

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH



REFORMATION SUNDAY
OCTOBER 26, 2025

Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

Weekly Update

1090 Sterling Road, Herndon, VA 20170
www.HolyCrossHerndon.org



HOLY CROSS
LUTHERAN CHURCH



Sunday, October 26, 2025

VISITORS: It is a joy to have you with us this morning. If you are looking for a church family, we hope you will consider Holy Cross. For more information, you can fill out a visitor form in the narthex, speak to an usher, or scan the QR code to the right.



FAMILIES: Children are always welcome at our worship services! There's also a small play area in the Narthex where you can hear the broadcasted service.

FLOWERS: Today's flowers are given by Cecilia Howard, in memory of Brian Hurt and John Hurt II, and to my loving family.

WEEKLY PRAYER LIST

For additions/changes, email the office: admin@holycrossherndon.org
Names will be removed after one month unless advised otherwise.

OUR CONGREGATION

Juliana Roe Beck | Bonnie Burton | Terry & Linda Butler
Joy Caveney | Joel Flegal | Roy Geiger | Otto Jacobson
Jared Lem | Reed Morgan | Mike Muller | Craig Reichow
Jeremy Shoop | Tuula Toney | Cherie Weatherhead

All Government Employees Affected by the Government Shutdown

THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Riley Morgan | Thomas Newcomb | Collin Reichow

RELATIVES AND FRIENDS OF THE CONGREGATION

Erin Barden (sister of Andrew Barden)
Randy and Shirley Beamer (friends of Pam Darby)
Debbie Bowman (niece of Betty Skelton)
Joy Brown (friend of Kate Flegal)
Symphony Calvillo & her two boys (friend of Kate Flegal)
Jane Campbell (friend of Cheryl Smith)
Don and Liz Gober (friends of Craig Reichow)
Matt Kim (friend of John & Tammy Breene)
Georgia Kirby and Cain Mason (friends of Cherie Weatherhead)
Phyllis Krapf (wife of Dick Krapf)
Phil Kratochvil (brother of Sarah Schulmeyer)
Don Kress (friend of Helen and Gary Wolfe)
Sharon Massen (friend of Craig Reichow)
Lisa Nolf (friend of Jared Lem)
Jim Pollock (godfather of Andrew Barden)
Anne Marie Berardi Rabinowitz (friend of Tonya Elliott)
Dylan Roe (nephew of Mark and Jo Roe)
John Smith (brother-in-law of Cheryl Smith)
Diane Stanley (friend of Cheryl Smith)
Steven Swancutt (brother of Lynn Russo)
Diana Todd (friend of the Russos)
Michelle White (friend and coworker of Kate Flegal)
Bernadette Stevenson Williams (friend of the Roe family)
Laizu Zaman (friend of Jared Lem)

THOSE IN MOURNING

Family & friends of Barbara Imill (mother of Nannette Lem and grandmother of Jared Lem)

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Supply Pastor:	Rev. Pam Mitcham
Director of Music and Liturgy:	Jeremy Shoop
Sound Technician:	Bob Thompson
Video Technician:	Sylvia Moran

Serving October 26th: Reformation Sunday

Assisting Minister:	Rob Coffman
Reader:	Helen Wolfe
Torch Bearer:	Gary Wolfe
Torch Bearer:	Sarah Moran
Crucifer:	Andrew Barden
Greeter:	Cheryl Smith

Serving November 2nd: All Saints Sunday

Assisting Minister:	TBD
Reader:	TBD
Torch Bearer:	TBD
Torch Bearer:	TBD
Crucifer:	Sarah Moran
Greeter:	TBD

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE: OCT 26 – NOV 2

SU 26	9:00 am	Kingdom Kids & Angels ~ Choir Stall	
	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School ~ Conference Rm	
	10:00 am	Worship – Reformation Sunday	
	11:00 am	Fellowship & Coffee	
	11:30 am	Stephen Ministry Training	
	1:00 pm	Bldg. Use: Christian Missionary ~ FH	
	3:00 pm	Trunk or Treat	
	TU 28	6:30 pm	Bldg. Use: Boy Scouts Troop 12
	W 29	11:30 am	Lunch for the Soul ~ FH
	7:00 pm	ELL ~ Education Wing	
	TH 30	7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal ~ Sanctuary
	8:00 pm	Bell Rehearsal ~ Sanctuary	
SA 1	8:00 am	Bldg. Use: Herndon's Women AA ~ Rm 204	
	8:30 am	Bldg. Use: SEIU ~ FH	
	9:30 am	Stephen Ministry Supervision	
SU 2	11:00 am	Bldg. Use: Called2Be 7 th Day Adventist	
	9:00 am	Kingdom Kids & Angels ~ Choir Stall	
	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School ~ Conference Rm	
	10:00 am	Worship – All Saints Sunday	
	11:00 am	Fellowship & Coffee	
	11:30 am	Stephen Ministry Training	
	1:00 pm	Bldg. Use: Christian Missionary ~ FH	

2026 CHURCH COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

It is time to start collecting nominations for HCLC's 2026 Church Council. There are many positions open. Please prayerfully consider serving in one of them. Speak with Jeremy Shoop (MusicDir@HolyCrossHerndon.org) if you would like to place your name in nomination or if you have any questions.

Open positions

Property, Stewardship

Open Positions with at least one nominee

Fellowship, Christian Education, Youth, Secretary, Treasurer, Worship and Music, Personnel

THANK YOU – PROPERTY TEAM!



Thank you to the many volunteers who devoted their time and talents to maintaining and improving our church property. (Especially through the summer heat!) Your efforts not only enhance our physical space but also reflect the love and stewardship that make our church community so special. Thank you for your faithful service!

TIME CHANGE NEXT WEEKEND

Daylight saving time ends on Sunday, November 2. Be sure to move your clocks back an hour and enjoy the extra sleep before church that morning.



All Saints Sunday Nov. 2 - 10:00 AM

As we celebrate the saints who have gone before us, we look at how we both stand on their faith as well as continue reforming God's church. Join us for a special time of prayer where names of loved ones who have passed will be read as you light candles in their memory.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us. (Hebrews 12:1)



PLEASE RETURN YOUR PLEDGE CARDS

Place in the offering plate during worship.

or

Scan the QR code to fill out electronically.

Your pledge IS ESSENTIAL

- ✓ WORSHIP AND MUSIC
- ✓ FAITH FORMATION
- ✓ CARING MINISTRIES
- ✓ OUTREACH
- ✓ EVERYDAY EXPENSES

Help Holy Cross build a sound, responsible budget for 2026.

Thank you for your faithful generosity.



Thank you to everyone who participated in Stewardship Sunday last week. If you haven't turned in your 2026 pledge card yet, please do and help us finish the campaign strong.

LUNCH FOR THE SOUL – NOVEMBER 5

We need your help to serve our neighbors in need through this caring ministry! Holy Cross provides lunch on the first Wednesday of every month, and your support in cooking, serving, or cleanup is always welcome. Our next opportunity to serve is on Wednesday, November 5th. Please consider joining us! You can sign up at: perfectpotluck.com/YEEI1717

WITH GRATITUDE

Dear Holy Cross Family,

I am so thankful for the recognition you gave me this past Sunday. It's always great to see the gathering as people come to worship, but Sunday seemed to have a special "vibe" about



Thank you for the luncheon, and thank you for the beautiful guitar (it has a pickup!) I still can't quite believe you thought of it, found it, and presented it to me at the close of worship. I am truly grateful, even though my finger tips are now very, very sore.

- Pastor Pam

Holy Cross Lutheran Church Welcomes ALL!

Holy Cross Lutheran Church joyfully affirms and celebrates that every person is a beloved child of God. We welcome all who are seeking God's boundless love and sustaining grace into full community with us at Holy Cross. As disciples of Jesus Christ, we commit ourselves to breaking down barriers and systems that divide God's children working to be a space committed to racial equality for God's people and to building a community where all are recognized as part of Christ's new creation.



We welcome you, and you are safe with us...
 Whatever your race, ethnicity, or heritage;
 Whatever your relationship status;
 We welcome you, and you are safe with us...

Whatever your sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, or gender expression;
 Whatever your socio-economic status;
 We welcome you, and you are safe with us...

Whatever your age and life circumstance;
 Whatever your physical and mental ability.
 You are a beloved child of God, you are valued, and you are welcome here.

What to Expect in Worship

Worship services can be intimidating for newcomers. While we try to make worship as accessible as possible for everyone, we know that some aspects can be confusing. Feel free to ask an usher or someone near you for help if you have any questions today. We are happy to help and want all voices to be included in praise to God.

Our worship style is traditional at Holy Cross. A full liturgy is used to focus our praise and prayers to God. Notes are included in the side gutter of the bulletin to explain why we use the various liturgical elements. Communion is celebrated every Sunday at Holy Cross. The table (altar) is not our table, but Christ's table. Just as Christ welcomes all, all are welcome to receive communion at Holy Cross. Pastor will give instructions on how we celebrate communion at that part of the service. Written instructions are also included at that point in the bulletin.

Throughout the year we emphasize each liturgical season differently to mark the passage of time. Liturgical texts change to reflect aspects of that season, some elements are removed or added to reflect the mood of that season, and colors used to decorate the chancel are changed to provide visual reminders of the current season.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Transforming the world & ourselves, together in community, fellowship, and faith.

Reformation Sunday
October 26, 2025 ~ 10:00 AM

During the sixteenth century, some German Lutheran churches celebrated an annual thanksgiving day for the Reformation, and in 1667 the festival was set for October 31 or the Sunday prior, since on this date in 1517 Martin Luther posted the Ninety-five Theses on the Wittenberg church door. The date on which to commemorate the life and achievements of Martin Luther is February 18, his death day in 1546. The point of the festival is the continuing need for perpetual reformation of all churches, rather than Lutheran self-congratulation.



WE GATHER



GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

A Mighty Fortress with Trumpet Tune arr. Susan Caudill/Jerry Nelson
Marcia Kratzke, piano; Jeremy Shoop, organ

Please stand.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, the strength of our ancestors, the host of this meal, the builder of the city that is to come.

Assembly: **Amen.**

Pastor: If we have died with Christ, we will also live with Christ. Let us confess our sin to the one who is faithful.

Silence for self-reflection.

Pastor: God our helper,
Assembly: **we confess the many ways we have failed to live as your disciples. We have not finished what we began. We have feasted with friends but ignored**

strangers. We have been captivated by our possessions. Lift our burdens, gracious God. Refresh our hearts and forgive our sin. Raise us to the new life you have chosen for us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Pastor:

There is rejoicing in heaven when sinners repent. Put your trust in these promises: God will never leave you or forsake you. You who were lost have been found. For the sake of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Rejoice with the angels at this good news.

Assembly:

Amen.



In her series, *Stories of The Hymns*, Karen Silvis shares this:

“In 1866, an influential and liberal Anglican bishop wrote a book which attacked the historic accuracy of the Pentateuch. This caused a widespread controversy throughout the Anglican church. A pastor ministering to the poor of London at the time was deeply disturbed by the debate. He wrote a collection of twelve creedal hymns which were based on the Apostle's Creed. His purpose was to instruct his people in the truth and to combat the liberal attacks on the Bible. The author of these hymns was Samuel J. Stone and Stone knew that the foundation of the church must be the Lordship of Christ and not the views of the people. His hymn, ‘The Church's One Foundation’ was based on the Ninth Article of the creed, which reads, ‘The Holy Catholic (or Universal) Church; the Communion of Saints; He is the head of this Body.’

GATHERING HYMN - Stanzas 1, 3 & 5

(ELW 654)

The Church's One Foundation

1 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
 2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,
 4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war,
 5 Yet she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One,

she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth:
 by schisms . . rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;
 and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.

From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
 one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
 yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,
 Oh, bless - ed heav'n - ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace,

with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
 and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
 and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
 that we, like saints be - fore us, may see you face to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839–1900
 Music: AURELIA, Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–1876

It was from this cauldron of doctrinal dispute and crisis over a century ago that one of the great hymns of our faith came into being. Stone's faith in the inspiration of scripture, his refusal to compromise before the higher criticism of his day, and his conviction of the Lordship of Christ has given us this stately hymn."

This hymn has been written about, sung, and translated as much or more than any other hymn in the church's history. It has been estimated that by the end of the twentieth century this hymn is sung in over two hundred languages and that close to one hundred English

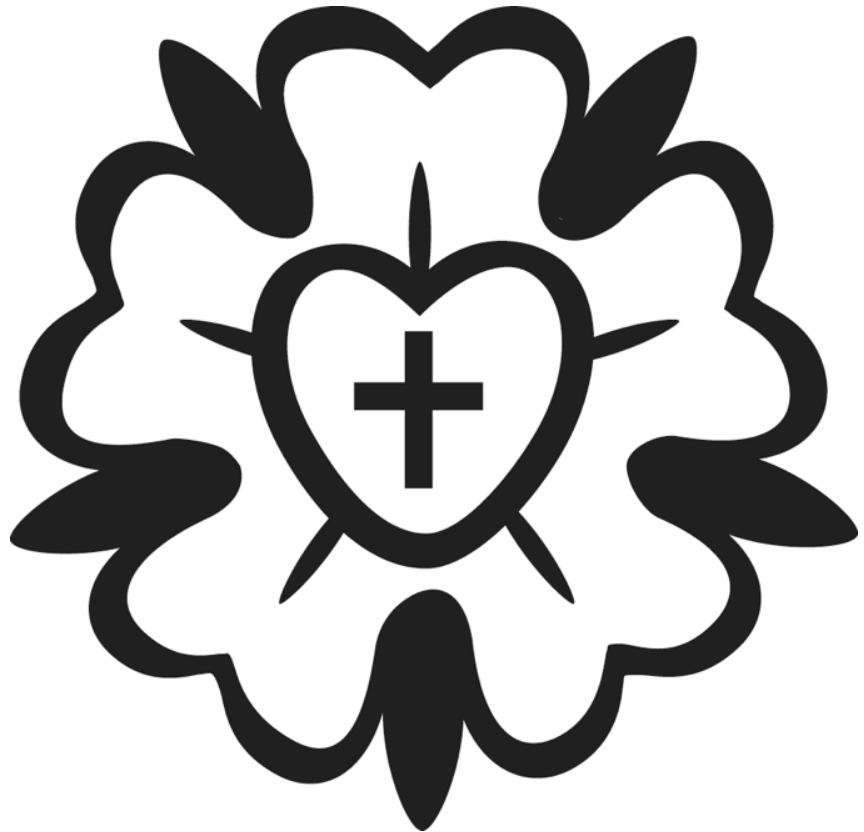
GREETING

Pastor:

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

Assembly:

And also with you.



HYMN OF PRAISE - Stanzas 1, 2 & 4

(ELW 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

translations have been made.

This “Battle Hymn of the Reformation” is based on portions of Psalm 46, scripture being the inspiration for several of Luther’s hymns. The final stanza is Luther’s vow, and ours, to cling to God’s Word and Truth in spite of the stresses of this life.

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!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
 Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther
 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

This prayer is based on a prayer printed in the Saxon Church Order of 1539, thanks God for the Spirit given to the church and asks for God’s continued help and guidance.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.
 Assembly: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray. 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.

Assembly: **Amen.**

Please sit.



LISTENING WITH CHILDREN'S EARS

ANTHEM

Meditation on Beautiful Savior
Joyful Ringers

arr. Cathy Mokolbust

The oracle from Jeremiah is appointed because of its promise that God will continue a covenant of grace. Christians have seen that new covenant, and the forgiveness of sin and knowledge of God it brings, as embodied in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and renewed at the Supper—"the new covenant in my blood."

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 31:31-34

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the Lord means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the Lord will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.

Reader: A reading from the prophet Jeremiah.

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It 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. ³³But 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. ³⁴No 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.

Reader: Word of God, word of life.

Assembly: **Thanks be to God.**

The psalm for the day is Psalm 46, which Luther versified and Christianized into his hymn “A mighty fortress is our God.” The psalm includes the ancient imagery of an impregnable and peaceful city in which the deity dwells. In classic Christian interpretation, the church might be such a city, but only because Christ is in its center.

This excerpt from Romans is appointed because it summarizes the biblical gospel so transformative for Martin Luther. It is faith in Christ that saves, not “law,” that is, religious practices stipulated in the Torah, nor by “boasting” in our church either. The church is called

PSALM

Psalm 46

Reader: As our response to the reading from the prophet Jeremiah, we will read Psalm 46 responsively.

- ¹God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
- ²**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**
- ³though its waters rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.
- ⁴**There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.**
- ⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;
God shall help it at the break of day.
- ⁶**The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth melts away.**
- ⁷The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.
- ⁸**Come now, regard the works of the LORD,
what desolations God has brought upon the earth;**
- ⁹behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world; who breaks
the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.
- ¹⁰**“Be still, then, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”**
- ¹¹The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Reader: Word of God, word of life.

Assembly: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

Romans 3:19-28

Paul’s words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ’s death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

Reader: A reading from Paul’s letter to the Romans.

- ¹⁹Now 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. ²⁰For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

perpetually to renew its faith in God's grace.

²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom 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; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

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

Reader: Word of God, word of life.

Assembly: Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

(Setting 9)

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Repeat alleluia

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

It is not the church, or any one church, that is truth; rather, Jesus Christ is truth. No church can claim ownership of the word; rather, Jesus Christ is the Word. The son is

GOSPEL

John 8:31-36

Pastor: The Gospel according to John the 8th chapter.

Assembly: Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹Jesus said to the Jewish people who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." ³³They answered him, "We

free, that is, free to remain in the house. We gather around that word to receive the truth and experience life in the Father's house.

are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?"

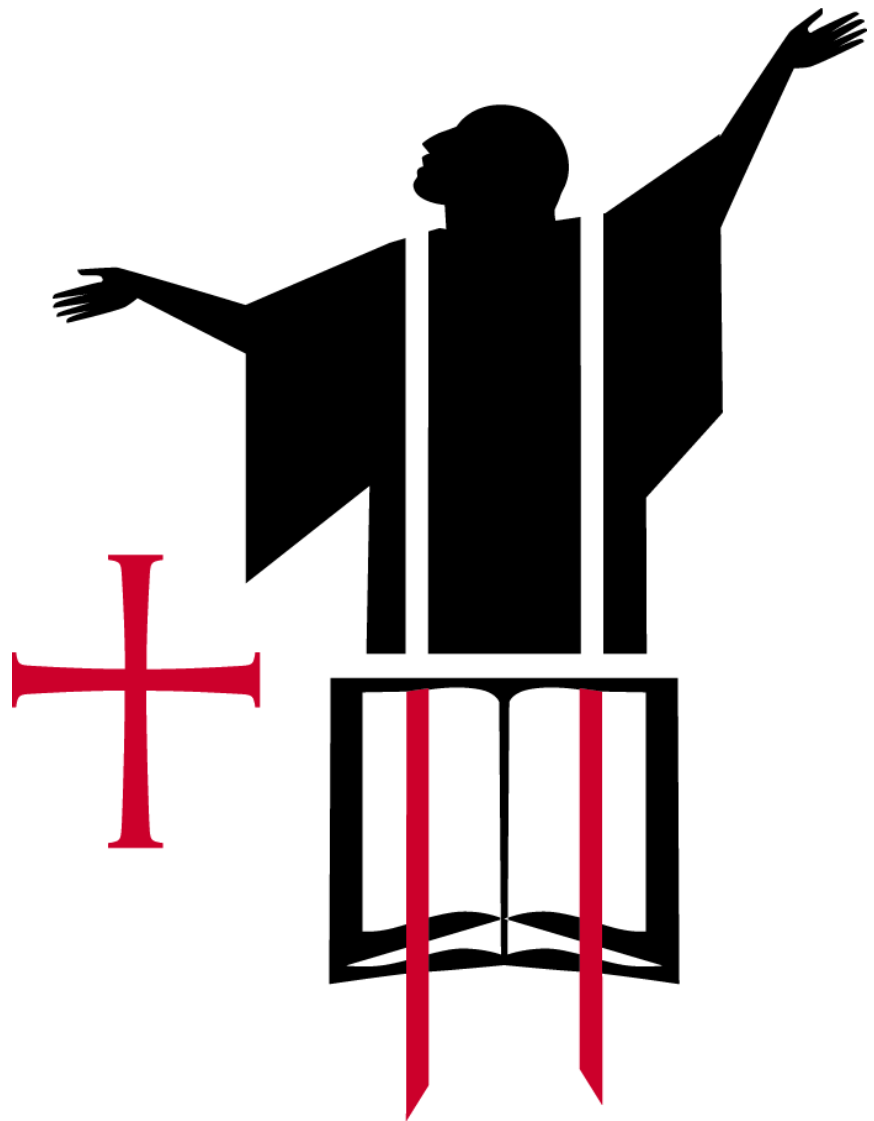
³⁴Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

Pastor: The Gospel of our Lord.
Assembly: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please sit.

SERMON

Please stand.



While some hymns inspired by the word of God are more meditative, “Thy Strong Word” is not about tender love, but about the aspects of the word of God that cleave the darkness, break the light of salvation, bespeak us righteous, break forth wisdom from the cross and explode into alleluia. This hymn was first written in 1954 for Concordia Seminary in St. Louis as a processional commencement hymn. The original four stanzas were inspired by the seminary’s motto “Anothen to Phos” - “Light from Above.”

The tune EBENEZER (also called ton-y-botel, “tune in a bottle,” because of a story with no foundation that it had been found in a bottle that washed up on the coast of North Wales) provides the hymn’s text with the power it deserves. Ralph Vaughan Williams commented on EBENEZER being one of the world’s finest one hundred tunes.

HYMN OF THE DAY - Stanzas 1, 3 & 6

(ELW 511)

Thy Strong Word



1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; at thy
 2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, dark as
 3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous; bright with
 4 From the cross thy wis - dom shin - ing break - eth



speak - ing it was done. For cre - at - ed light we
 night and deep as death, broke the light of thy sal -
 thine own ho - li - ness, glo - rious now, we press toward
 forth in con - qu'ring might; from the cross for - ev - er



thank thee, while thine or - dered sea - sons run.
 va - tion, breathed thine own life - breath - ing breath.
 glo - ry, and our lives our hopes con - fess.
 beam - eth all thy bright re - deem - ing light.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise to thee who light dost send!



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!

5 Give us lips to sing thy glory,
 tongues thy mercy to proclaim,
 throats that shout the hope that fills us,
 mouths to speak thy holy name.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 May the light which thou dost send
 fill our songs with alleluias,
 alleluias without end!

6 God the Father, light-creator,
 to thee laud and honor be.
 To thee, Light of Light begotten,
 praise be sung eternally.
 Holy Spirit, light-revealer,
 glory, glory be to thee.
 Mortals, angels, now and ever
 praise the holy Trinity!

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907–1976
 Music: EBENEZER, Thomas J. Williams, 1869–1944
 Text © 1969 Concordia Publishing House

APOSTLES' CREED

Assisting Minister: With the whole church let us profess our faith,
Assembly: **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.**

**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.**

**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

*We pray for the greater
 church.*

Assisting Minister: Renewed in God's everlasting grace, let us pray for
 the church, the world, and all creation.

Free your church, O God, with grace, mercy, and
 love to be transformed by your word. Direct your
 church to be united in word and deed so that all
 creation knows the uniting and transforming power
 of the gospel. God of grace,

Assembly: **receive our prayer.**

We pray for creation.

Assisting Minister: Renew creation, O God, so that all living creatures
 thrive together. Guide those who work to restore
 and renew creation. Preserve and care for
 endangered species throughout the world. God of
 grace,

Assembly: **receive our prayer.**

We pray for justice.

Assisting Minister: O God of all nations, you call us to seek justice and care for one another. In this time when many are affected by the government shutdown, workers without pay, families facing uncertainty, and those who depend on public services, grant strength and provision for all in need. Grant wisdom and compassion to leaders and public servants as they work toward stability and peace. Bless communities and congregations offering support to neighbors, and comfort all who are anxious or discouraged God of grace,

Assembly: **receive our prayer.**

We pray for those in need.

Assisting Minister: Heal all who suffer, O God, and bring them peace. Draw near to people who are incarcerated. Give hope to people experiencing housing or employment insecurity, oppression, or discrimination. Heal all who are ill, including those we name before you now (*the assembly offers names*). Be our stronghold at all times. God of grace,

Assembly: **receive our prayer.**

We pray for the saints.

Assisting Minister: We give you thanks, O God, for the life and witness of all your saints. Give us hope in your son's victory through the cross. God of grace,

Assembly: **receive our prayer.**

Pastor: We offer our prayers, O God, trusting in your everlasting grace and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Assembly: **Amen.**

The sharing of THE PEACE is an ancient ritual that puts us right with our neighbors before we offer our gifts to God.

THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
Assembly: **And also with you.**

Please sit.

OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING

The Truth Will Make You Free
Joyful Ringers

by Anne Krentz Organ

Please stand.

OFFERTORY

The OFFERTORY will be sung in a round. You may start at point 1 or 2.

You Are Holy *Du är helig*

1 *



Du är he - lig, du är hel. Du är all - tid myck-et mer
 You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more

än vi nån - sin kan för - stå, du är nä - ra än - då.
 than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.

Väl - sig - nad va - re du som kom - mer hit just nu,
 Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here

väl - sig - na - de vår jord, blir till bröd på vår jord.
 to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.

2



Du är he - lig, du är hel - het,
 You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,

du är när - het he - la kos - mos lo - var dig!
 you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!

Ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na,
 Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!

ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na vår Gud.
 Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

** May be sung in canon.*

Text: Per Harling, b. 1945

Music: DU ÄR HELIG, Per Harling

Text and music © 1990 Ton Vis Produktion AB, admin. Augsburg Fortress in North America, South America, and Central America, including the Caribbean.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Assisting Minister: Let us pray. God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Assembly: **Amen.**



WE COME TO GOD'S TABLE



GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Assembly: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

Assembly: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Assembly: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

Assembly: **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

Pastor: Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat and live.

Assembly: Thanks be to God.

DISTRIBUTION

*This is Christ's table of welcome. Jesus invites **all** who are hungry and thirsty for unconditional love and acceptance to come to God's banquet. The ushers will direct you forward at the appropriate time. Communion will be by station. The pastor will be in the center with the bread. All the bread we use here is gluten free. On either side will be someone with a tray of red wine and white grape juice. Empty cups can be placed in the basket on either side of the aisle. If you wish to receive a blessing instead of communion, cross your arms on your chest.*

AGNUS DEI

(Setting 9)

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.

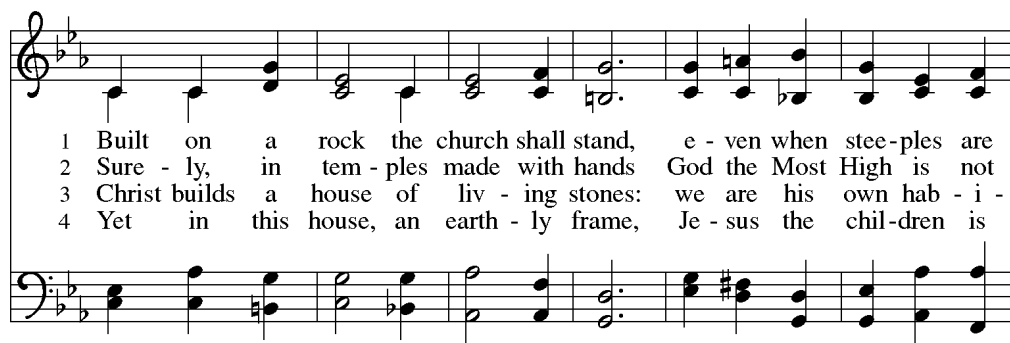
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

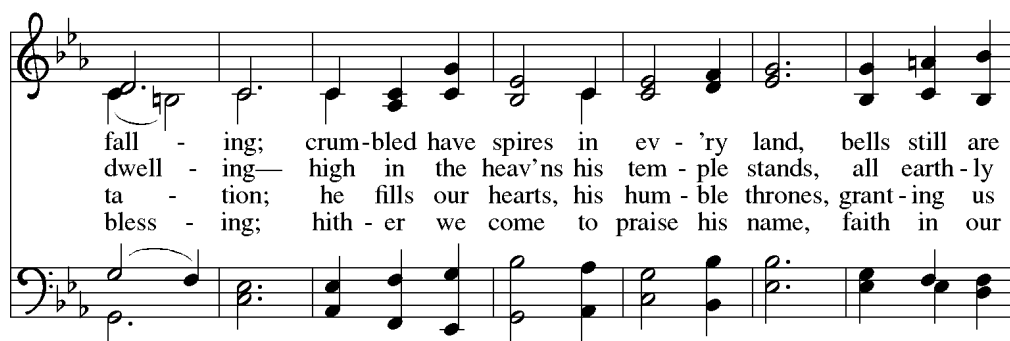
DISTRIBUTION HYMN

(ELW 652)

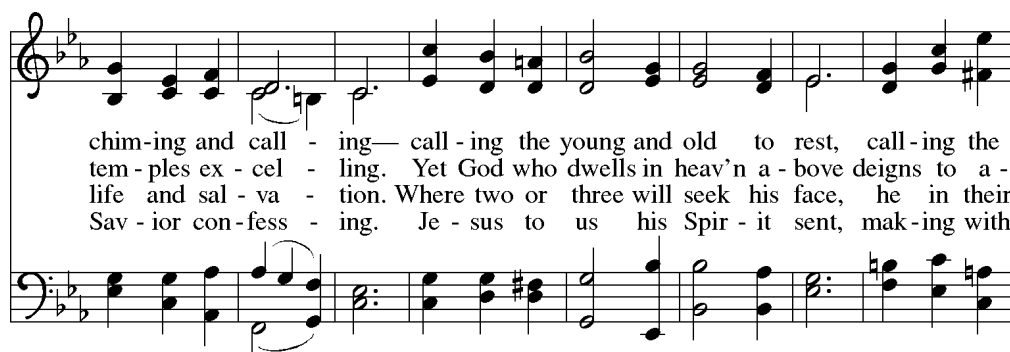
Built on a Rock



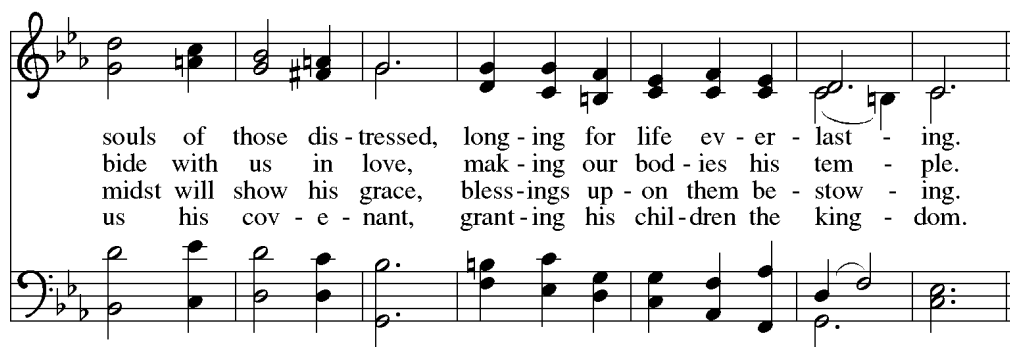
1 Built on a rock the church shall stand, e - ven when stee - ples are
 2 Sure - ly, in tem - ples made with hands God the Most High is not
 3 Christ builds a house of liv - ing stones: we are his own hab - i -
 4 Yet in this house, an earth - ly frame, Je - sus the chil - dren is



fall - ing; crum - bled have spires in ev - 'ry land, bells still are
 dwell - ing— high in the heav'n's his tem - ple stands, all earth - ly
 ta - tion; he fills our hearts, his hum - ble thrones, grant - ing us
 bless - ing; hith - er we come to praise his name, faith in our



chim - ing and call - ing— call - ing the young and old to rest, call - ing the
 tem - ples ex - cel - ling. Yet God who dwells in heav'n a - bove deigns to a -
 life and sal - va - tion. Where two or three will seek his face, he in their
 Sav - ior con - fess - ing. Je - sus to us his Spir - it sent, mak - ing with



souls of those dis - tressed, long - ing for life ev - er - last - ing.
 bide with us in love, mak - ing our bod - ies his tem - ple.
 midst will show his grace, bless - ings up - on them be - stow - ing.
 us his cov - e - nant, grant - ing his chil - dren the king - dom.

- 5 Through all the passing years, O Lord,
 grant that, when church bells are ringing,
 many may come to hear your Word,
 who here this promise is bringing:
 "I know my own, my own know me;
 you, not the world, my face shall see;
 my peace I leave with you. Amen."

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

(ACS 1048)

Founded on Faith



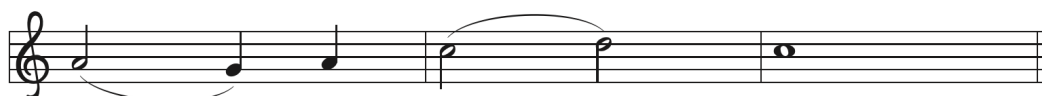
1 Found - ed on faith, the church— a - live by grace—
 2 Your cross, O Christ, re - news our life each day.
 3 E - quipped by prayer, we live the Spir - it's call.
 4 Grow - ing in grace for God's cre - at - ed earth,
 5 Found - ed on faith, called forth, em - pow' red to serve,



pro - claims the gos - pel here and ev - 'ry place.
 Bap - tized in you, we learn and teach and pray.
 Em - pow' red to serve with gifts, both great and small,
 we yearn for jus - tice, peace, and hu - man worth;
 we share God's end - less love with - out re - serve.



The word of God re - sounds through time and space:
 Fed by your love, with thank - ful hearts, we say:
 we bring the liv - ing hope of God to all.
 a world re - stored; a faith - ful, car - ing church.
 Then let us shout a - loud the liv - ing Word!



Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Paul D. Weber, b. 1949

Music: FOUNDED ON FAITH, Paul D. Weber

Text and music © 2017 Paul D. Weber, admin. Augsburg Fortress

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Pastor: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Assembly: Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Assisting Minister: Let us pray. O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

Assembly: Amen.



WE ARE SENT FORTH TO SERVE



“God Alone Be Praised” was commissioned by the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians in celebration of its 30th anniversary and the 500th anniversary of the reformation. Susan Briehl’s text is based on today’s psalm, Psalm 46. Zeb Highben’s tune paints her text beautifully. The tune opens with a rising melody, portraying the rising of oceans. Three repetitions of the final note provide musical foundation to the text, “God’s strong word is solid ground.” Zeb also employs both major and minor keys in this hymn. While singing about war, environmental disasters, sin, and grief, the key is a sad sounding d minor. When the text turns to God’s promise of grace and love, the tune turns to a triumphant D Major.

SENDING HYMN

God Alone Be Praised

1 O - ceans rise, the coast-land trem-bles; moun-tains melt and dry earth
 2 Na - tions rage, the em - pire fal - ters; seek-ing ref - uge, ex - iles
 3 Come and see; God’s mer - cy gath - ers all that sin and grief have

crum-bles. All the world with long - ing groans. Love a -
 wan - der. Walls and weap - ons rise from fear. Through this
 shat - tered. Life from fields of death is raised. Peace, be

bides, this gra - cious prom - ise is our help, our hope and
 wil - der - ness a riv - er flows to heal and bless us
 still; let pride - ful thun - der yield to songs of joy and

so - lace. God’s strong word is sol - id ground.
 ev - er. God the cru - ci - fied dwells here.
 won - der. God and God a - lone be praised.

Text: Susan R. Briehl, b. 1952, based on Psalm 46
 Music: AD LUCEM, Zebulon M. Highben, b. 1979
 Text © 2016 Susan R. Briehl, admin. Augsburg Fortress
 Music © 2016 Zebulon M. Highben, admin. Augsburg Fortress

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, ☩ bless you now and forever.

Assembly: Amen.

DISMISSAL

Assisting Minister: Go in peace. God is at work in you.
Assembly: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE
A Mighty Fortress

arr. Robert Hobby

As part of our continuous efforts to make worship more inclusive and sensory friendly, we ask that you refrain from applauding during worship and after the postlude.

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FROM THE CLOUD OF WITNESSES

Vatican Council II, The Basic Sixteen Documents, Revised Translation in Inclusive Language, ed. Austin Flannery, OP (Northport, NY: Costello Publishing Company, 1996), 507-508.

Every renewal of the church essentially consists in an increase of fidelity to her own calling. Undoubtedly this explains the dynamism of the movement toward unity. Christ summons the church, as she goes her pilgrim way, to that continual reformation of which she always has need, insofar as she is a human institution here on earth. Consequently, if, in various times and circumstances, there have been deficiencies in moral conduct or in church discipline, or even in the way that church teaching has been formulated—to be carefully distinguished from the deposit of faith itself—these should be set right at the opportune moment and in the proper way.

—*Decree on Ecumenism, Second Vatican Council*

This window depicts the Augustinian monk Martin Luther with the Ninety-Five Theses (1517), scenes from the Diet (imperial meeting) in the city of Worms (1521) and the Diet of Augsburg (1530), and the Luther rose.



THIS WEEK'S COMMEMORATIONS

Philipp Nicolai, died 1608; Johann Heermann, died 1647; Paul Gerhardt, died 1676; hymnwriters

Sunday, October 26, 2025

These great hymnwriters all worked in seventeenth-century Germany in times of war and plague. Nicolai, a pastor, lost 1,300 parishioners to plague, 170 in one week. He wrote "O Morning Star, how fair and bright" and "Wake, awake, for night is flying." Heermann's hymns, including "Ah, holy Jesus," often express the emotions of faith. Gerhardt, perhaps the greatest Lutheran hymnwriter, was a pastor in Berlin.

Simon and Jude, Apostles

Tuesday, October 28, 2025

We know little about these apostles. Simon is listed as "the zealot" or Cananean in New Testament lists. Jude, also called Thaddeus, asked Jesus at the last supper why he had revealed himself to the disciples but not to the world.

Reformation Day

Friday, October 31, 2025

By the end of the seventeenth century, many Lutheran churches celebrated a festival commemorating Martin Luther's posting of the Ninety-five Theses, a summary of abuses in the church of his time. At the heart of the reform movement was the gospel, the good news that it is by grace through faith that we are justified and set free.

All Saints Day

Saturday, November 1, 2025

The custom of commemorating all of the saints of the church on a single day goes back at least to the third century. All Saints Day celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who make up the body of Christ. On this day or the following Sunday, many congregations will remember the faithful who have died during the past year.

There is a hearing-assistance system (induction loop) in the Sanctuary for those with hearing impairments. Please ask an usher for instructions.

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