

Welcome to Worship!

ST. ANDREW'S

LUTHERAN CHURCH



REFORMATION SUNDAY
THE LITURGY OF HOLY COMMUNION
OCTOBER 25, 2026
10:00 AM

Ministers, The People of God
MNYS Bishop Rev. Dr. Katrina Foster
Reverend Jean Dougherty
Director of Music, Yuxuan Chen
Cantor, Cynthia Davis
Bell Choir Director, Laura Gustavsen
Assisting Minister, Jill Spage
Readers: John Sanzone, Chris Lloyd
Ushers: Leslee & Steve Mathieson
Steve O'Hagan, Lorna Bosak
Video Production: Jill Spage, Amanda Flaherty



ST. ANDREW'S

LUTHERAN CHURCH

This is Christ's Church:

There is a place for you here. We are the church that shares a living, daring confidence in God's grace. Liberated by our faith, we embrace you as a whole person—questions, complexities, and all. Join us as we do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world. **Those with us for the first time** are kindly asked to introduce themselves to the pastor and greeters and are welcome to sign our guest book in the narthex.

NEED PRAYER? Kindly share prayer concerns at the lectern located at the church entrance to have a name read aloud during worship. Completing a prayer card or calling the office assures the name will appear in print, and you may ask to receive a call from the pastor.

Our Mission:

Because God shows His Love through Jesus Christ, St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, a community of faith, gathered around Word and Sacrament, lives to WORSHIP, WITNESS, LEARN, and SERVE, and welcomes all people to share God's love and to be workers together in this mission of the Church.

Communion:

St. Andrew's practices eucharistic hospitality.

All are welcome at God's table.

In response to Jesus's command, we celebrate with a worship meal of bread (or gluten-free by request) and white wine or red grape juice (in the center of the communion tray.) It is the Lutheran tradition to commune using both elements. However, we believe Christ is fully present when receiving one kind (bread or wine/grape juice). The living practice of our Lutheran tradition is an open table for the baptized to receive Holy Communion. Those desiring a blessing but not communion are invited forward and may cross their arms to indicate their intentions.

What is Reconciling in Christ?

This means we joyfully welcome all of God's people to worship with us regardless of age, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, ability, or socio-economic circumstances.



GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

WELCOME *(presiding minister)*
(Please stand as you are able.)

INVOCATION *The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

In the name of the Father and of the  Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

CALL TO WORSHIP Reformation Sunday

Martin Luther reminds us, "We are beggars. This is true." We come before God, trusting not in our own strength, but in God's abundant grace.

By grace we are saved, through faith in Jesus Christ!

Luther declared, "Here I stand." We stand together on the promises of God, whose Word endures forever.

Our hope is in Christ, our mighty fortress and sure foundation!

The Church is always being renewed by the Holy Spirit, calling us to live boldly in faith and serve joyfully in love.

May God's grace reform our hearts, renew our faith, and inspire our service.

Come, let us worship, let us celebrate the freedom we have in Christ!

O come, let us worship!

O come, let us worship!

PROCESSIONAL SONG 504 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



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
 vour us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
 fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



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!

(Please be seated)

GREETING THE HIVE *Children are invited forward by the pastor.)*

(please stand as you are able)

GREETING

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

HOLY BAPTISM OF CAMERON ANTHONY TEMPERINO

PRESENTATION *Candidates for baptism, sponsors, and parents gather with the ministers at the font.*

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word, God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

Sponsors present the candidate:

I present Cameron Anthony Temperino
for baptism.

The minister addresses parents:

Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have your child baptized into Christ?

Response: I do.

As you bring your child to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with him among God's faithful people,
bring him to the word of God and the holy supper,
teach him the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,
place in his hands the holy scriptures,
and nurture him in faith and prayer,
so that your child may learn to trust God,
proclaim Christ through word and deed,
care for others and the world God made,
and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help your child grow in the Christian faith and life?

Response: I do.

The minister addresses sponsors:

Sponsors, do you promise to nurture Cameron Anthony in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help him live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Response: I do.

(please stand as you are able):

People of God, do you promise to support Cameron Anthony and pray for him in his new life in Christ?

We do.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

The minister addresses candidates for baptism as well as the parents and sponsors of young children. The assembly may join in the responses.

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

Response:

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

Response:

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Response:

I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.***

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

Water may be poured into the font before or during the thanksgiving. At the font, the minister begins the thanksgiving:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

The assembly may be seated.

BAPTISM

The minister baptizes each candidate. Water is poured on the candidate's head, as the presiding minister says:

Cameron Anthony Temperino, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Laying both hands on the head of each of the newly baptized, the minister prays
Sustain Cameron Anthony Temperino with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen.**

CHRISTENING

The presiding minister marks the sign of the cross on the forehead of each of the baptized. Oil prepared for this purpose may be used. As the sign of the cross is made, the minister says:

Cameron Anthony Temperino, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. **Amen.**

WELCOME

A lighted candle may be given to each of the newly baptized (to a sponsor of a young child) as a representative of the congregation says:

Jesus said, I am the light of the world.

Whoever follows me

will have the light of life.

Let your light so shine before others

that they may see your good works

and glorify your Father in heaven.

The ministers and the baptismal group face the assembly. The representative of the congregation leads the assembly in the welcome.

Let us welcome the newly baptized **Cameron Anthony Temperino,**

we welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share:

join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world. Amen.

*Those who have gathered at the font may return to their places.
(please stand as you are able)*

CANTICLE OF PRAISE SETTING 3 (*Martin Luther had a particular love for the Gloria Excelsis (Glory to God in the Highest), this ancient hymn of praise.*)

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

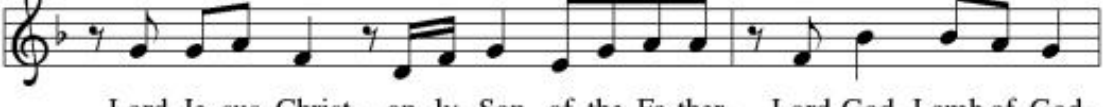
All



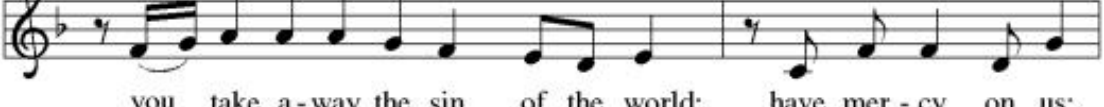
Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



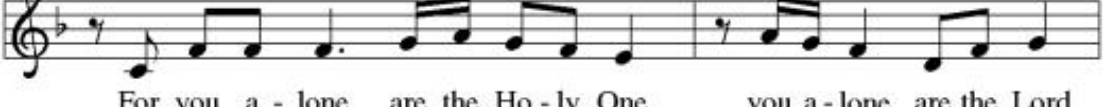
Lord Je-sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY*(presiding minister)*

Let us pray together,

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

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.

(please be seated)

ANTHEM *Built on a Rock* by Ludvig M. Lindeman.

(St. Andrew's Choir)

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34

A reading from Jeremiah.

³¹ 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. ³² 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. ³³ 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. ³⁴ 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.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 46 (1-6, 10-11)

(Choir introduces the refrain and the assembly repeats. Psalm is chanted responsively with the assembly chanting bold verse.)



- ¹ God is our ref-^luge and strength,
a very present^l help in trouble.
- ² **Therefore we will not fear, though the^l earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths^l of the sea;**
- ³ though its waters^l rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble^l with its tumult.
- ⁴ **There is a river whose streams make glad the cit-^ly of God,
the holy habitation of^l the Most High. Refrain**
- ⁵ God is in the midst of the city; it shall^l not be shaken;
God shall help it at the^l break of day.
- ⁶ **The nations rage, and the^l kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth^l melts away. Refrain**
- ¹⁰ **"Be still, then, and know that^l I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted^l in the earth."**
- ¹¹ The LORD of^l hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob^l is our stronghold. **Refrain**

SECOND READING: Romans 3:19-28

A reading from 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 will be justified before him by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹ But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed and is attested by the Law and the Prophets, ²² the righteousness of God through the faith of 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 demonstrate his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶ it was to demonstrate at the present time his own righteousness, so that he is righteous and he justifies the one who has the faith of Jesus.

²⁷ Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law? That of works? No, rather through the law of faith. ²⁸ For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

(please stand as you are able)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: John 8:31-36

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹ 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." The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ**

(please be seated.)

SERMON

(please stand as you are able.)

HYMN OF THE DAY acs1043 Spirit, Open My Heart

Refrain



Spir-it, o - pen my heart to the joy and pain of
liv-ing. As you love may I love, in re - ceiv - ing
and in giv - ing. Spir - it, o - pen my heart.

1 God, re - place my ston - y heart with a heart that's
2 Write your love up - on my heart as my law, my
3 May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of

kind and ten - der. All my cold - ness and
goal, my sto - ry. In each thought, word, and
friend and neigh - bor. As I live from day to

Refrain

fear to your grace I now sur - ren - der.
deed, may my liv - ing bring you glo - ry.
day, love will be my fin - est la - bor.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

We also include in our prayers today:

A brief silence.

As we celebrate Reformation Sunday, we remember the witness of Martin Luther and the reformers of the church in every generation. Empower us to continue the work of reform and renewal in our own day. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the healing of natural places despoiled by pollution and human greed. Give all living creatures access to safe land, water, and air. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for our criminal justice systems and all those whose lives are affected by them. Give wisdom and discernment to police, probation officers, judges, and attorneys; give courage and peace to prisoners and the formerly incarcerated. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We ask your blessing upon all people who have been harmed by the church and its leaders, that the truth may make them free. We pray for the relief of all those who are sick or suffering, especially all those on our prayer list and those we now name silently or aloud Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of Spirit and truth we ask your blessings on the newly baptized, especially Cameron Anthony Temperino. Bless him, raise him in your Spirit, form him by your hand, bring him to the water of life and the bread and cup of blessing that with all your people he may praise you forever. Bless parents, especially Kristen and John, and fill all homes with respect, joy, laughter, and prayer. Strengthen us in our baptismal callings to serve you faithfully until our journey's end. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

With gratitude, we remember those disciples who paved the way for us and all of our beloved dead. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

PEACE *(presiding minister)*

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

(The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.)

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

*The assembly may be seated. An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. **Children are invited to collect food donations from pews.***

OFFERING

@SASMITHTOWN



venmo

(When Jesus fed the 5000 with only five loaves of bread and two fish, he was showing us how God's love can multiply the effects of our generosity [see Mt. 14:13-21]. Thank you for sharing from the abundance you have received. Offerings may also be given online at the church website.)

(Please stand as you are able as the gifts are brought forward)

OFFERING HYMN #689 Praise and Thanksgiving (vs 1-3)



1 Praise and thanks-giv - ing, God, we would of - fer for all things
2 God, bless the la - bor we bring to serve you, that with our
3 Fa - ther, pro - vid - ing food for your chil - dren, by Wis - dom's
4 Then will your bless - ing reach ev - 'ry peo - ple, free - ly con -



liv - ing, you have made good: har - vest of sown fields, fruits of the
neigh - bor we may be fed. Sow - ing or till - ing, we would work
guid - ing teach us to share one with an - oth - er, so that, re -
fess - ing your gra - cious hand. Where you are reign - ing, no one will



or - chard, hay from the mown fields, blos - som and wood.
with you, har - vest - ing, mill - ing for dai - ly bread.
joic - ing with us, all oth - ers may know your care.
hun - ger; your love sus - tain - ing show - ers the land.

(The assembly stands as they are able.)

OFFERING PRAYER *(assisting minister)*

God of creation,

you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.

All blessings are from you;

make us generous with what we have.

Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts

in service to you and in love to our neighbors,

today and always. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING: DIALOGUE AND PREFACE (*presiding minister*)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

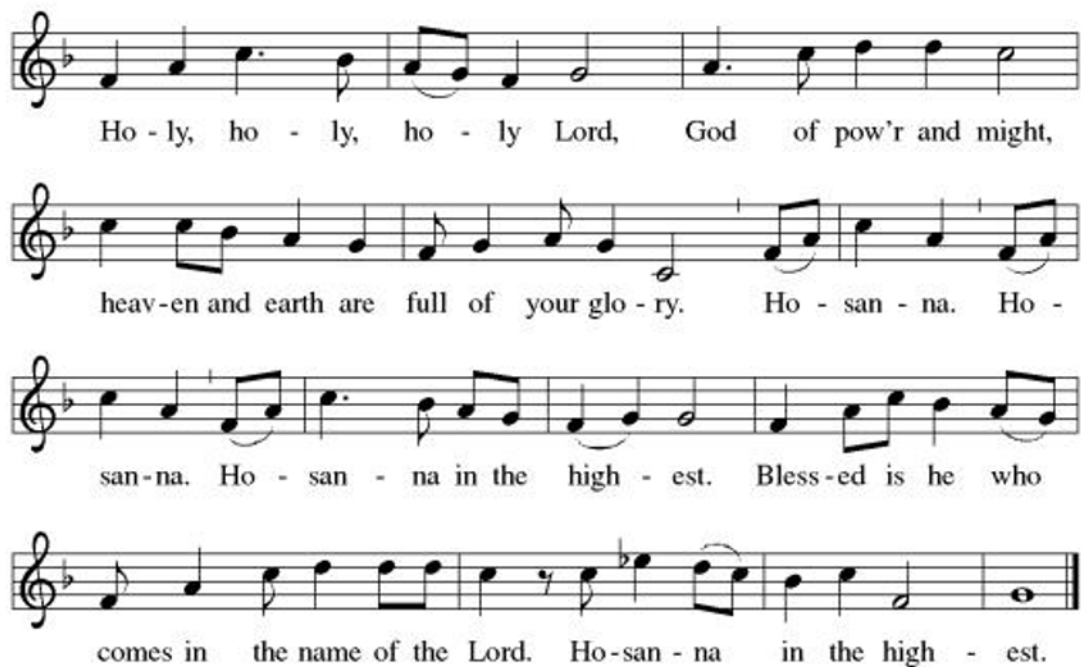
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God.

You reveal your glory
as the glory of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit:
equal in majesty, undivided in splendor, one Lord, one God,
ever to be adored in your eternal glory.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS *ELW setting three*



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.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

(presiding minister)

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.
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.
Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.
Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER *(presiding minister)*

**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

Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

(The assembly may be seated during distribution. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. Those desiring a blessing but not communion are invited forward and may cross their arms to indicate their intentions. Children are welcome to come forward for a blessing.)

LAMB OF GOD *Setting three page 146*



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN 708 Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love



Refrain
Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show
us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.
1 Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their feet,
2 Neigh-bors are wealth-y and poor, var - ied in col - or and race,
3 These are the ones we will serve, these are the ones we will love;
4 Kneel at the feet of our friends, si - lent - ly wash-ing their feet:
Refrain
mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.
neigh-bors are near - by and far a - way.
all these are neigh-bors to us and you.
this is the way we will live with you.

(please stand as you are able)

EUCCHARISTIC BLESSING *(presiding minister)*

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace and peace. **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER *(assisting minister)*

Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup,
you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

ANNOUNCEMENTS *(presiding minister)*

(please stand as you are able)

BLESSING *(presiding minister)*

The God of hope
grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.

Amen.

The God of grace ✝ bless you now and forever.

SENDING HYMN 631 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (vs 1 -3)



1 Love di-vine, all loves ex-cel-ling, Joy of heav'n, to
 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov-ing Spir-it in-to ev-'ry
 3 Come, Al-might-y, to de-liv-er; let us all thy
 4 Fin-ish then thy new cre-a-tion, pure and spot-less



earth come down! Fix in us thy hum-ble dwell-ing, all thy
 trou-bled breast; let us all in thee in-her-it; let us
 life re-ceive; sud-den-ly re-turn, and nev-er, nev-er-
 let us be; let us see thy great sal-va-tion per-fect-



faith-ful mer-cies crown. Je-sus, thou art all com-pas-sion,
 find thy prom-ised rest. Take a-way the love of sin-ning;
 more thy tem-ples leave. Thee we would be al-ways bless-ing,
 ly re-stored in thee! Changed from glo-ry in-to glo-ry,



pure, un-bound-ed love thou art; vis-it us with
 Al-pha and O-me-ga be; end of faith, as
 serve thee as thy hosts a-bove, pray, and praise thee
 till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal-va-tion, en-ter ev-'ry trem-bling heart.
 its be-gin-ning, set our hearts at lib-er-ty.
 with-out ceas-ing, glo-ry in thy per-fect love.
 crowns be-fore thee, lost in won-der, love, and praise!

DISMISSAL *(assisting minister)*

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

REFORMATION SUNDAY

A Day of Commemoration, Not Celebration

Reformation Sunday is often misunderstood as a day of celebration. In truth, it is a day of *commemoration* and remembrance. We do not celebrate the fracture of Christ's church, but we remember the movement of the Spirit in calling the church back to the heart of the gospel.

On October 31, 1517, a German monk named Martin Luther posted 95 Theses on the church door in Wittenberg, the eve of All Saints Day. This was no small act: indulgences—payments for forgiveness—were being heavily promoted for November 1. Luther objected, insisting that forgiveness is not bought or earned. We are forgiven only because of who God is—abundant in grace and mercy. Luther's writings spread quickly, sparking reform and eventually leading to the Lutheran tradition. Every Protestant church traces its roots back to this pivotal moment.

Why Does Reformation Sunday Matter?

- **We tell our story.** Just as families retell stories of their ancestors, the church remembers the faithful women and men who risked everything to hand down the gospel.
- **We return to the center.** This day brings us back to the heart of our faith: God loved us first and continues to pour out grace and mercy in Christ Jesus.
- **We are challenged to do better.** The Spirit calls us to repent of barriers we have placed in the way of the gospel, and to live more fully into God's love.

A painting in Luther's church in Wittenberg captures this truth: Luther preaches from the pulpit, the people listen, and between them stands Christ crucified. Christ at the center—that is the hope of our faith, and the only foundation of the church.



PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER THOSE IN NEED OF HEALING:

Shannon Breimann, Fred Schmidt, The Diehl family, John Dugan, Jimmy LaSurdo, David Schwack, Amanda Haeffer, Ruth Clark, Helen Gronus Paul Mchugh, Xavier Wilson; Alex & Nicolas Hoffmann [Hoffmann family] Xavier Taylor, Crew Fritz, Lisa, Noah, Lilly [Joy Suffis] Jackson Robinson [Rick Madarasz]; Pat Gasparo, Margie Monaco, Tom Moebus [Meystrik family]; Kit, Linda, Jeffrey, James [Anastasia Glasheen] Giuseppe Fontana [Lauren Fontana] Richard Delaney [Cookie Delaney] Martha Hahn, David Palmer, Peter Gambitsky, Debbie Bartfield [Pastor Jean] Skobla family, Frances Sanzone [Sanzone family] Elena Quandt [Doreen Flanagan] Vanessa Marie Lahann, Gavin Lahann [Violet & Donnalee] Allie Abruzzi, Tania Dufour [Ashley & Maria Gyscek] Tom Wray, Mike Cento; Jimmy; Richard & George Mengert Bruce Logan; Betty Perlish [Carolyn Gabelman] Deirdre Reilly, Jeanne McCurdy, Belinda Busaca, Zeitlin, Margo Naranjo [Barbara English] Nita Samulevich, Mel Flaherty, Elizabeth Flaherty [Amanda Flaherty] Family of Richie Cardoza [Bill Moser] Fran Favara [Liz DeLuca] Joseph Wannemacher, Anita Ahrens, Craig Keil [Janis Raineri] Lyla Suffis [Jen & Brett Suffis] Karen Crimi, Jeffrey Gilmore, Rev. Wayne Gollenberg [Jill Breimann] Debbie, Kimmie Lacci, Ivy [Mary Fjellstad] Carolyn Martin [Linda Overton] Marissa Evers, Lauren Cravotta [Joe & Margie Costello] Mary Ellen Tiffany [Klouda Family] Judy Daley, Jennifer Meisenkothen, John Sullivan [Dorothy & Jim Clavell] Carolyn Bennett [Jill Spage] Judy G., Nancy M. [Cindy Davis] Emily Richardson, Betsy Johnsrud, [Leslee & Steve Mathieson] David Travis [Richard Travis]

THOSE IN MILITARY SERVICE

Sgt Eric Hodosky • Lt Col Lenore Livingston née Fortin • Corporal August Detting
• LT Col William Fortin • Sgt Jack Dougherty • Sgt Jasmine Dougherty