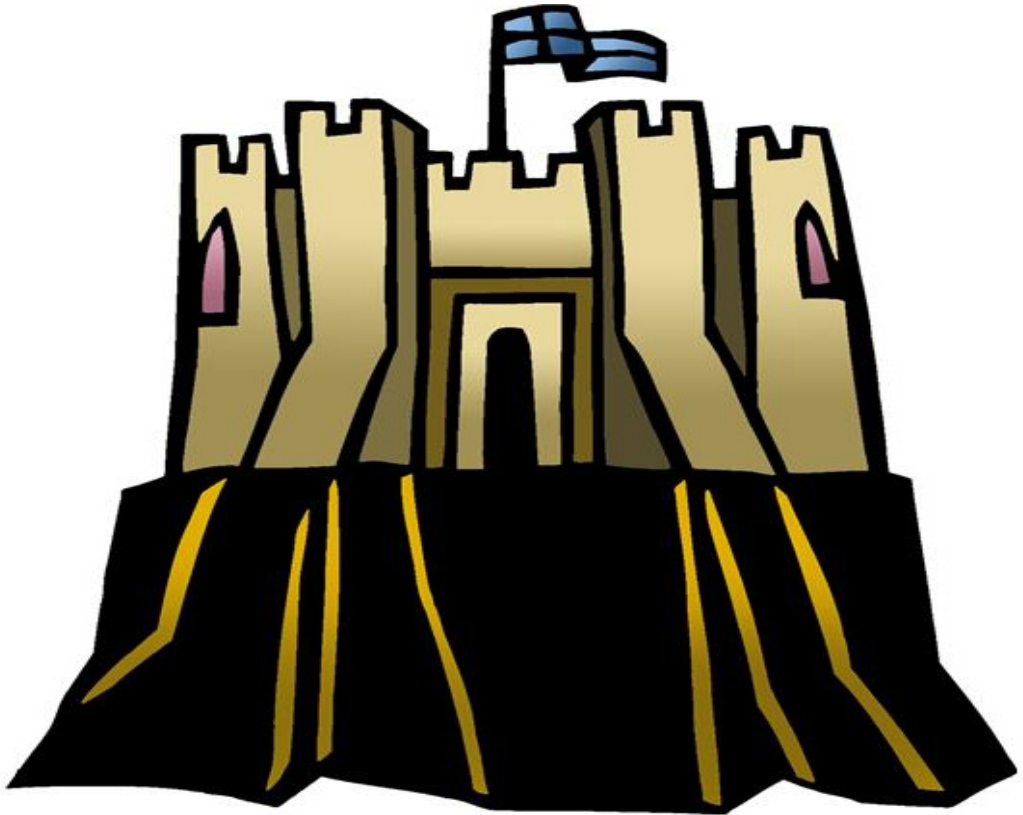


CREATED, SAVED AND GIFTED BY GOD,
WE SEEK, SERVE AND SHARE JESUS CHRIST.



REFORMATION SUNDAY

OCTOBER 27, 2024 - 10:30 AM

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
901 EAST STROOP ROAD
KETTERING, OH 45429-4688
(937) 298-0136

REFORMATION SUNDAY

Introduction

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.

You Are Truly Free

"But we have never been slaves to anyone," the crowd tells Jesus after he proclaims his message of freedom. One wonders why it was so difficult for them to comprehend the offer he was talking about, given the Roman occupiers who controlled much of their lives. Then again, many of us also find it hard to relate to the need for freedom from captivity, so certain are we that we are fully free. If we were honest, we'd recognize the many things that hold our focus and stop us from experiencing life to its fullest: news headlines, health concerns, our jobs, economic and social structures that bind us all.

Jesus' proclamation to this crowd reminds us that there will always be things vying for control of our lives, but the gospel invites us to center ourselves instead in Jesus, the truth who sets us free. In Christ, we are complete—not because of anything we do or own, but because of who God is and what God has done for us. In the waters of baptism, we are proclaimed children of God, and nothing will ever change this. In Christ, we are freed from all that holds us captive, so we can lean into God's abundance for us.

As we celebrate Reformation, we remember Martin Luther, a Catholic monk who was tormented by his own unworthiness before God. He was convinced he was not good enough. Then Luther discovered through the book of Romans that grace cannot be bought or earned; it is a pure gift to us, and this changed everything.

Since there is nothing we need to do to earn God's love and acceptance, our lives are open to endless possibilities. How can we embrace the freedom God gives us? What can we do with this gift to bring peace and justice a little closer for our neighbors? What do you want to do—now that you don't have to do anything?

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pr. Mary Ann Siefke

CALL TO WORSHIP

In Christ Alone

(Verse 1)

In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease.
My Comforter, my All in All,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

(Verse 2)

In Christ alone who took on flesh:
Fullness of God in helpless Babe.
This gift of love and righteousness:
Scorned by the ones he came to save
Till on that cross, as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied.
For every sin on him was laid;
Here in the death of Christ I live.

(Verse 3)

There in the ground his body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain.
Then, bursting forth in glorious day,
Up from the grave he rose again!
And as he stands in victory,
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
For I am his and he is mine,
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

(Verse 4)

No guilt in life, no fear in death:
This is the power of Christ in me.
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from his hand
Till He returns or calls me home,
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

OPENING LITANY

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be his 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 Father of all.

Blessed be God who sustains and protects his Holy Church.
And blessed be God, who guides and confirms us in our Faith.
Amen. Hallelujah!

** GATHERING SONGS

A Mighty Fortress (ELW 504)

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat -'ning to de -
4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who

to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
your us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with

The musical score consists of three systems. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The first system contains the first four lines of lyrics. The second system contains the next four lines of lyrics. The third system contains the final four lines of lyrics. The music is in 3/4 time and features a key signature of one sharp (F#).

wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
 God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
 weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,

has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
 in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
 goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,

he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
 they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)

(Verse 1 - Music Ministers)

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now I'm found;
Was blind, but now I see.

(Verse 2 - All)

**'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed.**

(Refrain - All)

**My chains are gone, I've been set free.
My God, my Savior has ransomed me,
And like a flood his mercy rains,
Unending love, amazing grace.**

(Verse 3 - All)

**The Lord has promised good to me.
His word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.**

(Refrain - All)

**My chains are gone, I've been set free.
My God, my Savior has ransomed me,
And like a flood his mercy rains,
Unending love, amazing grace.**

(Verse 4 - Music Ministers)

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow,
The sun forbear to shine,
But God who called me here below
Will be forever mine,
Will be forever mine.
You are forever mine.

(Refrain - All)

**My chains are gone, I've been set free.
My God, my Savior has ransomed me,
And like a flood his mercy rains,
Unending love, amazing grace.**

**My chains are gone, I've been set free.
My God, my Savior has ransomed me,
And like a flood his mercy rains,
Unending love, amazing grace.**

CONFESSION

Brothers and sisters, let us put aside our good works and call to mind the times we have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.

(brief silence)

Lord of all, the demands of your righteousness are too hard for us to fulfill alone. In our selfishness, we turn away from your example of love, and ignore the suffering of those around us. We come to you once more to drink from your fountain of healing and forgiveness. You give us the gift of grace in the healing sacrifice of your Son. Open our eyes to the power of your love and faithfulness. Forgive us again and again for the sin we commit, and bring us ever back to you. Write your law of love on our hearts, so we may have oneness with you, the Father of all mercies. Amen.

FORGIVENESS

God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

WORD

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

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.

A reading from the book of Jeremiah.

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.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalms 46

The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold. (Ps. 46:7)

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

**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**

though its waters | rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

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

God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;
God shall help it at the break of day.

**The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth melts away.**

The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

**Come now, regard the works of the LORD,
what desolations God has brought upon the earth;**

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.

**“Be still, then, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”**

The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

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.

A reading from the book of Romans.

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.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

**** GOSPEL**

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 John. **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.”

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

YOUTH MESSAGE

MESSAGE

Pr. Mary Ann Siefke

** APOSTLES' CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended into hell.
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.

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.

INSTALLATION OF LEADERS IN THE CONGREGATION

The following members have been selected to serve as leaders of this congregation. We give thanks for their willingness to serve. In baptism we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God; we rejoice now that these sisters and brothers will lead us in our common life and our mutual mission as a congregation.

The offices and names of those who are to be installed are read by a representative of the congregation.

The following people have been appointed by the pastor and approved by the Council to lead the ministries of this congregation:

Sandy Rosholt - Communication and Public Relations Commission
Jim Kempf - Financial and Administrative Resources Commission
Wayne Weyhrauch and Chris Connelly - Property and Facilities Commission
Lisa Connelly - Witness and Outreach Commission
Duane Tackis and Ed Thieman - Worship Commission

The following person has been approved by the Council to serve as Treasurer:

June Newell

The following people have been elected by the congregation to serve on the Congregation Council.

Judy Treadway - President
Mary Pierce - Vice President
Kathy Seim - Secretary
John Crouch
Wayne Rosholt
Paula Bennett
Holly Selanders

The presiding minister addresses those being installed.

A reading from First Corinthians: There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. (1 Corinthians 12:4-7)

The presiding minister continues.

You have been elected to positions of leadership and trust in this congregation.

You are to see that the words and deeds of this household of faith bear witness to God, who gathers us into one together with the whole church.

You are to seek to involve all members of this congregation in worship, learning, witness, service, and support, so that the mission of Christ is carried out in this congregation, in this community, in the wider church, and in the whole world.

You are to be faithful in your specific area of serving, that the Spirit who empowers you may be glorified.

You are to be examples of faith active in love, fostering peace, harmony, and mutual understanding in this congregation.

The presiding minister addresses those being installed.

On behalf of your sisters and brothers in Christ, I ask you:

Will you accept and faithfully carry out the duties of the offices to which you have been appointed and elected?

Response: **I will, and I ask God to help me.**

The assembly stands as they are able. Those being installed face the assembly. The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

People of God, I ask you:

Will you support these, your congregational leaders, and will you share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized?

Response: **We will, and we ask God to help us.**

Those being installed face the presiding minister, who addresses them.

I now declare you installed as officers, council members, and commissioners of this congregation.

Almighty God bless you, and direct your days and your deeds in peace, that you may be faithful servants of Christ. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

GATHERING OF GIFTS

OFFERTORY

OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Lift up your heads; **we lift them up to God.**

Lift up your voices; **we lift them up to God.**

Lift up your hearts; **we lift them up to God.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

And so we gather at the table. We come from many different places in life. And as we come together around the table we discover that our differences are not something we just tolerate, but that our differences are indeed a blessing. So come, children of God, just as you are. Wherever you are on this journey of life and faith, you are welcome here - here in this place, here in this community, here at this table. Come, children of God, come and remember. Remember the stories that Jesus' friends tell: Stories of bread broken and shared to feed a multitude; stories of gathering both enemy and friend together around a common table; stories of unlikely guests revealing the face of the sacred.

On a night of both celebration and betrayal Jesus took bread, blessed it and broke it; gave it to his disciples and said, "Take and eat, this is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." Then Jesus took the cup, blessed it, and gave it to his disciples 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."

And so we pray: Lord, bless this bread and bless this fruit of the vine. Bless all of us in our eating and drinking that our eyes might be open, and that we might recognize the risen Christ in our midst, indeed in one another .

LORD'S PRAYER

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

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus welcomes you to this table. Come, here is your God.

COMMUNION - *Receiving the Lord's Tangible Presence*

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*Each person may respond **Amen**.*

Communion Statement ~ *If you believe in your heart that Jesus Christ is your Savior and Redeemer and would like to receive Holy Communion, then come forward to receive the elements. If you would just like to come forward and receive a blessing, then you may do that also.*

NOTE: We invite everyone to come forward for Holy Communion. If you have a gluten allergy, gluten-free wafers are available upon request when receiving Communion. Also, if you prefer not to receive wine at Communion, apple juice is available upon request. For those choosing to remain in the pews, there are communion all-in-one cups containing grape juice available in the Narthex.

REFLECTION DURING COMMUNION

As we prepare to receive the sacrament today, may we quietly take this time to center ourselves on Christ, and reflect the amazing gifts of grace and forgiveness that we have been given. As we receive the body and the blood of our Lord, let us reflect upon His sacrifice. Finally, may we take this time to ask the Holy Spirit to enter our hearts, and then to work in us and through us each and every day.

**** TABLE BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ bless you and always keep you in God's grace.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

** BLESSING

God all mighty, God most merciful bless you, keep you, and give you peace. **Amen.**

** SENDING HYMN

Only a God Like You

(Verse 1 - Music Ministers)

For the praises of man
I will never ever stand;
For the kingdoms of this world
I'll never give my heart away
Or shout my praise.
My allegiance and devotion,
My heart's desire and all emotion
Go to serve the Man
Who died upon that tree.

(Refrain - Music Ministers)

Only a God like you
Could be worthy of my praise
And all my hope and faith;
To only a King of all kings
Do I bow my knee and sing,
Give my ev'rything.
Only a God like you
Could be worthy of my praise
And all my hope and faith;
To only a King of all kings
Do I bow my knee and sing,
Give my ev'rything.
To only my Maker, my Father, my Savior,
Redeemer, Restorer, Rebuilder, Rewarder -
To only a God like you
Do I give my praise.

(Verse 2 - All)

**For the praises of man
I will never ever stand;
For the kingdoms of this world
I'll never give my heart away
Or shout my praise.
My allegiance and devotion,
My heart's desire and all emotion
Go to serve the Man
Who died upon that tree.**

(Refrain - All)

Only a God like you
Could be worthy of my praise
And all my hope and faith;
To only a King of all kings
Do I bow my knee and sing,
Give my ev'rything.

Only a God like you
Could be worthy of my praise
And all my hope and faith;
To only a King of all kings
Do I bow my knee and sing,
Give my ev'rything.

To only my Maker, my Father, my Savior,
Redeemer, Restorer, Rebuilder, Rewarder -
To only a God like you
Do I give my praise.

(Verse 3 - Music Ministers)

Only the God who left his throne above,
He came to live with us,
Came to be one of us;
To only the One
Who stopped to heal that blind man,
Took the time to save that one lost lamb;
To only the King who wore that crown of thorns
So I could wear the crown of life;
And to only the One who conquered sin and death
So we could be set free,
So we could stand here and sing.

(Bridge - Music Ministers / **All**)

Only a God like you,
Only a God like you,
Only a God like you.

Only a God like you,
Only a God like you,
Only a God like you.

**Only a God like you,
Only a God like you,
Only a God like you.**

Only a God like you,
Only a God like you,
Only a God like you.

(Ending - All)

To only my Maker, my Father, my Savior,
Redeemer, Restorer, Rebuilder, Rewarder -
To only a God like you
Do I give my praise.

**** DISMISSAL**

Assistant Minister

Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

**Created, saved and gifted by God, we seek, serve and share Jesus Christ.
Hallelujah! Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

“W + 2” = Worship Plus Two

**Make a commitment to not only worship each week
but also try to find a way to serve in the congregation
and seek out a way to serve our community.**

YOU ARE NOW ENTERING THE MISSION FIELD

Upcoming Commemorations

Simon and Jude, Apostles Monday, October 28, 2024

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.

Reformation Day Thursday, October 31, 2024

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.

All Saints Day Friday, November 1, 2024

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.

NOTES:

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