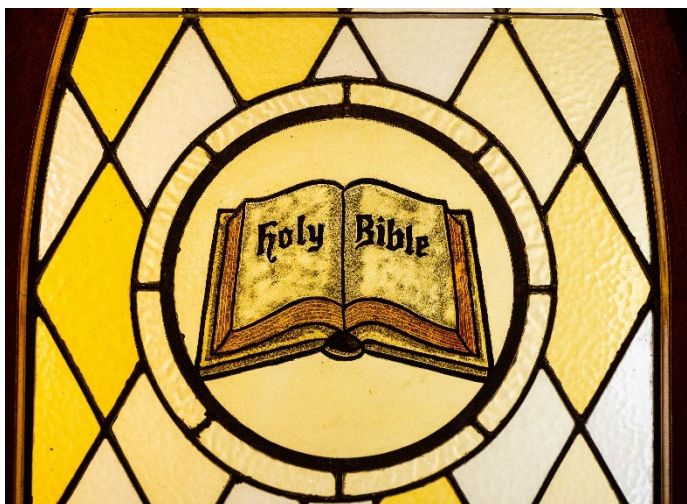
God's Word is our great her - i - tage And shall be ours for -
ev - er; To spread its light from age to age Shall be our
chief en - deav - or. Through life it guides our way, In death it
is our stay. Lord, grant, while worlds en - dure, We keep its
teach - ings pure Through - out all gen - er - a - tions.

Text: Nikolai Fredrik Severin Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Ole G. Belsheim, 1861–1925, alt.

Tune: Friedrich O. Reuter, 1863–1924

Text and tune: Public domain

Stand



938 In Peace and Joy I Now Depart



1 In peace and joy I now de-part Since God so wills it.
2 Christ Je - sus brought this gift to me, My faith - ful Sav - ior,
3 You sent the peo - ple of the earth Their great sal - va - tion;
4 Christ is the hope and sav - ing light Of those in blind - ness;



Se - rene and con - fi - dent my heart; Still - ness fills it.
Whom You have made my eyes to see By Your fa - vor.
Your in - vi - ta - tion sum - mons forth Ev - 'ry na - tion.
He guides and com - forts those in night By His kind - ness.



For the Lord has prom - ised me That death is but a slum - ber.
Now I know He is my life, My friend when I am dy - ing.
By Your ho - ly, pre - cious Word, In ev - 'ry place re - sound - ing.
For Your peo - ple Is - ra - el In Him find joy and glo - ry.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; (st. 1): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001, alt.; (sts. 2–4): tr. Christian Worship, 1993, alt.

Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524, Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter

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Text (sts. 2–4) and tune: Public domain

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus

Psalm 103:1

A Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

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 ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn 585 Lord Jesus Christ, with Us Abide



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, with us a - bidē, For round us
 2 In these last days of great dis - tress Grant us, dear
 3 To hope grown dim, to hearts turned cold Speak tongues of
 4 May glo - rious truths that we have heard, The bright sword



falls the e - ven - tide. O let Your Word,
 Lord, true stead - fast - ness That we keep pure
 fire and make us bold To shine Your Word
 of Your might - y Word, Spurn Sa - tan that



that sav - ing light, Shine forth un - dimmed in - to the night.
 till life is spent Your ho - ly Word and Sac - ra - ment.
 of sav - ing grace In - to each dark and love - less place.
 Your Church be strong, Bold, u - ni - fied in act and song.

5 Restrain, O Lord, the human pride
 That seeks to thrust Your truth aside
 Or with some man-made thoughts or things
 Would dim the words Your Spirit sings.

6 Stay with us, Lord, and keep us true;
 Preserve our faith our whole life through—
 Your Word alone our heart's defense,
 The Church's glorious confidence.

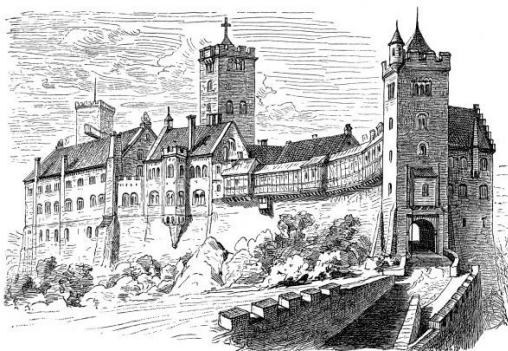
Text: tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001, alt.; (st. 1): Philipp Melancthon, 1497–1560; (st. 1): German version Geistliche Psalmen, 1611, Nuremberg; (sts. 2–6): Nicolaus Selnecker, 1532–92 Tune: Geistliche Lieder D. Martini Lutheri, 1589, Leipzig Text: © 1982 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005149 Tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Five from Lutheran Service Book

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Wartburg Castle towers over the German town of Eisenach. This palace was developed during the 1060s. Martin Luther would have seen this grand castle perched atop the hill as a student in Eisenach, and he might have even ventured up there from time to time. Luther also lived in Wartburg from May 1521 through March 1522.

You recall the events of April 1521. That month, Luther delivered his well-known "Here I Stand" address at the Diet at Worms. Emperor Charles V then issued the "Edict of Worms", condemning Luther as a heretic. As Luther hurriedly left Worms

and traveled back to Wittenberg, the Saxon prince, Duke Frederick the Wise, arranged for him to be "kidnapped" and secretly brought to Wartburg Castle. Thus, Luther wouldn't return to Wittenberg, but at Wartburg he would be safe from the Emperor and the Pope's forces.

Luther used an assumed name while at Wartburg. He grew facial hair and attempted to camouflage himself, and he referred to himself as "Junker Jörg", or "Knight George." Luther felt isolated and alone at Wartburg. At a certain point, he wrote in a letter, "I write to you from my island of Patmos."

Luther and his time there are the subject of numerous legends. One is about the well-known inkwell. The story goes that Satan was so determined to disturb Luther that he appeared in Luther's room, and Luther snatched the inkwell off his work area and flung it at the wall, leaving an ink spot behind.

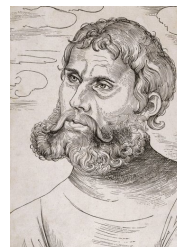
Nonetheless, Luther made good use of his time at Wartburg. Near the end of his time there, he translated the Greek New Testament into German. This was an exceptional accomplishment. In December 1521, Luther began the work, and by early January, he had prepared the four Gospels. To let Philip Melancthon and the other Wittenberg scholars evaluate his work, he copied it and sent it to them. Luther soldiered on through the rest of the New Testament, and by March 1522, when he left, he had completed the whole New Testament; it took him only about eleven weeks to translate the entire Greek text into German. That's an incredible feat. It was edited over the course of the following months, and Lucas Cranach arranged woodcuts to go with the text. The German New Testament was then prepared for publication by September 1522. It was called the "September Testament". It is one of Luther's most significant works, and the German Reformation was shaped by it.

Luther didn't stay cooped up in the castle; he would occasionally sneak out to Eisenach. The mountain can even be reached by way of a path known today as the Junker Jörg Trail.

Once Luther came down to visit a pub and had a conversation with some Swiss students. They were extremely anxious to speak with "Junker Jörg" about Luther.

They asked this assistant, this knight, "Do you have any idea about where Martin Luther is?" Junker Jörg — Luther — answered them, "I know for sure that he isn't in Wittenberg." Then he asked, "What's all the fuss about Luther?" They added, "Oh, some bishops are calling him a great heretic." Luther replied, "Those are the papists."

As Junker Jörg got up to leave, the Swiss students saw his Hebrew Psalter and realized they had been speaking to Martin Luther all along.





REFORMATION DAY (OBSERVED)

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

Epistle: 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. 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.

Holy Gospel: John 8:31-36

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."