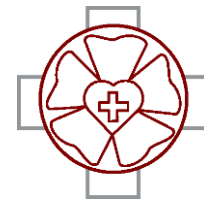




REFORMATION SUNDAY

OCTOBER 25, 2026



Pre-service Music

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship: He is Lord

St. John's Bell Choir

Confession and Absolution

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

- P** The Lord loves, cares for, and protects us. He commands his angels concerning us, to guard us in all our ways. Therefore, let us go to our God and confess our sins knowing that,
C **our God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

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

- C** **Gracious and merciful God, we confess that while we have been made new creations through the waters of our baptism, we still live ensnared by sin, and are unable to free ourselves. We have not always lived our lives in accordance with the identity that you have given us in Jesus. We have not always done the things that you have called us to do. We have not always loved you above all else and with all our hearts, souls, minds, and strength. We have not always loved our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us all our sins. Renew our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that our lives would show the identity you have given us in baptism, and the new creations that you have made us to be. Amen.**

- P** Bless the Lord! With all that is within us, let us bless His holy name. In mercy, Almighty God has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I, therefore, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit
C Amen.

Peace of the Lord

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

Service of the Word

Gathering Hymn

LSB 700 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

- 1 Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling,
All Thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, Thou art all compassion,
Pure, unbounded love Thou art;
Visit us with Thy salvation,
Enter ev'ry trembling heart.
- 2 Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit
Into ev'ry troubled breast;
Let us all in Thee inherit;
Let us find Thy promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning,
Set our hearts at liberty.
- 3 Come, Almighty, to deliver;
Let us all Thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never,
Nevermore Thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve Thee as Thy hosts above,
Pray and praise Thee without ceasing,
Glory in Thy perfect love.
- 4 Finish then Thy new creation,
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see Thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in Thee,
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heav'n we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88
Text: Public domain

Salutation and Collect of the Day

- L** The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.

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

- C** Amen.

Children's Message

The First Reading

Revelation 14:6–7

A The first reading is from the fourteenth chapter of the book of Revelation.

⁶ Then I saw another angel flying in midheaven, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who live on the earth—to every nation and tribe and language and people. ⁷ He said in a loud voice, “Fear God and give him glory, for 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.**

Psalm

Psalm 1

L Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers;

C **but their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law they meditate day and night.**

L They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.

C **The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.**

L Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

C **for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.**

L Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

C **as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Epistle

Romans 3:19–28

A The Epistle reading is from the third chapter of the book of Romans.

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 being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin. ²¹ But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²² the righteousness of God through faith in 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 show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶ it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus. ²⁷ Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸ For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

L He will command his angels concerning you

C **to guard you in all your ways.**

L Bless the Lord, O my soul,

C **and all that is within me, bless his holy name!**

Gospel Acclamation

C Halle, halle, halle_lujah!
Halle, halle, halle_lujah!
Halle, halle, halle_lujah!
Hallelujah! Halle_lujah!

Text: arr. Mark Sedio
Text: © 1995 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission: onelicense.net no. #A-724537

Verse

P Alleluia. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart
C And with all your soul and with all your mind. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

John 8:31–36

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter.
C Glory to You, O Lord.

³¹ Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” ³³ 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’?” ³⁴ Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵ The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶ So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

LSB 657 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

- 1 A mighty fortress is our God,
A sword and shield victorious;
He breaks the cruel oppressor's rod
And wins salvation glorious.
The old satanic foe
Has sworn to work us woe.
With craft and dreadful might
He arms himself to fight.
On earth he has no equal.
- 2 No strength of ours can match his might.
We would be lost, rejected.
But now a champion comes to fight,
Whom God Himself elected.
You ask who this may be?
The Lord of hosts is He,
Christ Jesus, mighty Lord,
God's only Son, adored.
He holds the field victorious.

- 3 Though hordes of devils fill the land
 All threat'ning to devour us,
 We tremble not, unmoved we stand;
 They cannot overpow'r us.
 Let this world's tyrant rage;
 In battle we'll engage.
 His might is doomed to fail;
 God's judgment must prevail!
 One little word subdues him.
- 4 God's Word forever shall abide,
 No thanks to foes, who fear it;
 For God Himself fights by our side
 With weapons of the Spirit.
 Were they to take our house,
 Goods, honor, child, or spouse,
 Though life be wrenched away,
 They cannot win the day.
 The Kingdom's ours forever!

Text: tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, 1978; Martin Luther, 1483–1546

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Blessing of New Hymnals

- P** Beloved in the Lord, Moses was commanded by the Lord to receive gifts from the people for the beautification of the sanctuary. Everyone whose heart was stirred and whose spirit was moved supplied an offering to be used to the praise and glory of the Lord.

Since the Lord has taught us in His Holy Word that everything is sanctified by the Word of God and prayer, it is fitting that we seek God's blessing on these hymnals for use in His holy house.

- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**

- P** The Lord be with you..
C **And also with you.**

- P** Let us pray.
 Almighty God, everlasting Father, You created Your people to offer thanks and praise to You. Grant Your blessing upon these copies of *Lutheran Service Book*, that they may be for us instruments of praise by which we may worthily magnify Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C **Amen.**

- P** The Lord Almighty, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless these hymnals for use in His holy Church.
C **Amen.**

Apostles' Creed

- L** We make confession of our faith together in the words of the creed.
- C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ☩ everlasting. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

- L** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.
- P** Loving and Gracious God, you have gathered us together to be your people in this world. You give us your Holy Spirit, your word, and the sacraments. Work through Your means of grace to transform our lives, so that they would always show your love and forgiveness and grace. Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**
- L** Faithful and true God, You have set us free from sin by the blood of Your Son. Grant that we would love You with all our heart, all our soul and all our mind, and that we would love our neighbor as ourselves. Give us joy and zeal for living as your disciples who join you in your work in this world. Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**
- P** God of truth, You alone test all hearts. Bless those who bear Your Gospel, that they would speak words of your love, grace, and mercy, and in a way that is pleasing to You. Preserve them from error, impunity and any attempt to deceive. Grant that those who hear them receive it as Your Word, working life and salvation in them. Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**
- L** Lord of all, Your works are beyond number. Bless parents as they recount these wondrous deeds to their children, that all may give You thanks with their whole heart. Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**
- P** God our the nations, uphold the leaders of our nation in wisdom and integrity, that we might live in peace with a good conscience. Grant that they would make salutary use of the taxes we render, and lead us to recognize them as Your instruments, honoring them as You command. Bless and protect those who serve in our military, especially those in places of danger far from home. Bless and protect those who serve here at home as firefighters, police, first-responders, EMTs, and emergency room workers. Allow justice, mercy, peace, and compassion to grow and increase in us, among us, and through us, and heal our world from the evils of injustice, prejudice, inequality, and hatred. Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**
- L** Merciful Father, You are a stronghold for the oppressed. Remember those who put their trust in You and who suffer for the sake of Jesus. Give them comfort and strength to withstand all trouble, and preserve them in the joy of Your salvation until Your deliverance comes. Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

- P** O Lord, You do not forsake those who seek You. Look with kindness on all who cry to You for help and deliverance *[especially we lift to you those we love who need your healing and care that we name before you now out loud or in our hearts _____]*. Restore them to soundness and strength according to Your will. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- L** Almighty God, You command Your people to be holy, and You make them holy in Christ. Gather us to the Holy Communion this day in humble thanksgiving, repentance and faith, that as we receive His body and blood we celebrate that it is given for us for our righteousness and salvation. Work through your means of grace to strengthen our faith and to increase our love and service to you, to one another, and to our neighbors. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** In Your faithfulness, O God, You have delivered Your saints into Your kingdom. Encourage us to walk in a manner worthy of our calling until we stand with them before Your throne. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- L** All these things and everything else for which we should ask, we pray through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

Offering

- C** **Offer, offer, offering, we give our gifts to say,
"Thank you Lord for loving us and blessing us each day."
Time to share our gifts and say,
"Thank you Lord for each new day."**

Offertory Prayer

- L** Lord of the harvest, You came into this world not to be served but in order to serve. You love, care for, and serve us in many and various way. For that, we give You our thanks and praise. You invite us to join You in the work that You are doing in our neighborhoods and around our world. Accept the offerings that we give in the various ways that we give them throughout the week, as part of our work of joining You in Your work. Increase and grow our trust in You through the giving of our offerings. Be glorified in the giving of them as we give them in thanksgiving and with gratitude for all Your blessings and gifts to us. Use them to further the work that You are doing in this place and all around our world. In Jesus' name we pray,
- C** **Amen.**

Offertory

- C** **What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?
I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.
I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.
I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,
in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.**

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

- P** The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**
P Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them to the Lord.**
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

- C** **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

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."

Proclamation of Christ

- P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

The Lord's Prayer

- P** God, remember us in your love and teach us to pray:
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.**

Pax Domini

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

Agnus Dei

- C** Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Distribution Hymn

LSB 744 Amazing Grace

- 1 Amazing grace—how sweet the sound—
 That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found,
 Was blind but now I see!
- 2 The Lord has promised good to me,
 His Word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
 As long as life endures.
- 3 Through many dangers, toils, and snares
 I have already come;
His grace has brought me safe thus far,
 His grace will lead me home.
- 4 Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail
 And mortal life shall cease,
Amazing grace shall then prevail
 In heaven's joy and peace.
- 5 When we've been there ten thousand years,
 Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
 Than when we'd first begun.

Text (sts. 1–4): John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.; (st. 5): A Collection of Sacred Ballads, 1790, Richmond
Text: Public domain

Distribution Hymn

LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

- 1 Praise the One who breaks the darkness
 With a liberating light;
Praise the One who frees the pris'ners,
 Turning blindness into sight.
Praise the One who preached the Gospel,
 Healing ev'ry dread disease,
Calming storms, and feeding thousands
 With the very Bread of peace.
- 2 Praise the One who blessed the children
 With a strong, yet gentle, word;
Praise the One who drove out demons
 With the piercing, two-edged sword.
Praise the One who brings cool water
 To the desert's burning sand;
From this Well comes living water,
 Quenching thirst in ev'ry land.

- 3 Let us praise the Word Incarnate,
Christ, who suffered in our place.
Jesus died and rose victorious
That we may know God by grace.
Let us sing for joy and gladness,
Seeing what our God has done;
Let us praise the true Redeemer,
Praise the One who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, 1955

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The Dismissal

- P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.
C Amen.

Thank the Lord

- C** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done.
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

Post-Communion Collect

- L** 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 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

- L** The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.
- L** Bless we the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.
- L** As we depart from this place, we celebrate the ways God has blessed us in this service.
We have received forgiveness of all our sins and remembered the identity given to us in our baptism.
C Our God has equipped us for life lived in His kingdom.
- L** We have heard the good news of the gospel and the word of God read and proclaimed.
C Our God has encouraged us in discipleship and following Jesus.
- L** We have received the gifts of God given in Holy Communion.
C As our God has served us, so we go from this place to be engaged in service to God, to one another and to our neighbors.
- L** As we depart from this place, we go as people who have been equipped for life, encouraged in discipleship, and who engage in service.
C We go as people who have been invited by God to join God in the work that He is doing in this place.

- P** As you go, receive the blessing of our God:
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.**

Sending Hymn

LSB ELW 574 Here I am, Lord

1 I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
My hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

Ref. Here I am, Lord.
Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord,
if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

2 I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?

3 I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
Till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?

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