

Reformation Sunday

October 26, 2025

Greetings and Welcome

Prelude by Sandi Watts

GATHERING

Call to Worship

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Confession

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence

P: Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

- 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!**

**Greeting*

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

**Prayer of the Day*

P: God of strength, in David you chose a king with a big heart. Create clean and willing hearts in us, and choose us to do your work.

C: Amen.

**Sharing Christ's Peace*

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

All are invited to share the peace of Christ with one another.

Children's Sermon

WORD

Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

Reader: Mike Fenner

¹The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." ²Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the Lord said, "Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.'" ³Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do, and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." ⁴Samuel did what the Lord commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling and said, "Do you come peaceably?" ⁵He said, "Peaceably. I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

⁶When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely his anointed is now before the Lord." ⁷But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him, for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." ⁸Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." ⁹Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." ¹⁰Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." ¹¹Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him, for we will not sit down until he comes here." ¹²He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him, for this is the one." ¹³Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

R: The Word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 51:10-14, read responsively

¹⁰Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and right spirit within me.

¹¹**Do not cast me away from your presence,
and do not take your holy spirit from me.**

¹²Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and sustain in me a willing spirit.

¹³**Then I will teach transgressors your ways,
and sinners will return to you.**

¹⁴Deliver me from bloodshed, O God,
O God of my salvation,
and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance.

**Gospel Reading: John 7:24*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 7th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁴Do not judge by appearances, but judge with right judgment.”

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

Scripture Song – “God’s Word is Our Great Heritage” ELW 509 (organ)

**God’s word is our great heritage
and shall be ours forever;
to spread its light from age to age
shall be our chief endeavor.
Through life it guides our way;
in death it is our stay.
Lord, grant while time shall last
your church may hold it fast
throughout all generations.**

Sermon: “A Reformation of Heart”

Song of the Day – “Change My Heart, O God”

(piano)

Change my heart, O God, Make it ever true.

Change my heart, O God, May I be like You.

You are the Potter, I am the clay. Mold me and make me, This is what I pray.

Change my heart, O God, Make it ever true.

Change my heart, O God, May I be like You.

**The Apostles' Creed*

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.

**Prayers of Intercession*

Stewardship Time

“Your Grace Still Amazes Me,” arr. Jay Rouse

The Chancel Choir, soloist Maria Snodgrass

—We now have Worship Cards in the pews. Please let us know if you are communing, share a prayer request, and place your card in the offering plate as a gesture of stewardship as we grow in relationship with God through the use of our time, talents, and finances—

**Offertory*

“Doxology” ELW 884

(piano)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

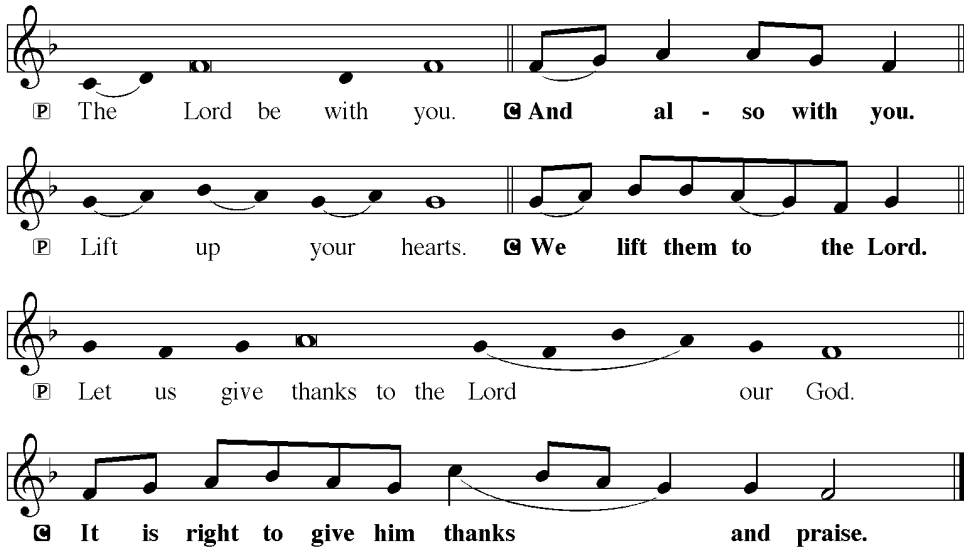
Praise him, all creatures here below;

Praise him above, ye heav’nly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

**Great Thanksgiving*



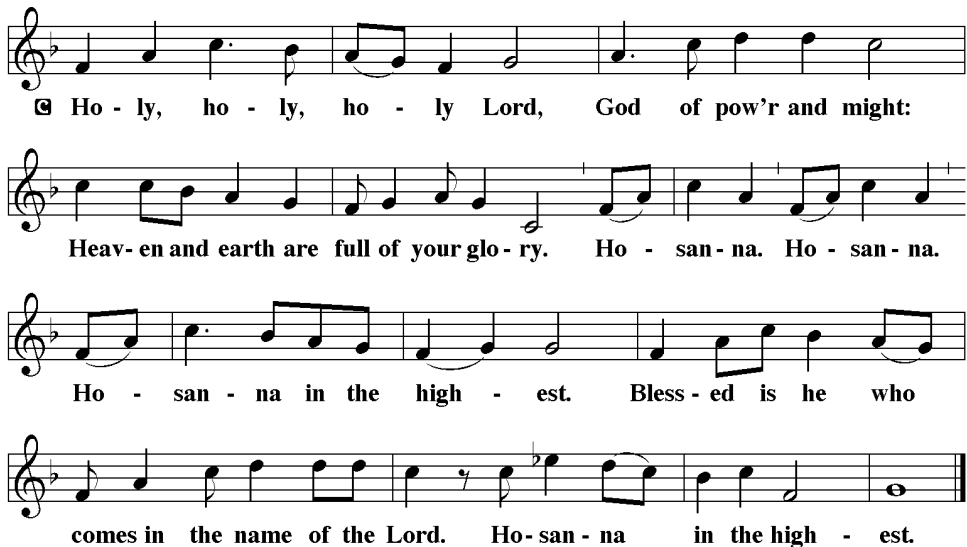
P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

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 indeed right, our duty and our joy, ... and join their unending hymn:



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:

Heav- en and earth are full of your glo- ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.

Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

**Words of Institution*

P: 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*

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Communion Songs

“Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God” ELW 188 (*organ*)

**Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of your salvation,
and uphold me with your free Spirit.**

“By Grace We Have Been Saved” (*ACS 1006*) (*piano*)

*Refrain: By grace we have been saved—saved by grace through faith,
not because of what we do; it is the gift of God.*

- 1 **On the days when you are weak, on the days when you are strong,
rich or poor, young or old, just listen to the song. *Refrain***
- 2 **Rest your body, rest your mind, in the stillness you will find
you're a lovely, precious child, part of the great design. *Refrain***
- 3 **You don't need to be afraid. You will never be alone.
There is mercy, there is hope, and love will take you home. *Refrain***

“Holy God, We Praise Your Name” ELW 414 (*organ*)

- 1 **Holy God, we praise your name; Lord of all, we bow before you.
All on earth your scepter claim, all in heav'n above adore you.
Infinite your vast domain, everlasting is your reign.**
- 2 **Hark! The glad celestial hymn angel choirs above are raising;
cherubim and seraphim, in unceasing chorus praising,
fill the heav'ns with sweet accord: "Holy, holy, holy Lord!"**
- 3 **Lo, the apostolic train join your sacred name to hallow;
prophets swell the glad refrain, and the white-robed martyrs follow;
and from morn to set of sun through the church the song goes on.**
- 4 **Holy Father, holy Son, Holy Spirit, three we name you,
though in essence only one; undivided God we claim you
and, adoring, bend the knee while we own the mystery.**

**Post-Communion Blessing*

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

C: **Amen.**

**Closing Prayer*

SENDING

**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.**

**Sending Song – “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”*

(*piano*)

- 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.**

Interlude by the Faith Singers

- 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!**

**Dismissal*

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Worship Assistants

Communion Assistant: Karen Sibert

Greeter: Lynette Hamilton

Reader: Mike Fenner

Ushers: Angie & Mike Fenner

Pastor: Adam Dichsen

Music Director: Jean Welch

Organist: Sandi Watts

Pianist: Jean Welch

Guitarist: Marilyn Dichsen

Bass Guiarist: Rigby Dichsen

Drummers: John Demien & Louis Dichsen

Financial Assistants: Kelly Hartz & Patty Nelson

Chancel Committee: Kim Heise

Coffee Host: Kay Schnitker



Singers:

Maddie Crossin	Kelly Hartz	Adam Krohe	Cole Street
Benen Dichsen	Terri Kimler	Kris Roth	Melissa Street

Church Council Members:

Malinda Carlson	Marilyn Dichsen	Greg Kimler	Monica Proefrock
Ken Devlin	Kelly Hartz	Patty Nelson	Kay Schnitker
			Kelly Street

What's Coming Up at Faith?

Sunday, October 26, 9:30am: Reformation Worship **Friends from Faith**

Saturday, November 1, 8:00am: Cooking for
9:00am: Men's Breakfast

Sunday, November 2, 9:30am: Contemporary Worship
11:00am: Traditional Worship
4:30pm: Bible Boot Camp
6:00pm: Soup with the Saints Youth Events

The altar plants are donated today by the Dichsen family in honor of
Karen's birthday on October 30

and

by Gayla Smith in honor of her baptismal birthday

Song Credits

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"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God," arr. Galbraith, © 2008 by Praise Charts. CCLI#973583

News Updates

Lay Ministry Sign-Up Sheets

Sign-Up Sheets are available at the podium in the gathering area. Please take a moment to sign up to be an Usher, Reader, Greeter, Communion Assistant, Coffee Host, Chancel Committee volunteer, and to Donate Altar Plants. **Thank You!** *We are Gifted to Serve!*

Faith's Little Flock -- (Ages 2–7)

gathers during worship right after the Children's Sermon and returns to the sanctuary in time for Communion.

In October, Faith's Little Flock is excited to welcome three new volunteers to the teaching rotation! Together, we will explore stories about Moses and the Burning Bush, Manna and Quail, and learn about Samuel and David. Through engaging activities, the children will experience the stories by learning, living, and singing them. We will also provide materials for parents to continue these lessons at home.

Faith's Little Flock warmly welcomes—and deeply appreciates—our adult and older youth volunteers. If you're interested in spending time with the children during part of the Sunday worship service or joining the teacher rotation for Faith's Little Flock, please reach out to Melissa Street or Pam Devlin. Blessings, *Melissa*

All Saints Sunday November 2

On November 2, we will be celebrating All Saints Sunday, an opportunity to remember all the saints of God, specifically recalling members and loved ones of members of our congregation who have died or were baptized in the last year. If you would like the name of your loved one shared, please submit it to the church office **by Friday, October 31**.

Friends from Faith Card Ministry – A ministry team led by Naomi Hahn

On the last Sunday of each month, everyone is welcome to send a greeting card. **Today**, visit the tall table just outside the sanctuary where you can select a card, sign a card, or deposit a card in the mailbox to send. Cards and stamps are provided for your use. If you have extra cards or stamps to spare, please bring them and donate them in the provided jar.

Bible Boot Camp

We had a great outing to the Martin's home to learn about God's creation IN God's creation. Families sang songs about hippopotamuses, survived an epic nature hike with our own naturalist Paul Scheerer, and enjoyed a delicious cookout with homemade ice cream. Thank you to Galen and Marty for this wonderful day! Bible Boot Camp will not meet during October, but do join us at our Fall Fest on October 25 for food and fun, including a bounce house, games, and trunk-or-treat. **Bible Boot Camp will resume on November 2, 16, and 30, 4:30-6:00pm, with a Christmas party on December 14.**

Upcoming Youth Events

On All Saints Sunday, November 2, we will have a special “Soup with the Saints” meal at 6:00pm. Youth will be inviting “saints” who have been role models of faith to join in conversations about faith and following God.

Doorbell Dinners October 27-31

Help us deliver meals in the community through our community-wide Doorbell Dinners ministry. We are in need of drivers & deliverers to cover the needs of five routes — time commitment is 11:15-12:30 each day. For more information and to sign up, visit the signup counter by the Fair Trade coffee sales. Questions? Talk to Sharon Zuiderveld.

Jacksonville Area Community Food Center

There is always a need for food donations at the Food Center. Some ideas: canned pasta and meat (Chef Boyardee), canned chicken or tuna, cereal, canned soups, peanut butter and jelly, mac and cheese, Ramen noodles, instant oatmeal, juice, canned fruit, Gatorade, and Jello or pudding cups. Please consider donating to the Food Center – you can put your donations in the cloth bins in the Mission and Ministry Center (coat closet).

New Directions Meal Train

The New Directions homeless shelter is looking for volunteers to provide meals for their residents. There are typically 5-12 residents each night, but they ask that you call ahead to confirm the headcount for the day. Meals can be dropped off between 5:30-6:00pm, and you are welcome to stay and eat. For more information, visit “New Directions Jacksonville, IL” on Facebook.