

“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 25, 2026

10:30 AM

Reformation Sunday

After the ringing of the bell...

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.

Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
**we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness
in the world and in our own hearts.**

Creation groans from overuse.

Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.

Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.

**Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love
to others.**

Turn our hearts back to you.

Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.

**Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.**

Amen.

Hear this good news:

We have peace with God through Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

Amen.

HYMN

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

LBW 229

**1 A mighty fortress is our God,
A sword and shield victorious;
He breaks the cruel oppressor's rod
and wins salvation glorious.
The old satanic foe**

has sworn to work us woe!
 With craft and dreadful might
 He arms himself to fight.
 On earth he has no equal.

2 No strength of ours can match his might!
 We would be lost, rejected.
 But now a champion comes to fight,
 whom God himself elected.
 You ask who this may be?
 The Lord of hosts is he!
 Christ Jesus, mighty Lord,
 God's only Son, adored.
 He holds the field victorious.

3 Though hordes of devils fill the land
 all threat'ning to devour us.
 We tremble not, unmoved we stand;
 they cannot overpow'r us.
 Let this world's tyrant rage;
 In battle we'll engage!
 His might is doomed to fail;
 God's judgment must prevail!
 One little word subdues him.

4 God's Word forever shall abide,
 no thanks to foes, who fear it;
 For God himself fights by our side
 With weapons of the Spirit.
 Were they to take our house,
 Goods, honor, child, or spouse,
 Though life be wrenched away,
 They cannot win the day.
 The Kingdom's ours forever!

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

LBW P.79

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

Almighty God, gracious Lord, pour out your Holy Spirit upon your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your Word, protect and comfort them in all temptations, defend them against all their enemies, and bestow on the Church your saving peace; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

FIRST LESSON: Jeremiah 31:31-34

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.

PSALM: Psalm 46

- ¹ God 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 be toppled into the depths of the sea;
- ³ though its waters rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble at its tumult.
- ⁴ **The LORD of hosts is with us;**
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.
- ⁵ There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.
- ⁶ **God is in the midst of her; she shall not be overthrown;**
God shall help her at the break of day.
- ⁷ The nations make much ado, and the kingdoms are shaken;
God has spoken, and the earth shall melt away.
- ⁸ **The LORD of hosts is with us;**
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.
- ⁹ Come now and look upon the works of the LORD,
what awesome things he has done on earth.
- ¹⁰ **It is he who makes war to cease in all the world;**
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.
- ¹¹ “Be still, then, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”
- ¹² **The LORD of hosts is with us;**
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

SECOND LESSON: Philippians 3:4b-11

^{4b} If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸ More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

VERSE

LBW p. 83

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

GOSPEL: John 8:31-36

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 8th chapter.

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.

CHILDRENS MESSAGE

PROCLAMATION

HYMN

As Rain from the Clouds

RW#166

**1 As rain from the clouds
will your word come to earth,
as snow from the heavens,
refreshing the land;
then soften our soil
that the good seed may grow
and ripen rich fruit
to return to your hand.
We praise you, our God,
for the dew of your word**

**Refrain: We thank you, good gard'ner, for your tender toil.
We bless you, best farmer, for hundredfold yield,
For harvest of grace in our once barren soil.**

**2 As grain that is scattered
your word has been sown
on rocks and on roadways,
in good earth and sand.
Make fertile our soil
that the good seed may grow
and ripen rich fruit
to return to your hand.
We praise you, our God,
for the seed of your word. REFRAIN**

**As rays of the sun
shall your word light the world,
awaking and warming
and healing our land.
Then shine in our hearts
that the good seed may grow
and ripen rich fruit
to return to your hand.
We praise you, our God,
for the light of your word. REFRAIN**

CREED

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

LBW p.84

**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**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition ends: Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

THE PEACE

LBW p. 86

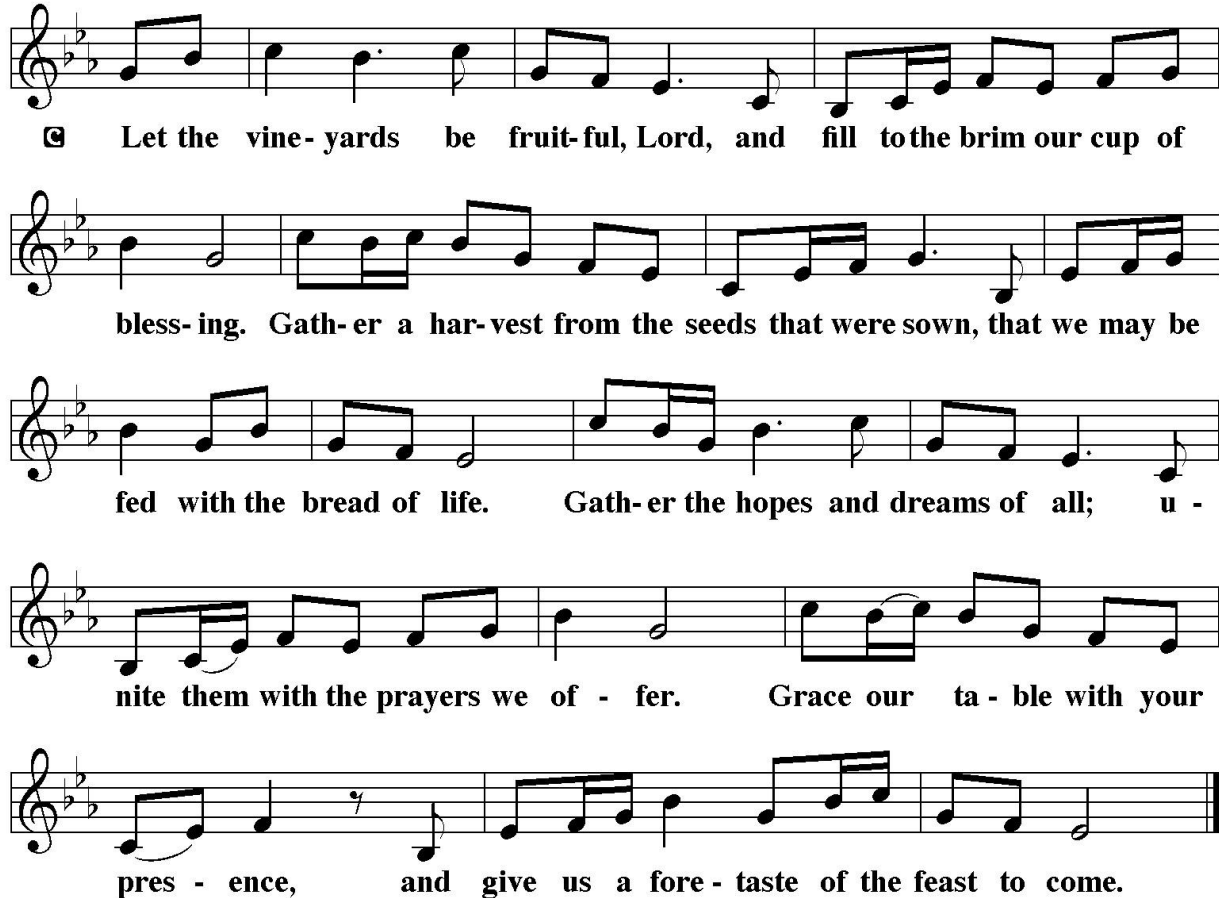
The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Share Christ's peace with one another...

OFFERTORY HYMN

LBW p. 86



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
 bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
 fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u -
 nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your
 pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

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.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

LBW p. 88

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 him thanks and praise.

PREFACE

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,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

By the witness of your saints
you show us the hope of our calling
and strengthen us to run the race set before us,
that we may delight in your mercy and rejoice with them in glory.
And so, with *all the reformers of your church* and all the saints,
with the choirs of angels and all the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY HOLY HOLY

LBW p. 89

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.

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

LBW p.91

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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.

THE MEAL IS SHARED...

PRAYER

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.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.
Amen

HYMN

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

LBW 448

1 Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,
 that saved a wretch like me!
 I once was lost, but now am found;
 Was blind, but now I see.

2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
 and grace my fears relieved;
 how precious did that grace appear
 the hour I first believed!

3 Through many dangers, toils and snares
 I have already come:
 'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
 and grace will lead me home.

**4 The Lord has promised good to me,
His Word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.**

DISMISSAL

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

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