

“Landmark of the Gospel Since 1834”
St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

Our Purpose: Led by the Word of God, St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church is a family who lives and shares the gospel of Jesus Christ through love and service to all.

October 27, 2024

10:30 AM

Reformation Sunday

After the ringing of the bell ...

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Mary Anne Weibel, Organist

CONFSSIONAL PRAYER

Martin Luther

Behold, Lord, an empty vessel that needs to be filled.

My Lord, fill it.

I am weak in the faith;

strengthen me.

I am cold in love;

warm me and make me fervent, that my love may go out to my neighbor.

I do not have a strong and firm faith; at times I doubt and am unable to trust you altogether.

O Lord, help me.

Strengthen my faith and trust in you.

In you I have sealed the treasure of all I have.

I am poor;

you are rich and came to be merciful to the poor.

I am a sinner;

you are upright.

With me, there is an abundance of sin;

in you is the fullness of righteousness.

Therefore, I will remain with you of whom I can receive,

but to whom I may not give. Amen.

HYMN

O God of Light (sung to How Great Thou Art LBW #532)

LBW #237 w/#532 refrain

**1 O God of light, your Word, a lamp unfailing,
Shall pierce the darkness of our earthbound way
And show your grace, your plan for us unveiling,
And guide our footsteps to the perfect day.**

Refrain:

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,

How great Thou art! How great Thou art!

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,

How great Thou art! How great Thou art!

**2 From days of old, through blind and willful ages,
Though we rebelled, you gently sought again,
And spoke through saints, apostles, prophets, sages,
Who wrote with eager or reluctant pen. [Refrain]**

**3 Undimmed by time, those words are still revealing
To sinful hearts your justice and your grace;
And questing spirits, longing for your healing,
See your compassion in the Savior's face. [Refrain]**

**4 To all the world your summons you are sending,
Through all the earth, to ev'ry land and race,
That myriad tongues, in one great anthem blending,
May praise and celebrate Your gift of grace. [Refrain]**

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE

p. 81-82

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.
Power and riches and wisdom and strength,
and honor and blessing and glory are his.
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.
Sing with all the people of God,
and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing and honor and glory and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.
This is the feast of victory for our God,
for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.
Alleluia. Alleluia.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Eternal light, shine in our hearts. Eternal wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance. Eternal compassion, have mercy on us. Turn us to seek your face, and enable us to reflect your goodness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 31:7-9

⁷Thus says the Lord:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;
proclaim, give praise, and say,
“Save, O Lord, your people,
the remnant of Israel.”

⁸See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north,
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,
among them the blind and the lame,
those with child and those in labor, together;
a great company, they shall return here.

⁹With weeping they shall come,

and with consolations I will lead them back,
I will let them walk by brooks of water,
in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;
for I have become a father to Israel,
and Ephraim is my firstborn.

PSALM 126

Read responsively

p. 280

¹When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,
then were we like those who dream.
²**Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy.**
³Then they said among the nations,
“The LORD has done great things for them.”
⁴**The LORD has done great things for us,
and we are glad indeed.**
⁵Restore our fortunes, O LORD,
like the watercourses of the Negev.
⁶**Those who sowed with tears
will reap with songs of joy.**
⁷Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed,
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

SECOND READING

Hebrews 7:23-28

²³The former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office;
²⁴but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. ²⁵Consequently he is able for all time to save those who approach God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.
²⁶For it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, blameless, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. ²⁷Unlike the other high priests, he has no need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for those of the people; this he did once for all when he offered himself. ²⁸For the law appoints as high priests those who are subject to weakness, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever.

GOSPEL VERSE

p. 83

*Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life, Alleluia.*

GOSPEL READING

Mark 10:46-52

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁴⁶As [Jesus] and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. ⁴⁷When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” ⁴⁸Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” ⁴⁹Jesus stood still and said, “Call him here.” And they called the blind man, saying to him, “Take heart; get up, he is calling you.” ⁵⁰So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. ⁵¹Then Jesus said to him, “What do you want me to do for you?” The blind man said to him, “My teacher, let me see again.” ⁵²Jesus said to him, “Go; your faith has made you well.” Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PROCLAMATION

HYMN

The Church's One Foundation

LBW #369, vs.1-2, 4-5

**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.**

**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.
O blessed heav'nly chorus!
Lord, save us by your grace,
That we, like saints before us,
May see you face to face.**

PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS

APOSTLES' CREED

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

ADDRESS AND QUESTIONS

WELCOME

Let us welcome *this sister* in Christ to this community of faith.
**We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.
Together we will give thanks and praise to God
and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Challenged by God's Word in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and the whole creation.

A brief silence.

Eternal Counselor, guide the church along your paths of mercy. Direct it to be a refuge where all are genuinely welcomed and their gifts are celebrated. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Eternal Nurturer, preserve natural places for rest and rejuvenation. Guide the work of conservationists, park managers, urban planners, gardeners, and all caretakers of natural spaces. Attune us to the wonders we disregard or fail to notice. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Eternal Wisdom, strengthen the voices of those who cry out for change to unjust systems. Give lawmakers, judges, and all those who occupy seats of power listening and compassionate hearts. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Eternal Compassion, train us to respond to the cries of those in any kind of need. Give encouragement and comfort to those who call out for relief from pain, grief, or oppression (*especially*). God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Eternal Servant, grant vision and wisdom to the church so that those who are in need are not ignored. May the command of Jesus to love our neighbor sharpen our focus for work in the kingdom. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Eternal Welcome, We give you thanks for our new member, Emily Welch whom you have drawn to yourself by the love of Jesus Christ and whom we have welcomed into this household of faith. Keep us close together in your Spirit, in the breaking of bread and the prayers, and in service to others. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Eternal Hope, may the legacy of the saints inspire us every day. We hold fast to the promise that we will be together in your presence forever. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in the saving grace you freely give, both now and forever.

Amen.

PEACE

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

p. 86

**Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
And fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
That we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer.
Grace our table with your presence,
And give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God,
source of every gift of your creation.
By these gifts and with our lives,
help us to serve one another and all in need,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

p. 88-91

The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: 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,

for You have proclaimed an eternal Gospel to all who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people. For this Good News, centered in Jesus Christ, we give You glory, and we worship You, who made the universe and all that is in it. And so, with the body of Christ, the church, the working of the Spirit in every time and every place, with the choirs of angels and all the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

DISTRIBUTION

Jesus welcomes you to this table.
Come, here is your God.

Today, we commune at the rail. Please sanitize your hands before you commune.

BLESSING

God all mighty,
God most merciful
✠ bless you, keep you,
and give you peace.
Amen.

HYMN

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

LBW #229, vs. 1 & 4

**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.**

**4 God's Word forever shall abide,
no thanks to foes, who fear it;
For God himself fights by our side**

**With weapons of the Spirit.
Were they to take our house,
Goods, honor, child, or spouse,
Though life be wrenched away,
They cannot win the day.
The Kingdom's ours forever!**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, *to live and share the gospel of Jesus Christ through love and service to all.*

Serving in mission together: Pastor Laura Cavendish and the members of St. Paul
6046 St. Paul Rd., Ashville, OH 43103 • 740-983-3188
www.stpaulashville.org • Pastor's Cell 937-248-9821

Please take advantage of the worship stream if you are sick. Please mask if you have been closely exposed to someone with a virus. Sanitizer is available in the pews.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: Isaiah 25:6-9; Psalm 24; Revelation 21:1-6a; John 11:32-44