

The Feast of the Reformation

WELCOME TO BETHANY

We gather this day to receive God's gifts and to praise His holy name. If you are visiting us today, we encourage you to fill out a yellow card in the pew rack to inform us of your visit and to introduce yourself to one of the pastors. Please stop by our Welcome Center in the narthex for more information about Bethany, and to receive a gift for you from our church family. Also, be sure to pick up our weekly *News & Notes*, located on the table in the back of the church.

Bethany is a singing parish and we hope that you will join us. A fine voice is not required – just a heart for worship. As you follow the order of service in this bulletin, please note:

- LSB refers to the hymnal, *Lutheran Service Book*
- Hearing aids and large print bulletins are available. Please ask an usher.
- Front pew - hymnals are in a rack underneath your seat.
- Regarding communion. Today we celebrate the Lord's Supper where we receive Christ's Body and Blood, under bread and wine, for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. Those communing are giving public witness that they are one in doctrine. In loving obedience to this Scriptural teaching, we therefore invite communicant members of all congregations in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod to commune with us.

For your reference, worship participants are indicated as follows in the bulletin:

P: Presiding Minister (pastor's parts)

A: *Assisting Liturgist (pastor, choir or cantor)*

C: **Congregation (or all)**

AS WE GATHER

Our theme for this Reformation weekend is "The Catechism Sets You Free." Jesus says the truth will set you free. He is talking about the truth of His word. Luther's catechism is nothing more than a systematic presentation of God's word under six main parts. Therefore, the catechism sets us free because its authority is nothing more or less than the word of God. Many in the Lutheran church today think that the catechism is for children or is nothing more than an old dead document. Because it is a re-telling of the word of God it is a living document that brings us the spiritual freedom and vitality that we desire and need.

+We Stand in Our Baptismal Grace+

THOSE SERVING YOU TODAY

5PM

PRESIDING MINISTER: Pastor Timothy Rossow
ORGANIST: Cantor Phillip Magness
ACOLYTES: Chris Medhurst & Erik Medhurst
SACRISTANS: Gerry Corbino & Rich Fick
COMMUNION CARE: Ina Johnson
WELCOME CENTER: Marjorie Staffeldt
USHERS: Chris Thilk, Chad Baganz, John Holecsek, Charles Schmidt

9:00AM

PRESIDING MINISTER: Pastor Timothy Rossow
ORGANIST: Cantor Phillip Magness
ACOLYTES: Caitlin Collins & Lauren Collins
BELLS: *Praises Ring!*; Susan Keller, director
CHOIR: *Schola Cantorum*; Phillip Magness, director
BRASS: David Mackey, Ryan Dierking, Clayton Bailey
TIMPANI: Ben Dierking
FLUTE: Samantha Stricker
GREETERS: Mike & JoAnn Sislow
SACRISTANS: Paul Calhoon, Aaron Clasen, Craig Benecke, Tim Benecke
COMMUNION CARE: Sandy Wischmeyer
WELCOME CENTER: Doris Carlson
USHERS: Chuck Guebert, Rich Tatara, John Killacky, Gregg Berger, Dave Dierking

ALTAR GUILD: Bella Bartelt
BUILDING OPENER: Steve Lindenmeyer

COMMUNION STATEMENT

Today we celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper in which we joyfully receive Christ's Body and Blood, under bread and wine, for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. As these gifts are personally received, those communing together also give public witness that they are one in doctrine. In loving obedience to this teaching of Scripture, we therefore invite communicant members of all congregations in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod to commune with us.

PRELUDE (9AM)

Jr. High Brass

“Salvation Unto Us Has Come”

harm. J.S. Bach

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

(LSB #184)

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

C: **Amen.**

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.

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C: **who made heaven and earth.**

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

C: **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

(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 to 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.**

GREETING

(Please stand and turn to face the processional cross as it enters the church.)

ENTRANCE HYMN “Kyrie! God Father” LSB #942

GLORIA “All Glory Be to God on High” LSB #947

THE SALUTATION AND COLLECT

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. (*silence is kept*) 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.**

+We Sit to Meditate On God’s Word+

THE FIRST READING Revelation 14:6-7 (ESV)

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."

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL (5PM) Psalm 48:1a; 12-13

A: *Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised
in the city of our God, His holy mountain.
Walk about Zion, go around her, number her towers,
consider well her ramparts, go through her citadels,
That you may tell the next generation that this is God.*

“Salvation unto Us Has Come” LSB #555

Stanzas 1 & 2 - *all*

Stanza 3 - *choir (or soloist)*

Stanza 4 & 5 - *all*

Stanza 6 - *choir (or soloist)*

Stanza 7 & 8 - *all*

Stanza 9 - *soloist*

Stanza 10 - *all*

DISMISSAL OF COMMUNICANTS

THANKSGIVING LSB #200

BENEDICTION LSB #202

CLOSING HYMN “Thy Strong Word” LSB #578 st. 1,2

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

+The Tithes and Offerings are Received+

VOLUNTARY (9AM)

Caitlin Magness, soprano; Alex Miller, baritone

*Herr, ich hoffe darauf, dass du so gnädig bist,
mein Herz freuet sich, dass du so gerne hilfst.
Ich will dem Herren singen, dass er so wohl an mir tut.
Alleluia!*

*(Lord, my hope is in Thee, and in Thy steadfast love.
My heart rejoices in Thy salvation.
I will sing to the Lord, because He has shown goodness over all.)
Alleluia!)*

(All guests and members are requested to complete an attendance card.)

+We Stand for the Liturgy of the Lord's Supper+

OFFERTORY "Create in Me a Clean Heart"

LSB #192

THE SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

LSB #194

DISTRIBUTION

(Visitors: Please refer to communion statement on page 9)

We commune *pilgrim style* today. As space becomes available, approach the communion rail and kneel individually. After communing, you may depart whenever you wish. The blessing will be given to the whole congregation after all have communed.

MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION (9AM)

Praises Ring!

"If Thou But Trust in God to Guide Thee"

arr. Kenneth Lowenberg

COMMUNION HYMNS

"Lord, Help Us Ever to Retain"(5PM)

LSB #865

LITURGY SPOTLIGHT *The hymn, "Salvation unto Us Has Come," thoroughly outlines the doctrine of justification by faith. Paul Speratus, a priest imprisoned at the time for espousing Martin Luther's cause and preaching Luther's biblical doctrine, wrote this hymn and sent it to his congregation as a comfort. Originally 14 stanzas, the ten contained within the LSB are full of little doctrinal nuggets (such as the Law's function to accuse, the importance of baptism, and the saving work of grace through faith), which embody our biblical Lutheran beliefs and Reformation heritage. Good, strong hymns such as this fit Luther's ideal as "little sermons" and can be great devotional material whether you sing them at home or simply read and reflect upon the texts.*

THE PSALM OF THE DAY (9AM) Psalm 46
ANTIPHON

"God Is For Us a Refuge and Strength"
Charles Anders

The Lord of Hosts is with us: the God of
Ja - cob is our strong - hold.

A: *antiphon*

C: **antiphon**

A: *God is for us a refuge and strength, a helper close at hand in time of distress: so we shall not fear though the earth should rock, though the mountains fall into the depths of the sea, even though its waters rage and foam, even though mountains be shaken by its waves.*

C: **antiphon**

A: *The waters of a river give joy to God's city, the holy place where the Most High dwells. God is within her, she cannot be shaken; God will help her at the dawning of the day. Nations are in tumult, the kingdoms are shaken: He lifts his voice, the earth shrinks away.*

C: **antiphon**

A: *Come, consider the works of the Lord, the deeds He has done on the earth. He puts an end to wars over all the earth; the bow He breaks, the spear He snaps. He burns the shields with fire. "Be still and know that I am God, supreme among the nations, supreme on the earth!"*

C: **antiphon**

THE EPISTLE

Romans 3:19-28 (ESV)

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.

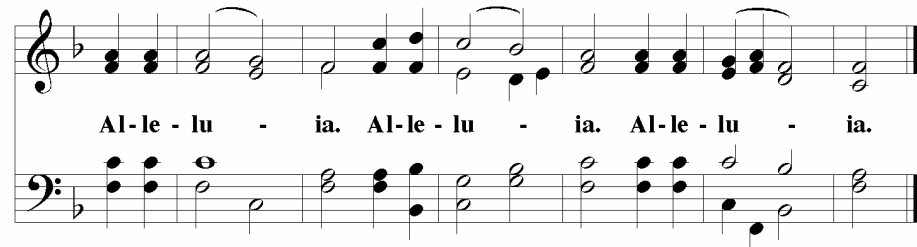
²⁷Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.
C: **Thanks be to God.**

+We Face the Gospel Procession+

VERSE

Luke 12:32



C: **antiphon (Alleluia!)**
A: *Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's pleasure to give you the kingdom. Alleluia!*
C: **antiphon**

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



THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 8:31-36 (ESV)

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:



Today we remain standing for the Hymn of the Day, as it is traditional to stand for "A Mighty Fortress", which is also known as "The Reformation Hymn".

THE HYMN OF THE DAY "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"
At 9AM the choir sings stanza 2.

LSB #656

+We Sit for the Proclamation of Law and Gospel+

SERMON "Living the Christian Life: The Catechism Sets You Free!"

John 8:31-36

+We Stand to Confess our Faith and for Prayer+

THE NICENE CREED
(see inside back cover of hymnal)

THE PRAYERS

C: **Lord, have mercy.**