Reformation Sunday

October 25, 2026

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.

Gathering Song – "To God Be the Glory" *(*piano*)*

1 **To God be the glory, great things he has done;**
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life gate that all may go in.

Refrain

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!
Oh, come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he has done.

2 **Oh, perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,**
to every believer the promise of God;
the vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives. *Refrain*

3 **Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,**
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
but purer, and higher, and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. *Refrain*

**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.

**Hymn of Praise:* "Blessed Be Your Name" *(piano)*

1. **Blessed be your name In the land that is plentiful**
Where your streams of abundance flow Blessed be your name

2. **Blessed be your name When I'm found in the desert place**
Though I walk through the wilderness Blessed be your name

Refrain:

Every blessing you pour out I'll turn back to praise When the darkness closes in, Lord, still I will say
Blessed be the name of the Lord Blessed be your name

Blessed be the name of the Lord Blessed be Your glorious name

3. **Blessed be your name When the sun's shining down on me**
When the world's 'all as it should be' Blessed be your name

4. **Blessed be your name On the road marked with suffering**
Though there's pain in the offering Blessed be your name *Refrain*

**Prayer of the Day*

P: God of deliverance, you saved the people of Israel and chose Joshua to lead your people to the Promised Land. Choose us, and equip us to live with faith and peace. We pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

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; Joshua 24:1-15 Reader: Terri Kimler

24 Then Joshua assembled all the tribes of Israel at Shechem. He summoned the elders, leaders, judges and officials of Israel, and they presented themselves before God.
2 Joshua said to all the people, "This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: 'Long ago your ancestors, including Terah the father of Abraham and Nahor, lived beyond the Euphrates River and worshiped other gods. 3 But I took your father Abraham from the land beyond the Euphrates and led him throughout Canaan and gave him many descendants. I gave him Isaac, 4 and to Isaac I gave Jacob and Esau. I assigned the hill country of Seir to Esau, but Jacob and his family went down to Egypt.
5 "'Then I sent Moses and Aaron, and I afflicted the Egyptians by what I did there, and I brought you out. 6 When I brought your people out of Egypt, you came to the sea, and the Egyptians pursued them with chariots and horsemen as far as the Red Sea. 7 But they cried to the Lord for help, and he put darkness between you and the Egyptians; he brought the

sea over them and covered them. You saw with your own eyes what I did to the Egyptians. Then you lived in the wilderness for a long time.
8 "'I brought you to the land of the Amorites who lived east of the Jordan. They fought against you, but I gave them into your hands. I destroyed them from before you, and you took possession of their land. 9 When Balak son of Zippor, the king of Moab, prepared to fight against Israel, he sent for Balaam son of Beor to put a curse on you. 10 But I would not listen to Balaam, so he blessed you again and again, and I delivered you out of his hand.
11 "'Then you crossed the Jordan and came to Jericho. The citizens of Jericho fought against you, as did also the Amorites, Perizzites, Canaanites, Hittites, Girgashites, Hivites and Jebusites, but I gave them into your hands. 12 I sent the hornet ahead of you, which drove them out before you—also the two Amorite kings. You did not do it with your own sword and bow. 13 So I gave you a land on which you did not toil and cities you did not build; and you live in them and eat from vineyards and olive groves that you did not plant.'
14 "Now fear the Lord and serve him with all faithfulness. Throw away the gods your ancestors worshiped beyond the Euphrates River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. 15 But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

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

**Gospel Reading: Matthew 4:1-11*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 4th chapter.
C: Glory to you, O Lord.

4 Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. 2 After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. 3 The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread." 4 Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" 5 Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. 6 "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down. For it is written: "'He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.'" 7 Jesus answered him, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" 8 Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. 9 "All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me." 10 Jesus said

to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'" [11] Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

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

Song – "When We Are Tested" (ACS 922) *(organ)*

1 **When we are tested and wrestle alone,**
famished for bread when the world offers stone,
nourish us, God, by your word and your way,
food that sustains us by night and by day.

2 **When in the desert we cry for relief,**
pleading for paths marked by certain belief,
lift us to love you beyond sign and test,
trusting your presence, our only true rest.

3 **When we are tempted to barter our souls,**
trading the truth for the pow'r to control,
teach us to worship and praise only you,
seeking your will in the work that we do.

4 **When we have struggled and searched through the night,**
sorting and sifting the wrong from the right,
Savior, surround us with circles of care,
angels of healing, of hope, and of prayer.

*Sermon: "*The Covenant Renewed…Reformation"

Song of the Day – "A Mighty Fortress is Our God" ELW 504 *(organ)*

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!

**The Nicene Creed*

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**Prayers of Intercession*

Stewardship Time

In Christ Alone, Susan Roegge on Piano

–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–

**Offering Prayer*

P: Merciful God,

C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

**Great Thanksgiving*

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 our thanks and praise.

**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

"The Church's One Foundation" ELW 654 *(organ)*

1 **The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord;**
she is his new creation by water and the word.
From heav'n he came and sought her to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

2 **Elect from ev'ry nation, yet one o'er all the earth,**
her charter of salvation one Lord, one faith, one birth:
one holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses, with ev'ry grace endued.

3 **Though with a scornful wonder this world sees her oppressed,**
by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,
yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up: "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.

4 **Through toil and tribulation and tumult of her war,**
she waits the consummation of peace forevermore;
till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

5 **Yet she on earth has union with God, the Three in One,**
and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.
Oh, blessed heav'nly chorus! Lord, save us by your grace,
that we, like saints before us, may see you face to face.

"City of God," *(Piano)*

1. **Awake from your slumber! Arise from your sleep!**
A new day is dawning for all those who weep.
The people in darkness have seen a great light.
The Lord of our longing has conquered the night.

Refrain: ***Let us build the city of God. May our tears be turned into dancing!***
For the Lord, our light and our love, has turned the night into day!

2. **We are sons of the morning; we are daughters of day.**
The one who has loved us has brightened our way.
The Lord of all kindness has called us to be
A light for his people to set their hearts free. *Refrain twice*

**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's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor, and + give you peace.
C: Amen.

**Sending Song* – "Firm Foundation" *(piano)*

Chorus: ***Jesus, You're my firm foundation, I know I can stand secure.***
Jesus, You're my firm foundation, I put my hope in your holy Word,
I put my hope in your holy Word.

1. **(I have a living hope) I have a living hope**
(I have a future) I have a future
(God has a plan for me) God has a plan for me
(Of this I'm sure) Of this I'm sure. *Chorus*

2. **(Your Word is faithful) Your Word is faithful**
(Mighty in power) Mighty in power
(God will deliver me) God will deliver me
(Of this I'm sure) Of this I'm sure. *Chorus*

**Dismissal*

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The altar plants are donated today by the Roth Family in celebration of Lily Snodgrass' 9th birthday today

and

by the Dichsen Family in honor of Karen Dichsen's birthday

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Worship Assistants

Communion Assistant: Pam Devlin
Greeter: Lynette Hamilton
Reader: Terri Kimler
Usher: Patty Nelson
Pastor: Adam Dichsen
Organist: Sandi Watts
Pianist: Susan Roegge
Drummers: John Demien & Louis Dichsen
Financial Assistants: Kevin Krohe & Kay Schnitker
Chancel Committee: Mary Jane
Coffee Hosts: Terri Kimler & Mindy Carlson

Singers:

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

Church Council Members:

Malinda Carlson	Kevin Krohe	Monica Proefrock	Cory Street
Greg Kimler	Patty Nelson	Kay Schnitker	John Williams

What's Coming Up at Faith?

Sunday, October 25, 9:30am: Worship
10:45am: "Digging Deeper" in the Justice Room
10:45am: Trick-or-Treat for Canned Goods

Wednesday, October 28, 10:00am: Read the Bible in a Year Group – Faith Library

Sunday, November 1, 9:30am: Worship
10:45am: "Digging Deeper" in the Justice Room

Wednesday, November 4, 10:00am: Read the Bible in a Year Group – Faith Library

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 and Faith's Older Flock
We now have two groups of children meeting during worship on the Sundays we are inside. Faith's Little Flock is for children ages 2-7, and Faith's Older Flock is for children gr. 1-6.

Post-Service Discussions – Digging Deeper
Join us in the Justice Room for exploring the new sermon series based on the Lectionary**.**

Trick-or-Treat for Canned Goods
This Sunday, October 25, we will Trick-or-Treat in the neighborhoods around Faith, collecting canned goods for the Jacksonville Food Center. Lunch is provided.

All Saints Sunday -- November 1
On November 1, 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 30** as we will read their names aloud. And while the Story of David and Bathsheba may seem out of place for such a solemn day, we remember that we all are at the same time saints and sinners.

Doorbell Dinners October 26-30
It's back! Yes, we delivered Doorbell Dinners last month as well, but it's our turn again! Sign up soon for a chance to volunteer this month, and consider inviting a friend to join you… maybe even take them out for ice cream afterwards. The time commitment is 11:15-12:30 each day. If you want to learn more, talk to Sharon Zuiderveld to tell her that you'd simply like to ride along and observe. We are confident you will want to do it again and again! To sign up, visit the signup counter by the Fair Trade coffee sales.

Read the Bible in a Year
Please join us in reading the New Testament, starting October 1. We will meet weekly on Wednesdays from October 7 through December 31, from 10:00-11:00am in the Library, to discuss the reading for each week. By December 31, we will have read the entire New Testament. If you would like more information and the reading schedule, please contact Pam Devlin at 217-473-7375 or pdevlin56@gmail.com. God's Blessings to all.

New Faith Telephone Directory
A new Faith Directory is available at the Coffee Sales counter. Please take one (1) per family. We will also soon be printing a new pictorial directory – please submit a picture to the church office (by email is preferred: faithlutheran62650@frontier.com) for us to include in the new directory. Thank You!

Women's Mini Retreat
First Presbyterian Church (870 W. College) invites all women to a Women's Mini Retreat on Saturday, November 7, 8:45am-Noon. The theme of the retreat is "The Next Chapter: What Will You Do with Your Story?" The speaker will be Pastor Linda Strader from St. John, Springfield, and the musician will be Marilyn Dichsen. Lunch will be catered by Dinner Made Simple. A good-will offering will benefit Spirit of Faith Soup Kitchen. Please call asap to make your reservation as they are limited to only 60 participants (217-245-4189).