

Sunday, October 27, 2024

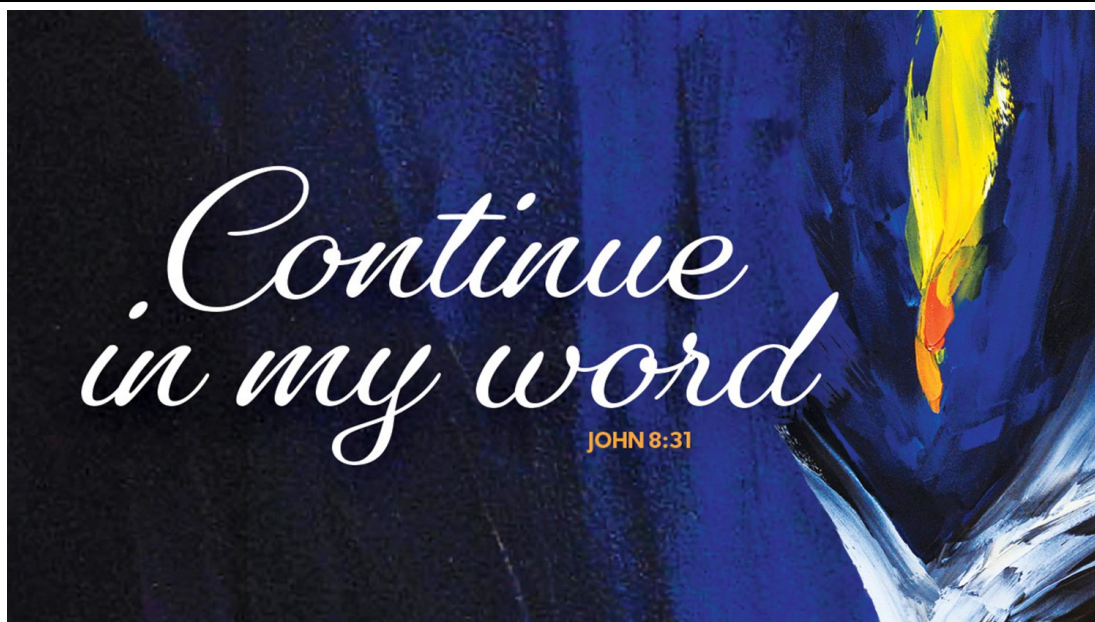
Reformation Sunday

St. John's Lutheran Church



Welcome to

St. John's Lutheran Church



Prayer of Illumination by Mike Moyers. Copyright © Mike Moyers. All rights reserved.
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PREPARING OUR HEARTS

THIS MORNING'S WORSHIP THEME

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.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

The processional cross represents Christ coming into the midst of his people. As the procession begins in the back of the nave, please turn and face the cross as it is carried forward.

(Please stand.)

PROCESSIONAL HYMN ELW 503

"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 join us
in welcoming
guest trumpeter,
KJ Kirk
from Maryville
High School.

9:00 AM
Acolyte/Crucifer:
Anna Kate McLemore

Lector:

Chris Wise

Communion Assistant:
Debbie Sweany

Ushers:

Cindy Merkel

Darrell Merkel

A/V:

Steve Kyle

11:00 AM
Acolyte/Crucifer:
Ella Smith

Lector:

Misty Anderson

Communion Assistant:
Christine Oehler

Ushers:

Megan Venable

Benny Smith

A/V:

TBA

Altar Guild:

Before:

Clarke Hinkle

Between:

Megan Venable

After:

Monica Wilson

(Please kneel.)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

A: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.
(Silence is kept for reflection.)

P: Gracious God,

A: have mercy on us.

**We confess that we have honored you with our lips,
but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues.**

**The cravings at war within us
cause conflicts and disputes.**

**In our desire to be first
we make distinctions among ourselves.**

We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last.

In your great mercy, forgive us our sins.

**Draw near to us with grace in time of need,
and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord.**

Amen.

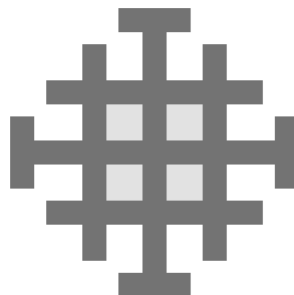
P: God promises to forgive our iniquity
and to remember our sin no more.

By grace you have been saved.

In the name of † Jesus Christ,
the source of eternal healing,

your sins are forgiven.

A: Amen.



PROCLAIMING THE WORD

(Please stand.)

HYMN OF PRAISE

“Love Divine”



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling,
2 Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it
3 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion,



joy of heaven to earth come down, fix in us thy
in - to ev - ery troub - led breast! Let us all in
pure and spot - less let us be. Let us see thy



hum - ble dwell - ling, all thy faith - ful mer - cies crown!
thee in - her - it, let us find that sec - cond rest.
great sal - va - tion per - fect - ly re - stored in thee,



Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,



pure un - bound - ed love thou art,
serve thee as thy hosts a - bove,
till in heav'n we take our place,



vi - sit us with thy sal - va - tion,
pray and praise thee with - out ceas - ing,
till we cast our crowns be - fore thee,



en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
lost in won - der, love, and praise.

GREETING

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

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: 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.

C: Amen.

This prayer concerns the theme of the day and prepares us for hearing the readings from scripture.

*In the First Lesson,
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.*

*In the Second Lesson,
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.*

(Please be seated.)

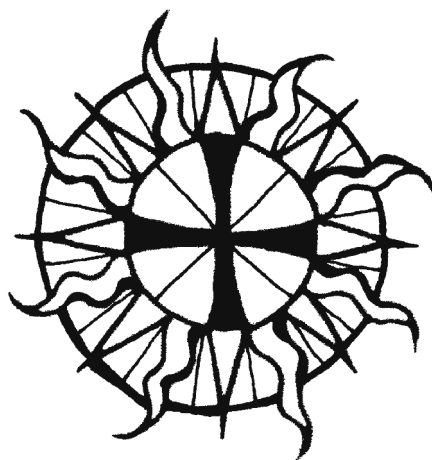
FIRST LESSON

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.

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.



SECOND LESSON

Romans 3:19-28

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 being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

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

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

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

We stand while the Gospel is read and speak acclamations after the reading because we believe Christ is present to us in the reading.

(Please stand.)

GOSPEL VERSE

"Let Justice Roll"



Let jus-tice roll, roll down like wa-ter, and right-eous-ness like a flow-ing stream.



Let jus-tice roll, roll down like wa-ter, and right-eous-ness like a flow-ing stream.

In the Gospel lesson: Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

HOLY GOSPEL

JOHN 8:31-36

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."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The meditation interprets the meaning of God's word for our lives today.

(Please be seated.)

MEDITATION

REV. JOHN TIRRO



(Please stand.)

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 779

“Amazing Grace”

1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found; was blind, but now I see.
grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5
Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1851–1921, alt.

We respond to God's
almighty acts as we
confess our faith in the
Words of the Creed.

APOSTLES' CREED ELW p. 127

**C: 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.

This reference to the
holy catholic church is
to the church universal.

With this prayer, we express our concern for the whole Church, for the nations of the world, for people in their various needs, and for our own congregation.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

- A:** Challenged by God's Word in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and the whole creation.
(Those who are able may kneel. Following each petition, respond with "hear our prayer.")
- A:** Lord of all, we give thanks for the whole church throughout the world. Open wide the paths toward unity between denominations so that all followers of Christ may join in shared worship and mission. God of grace,
- C: hear our prayer.**
- A:** Renewing God, as the dying leaves display their beauty, we are reminded that nature's cycle of life includes and requires both life and death. Instill in your people a mission of preservation and appreciation for trees, animals, and waterways threatened by climate collapse. God of grace,
- A:** Gracious God, in the spirit of reformation we pray for all who cry out for relief from systemic oppression. May the hearts of those who occupy seats of power be reformed so that peace becomes the center of our life together. God of grace,
- A:** Comforting God, be with all who are sick, suffering, or grieving in our own community and beyond. Surround them with the promise of your love, comfort, and grace that never ends. God of grace,
- A:** Divine Guide, continue to challenge this community to be ever reforming in our ministries and outreach efforts. Inspire creative ideas among us so that the communal, grace-filled word of God remains at the heart of our ministry. God of grace,
- A:** Almighty God, in Christ's resurrection you ensure that though life be wrenched away, death cannot win the day. May the truth of your saving grace through faith sustain our hope for life in you. God of grace,
- A:** Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in the saving grace you freely give, both now and forever.
- C: Amen.**

Those Remembered in Prayer:

*Michael Adams, David & Linda Cash, Pat & Charlsie Counts,
Hugh Denton, Al Gill, Lynda Hinkle, Jean Keener, Dick & Pat Krogmann,
Stan Leib, Don McWilliams, Nicki Nye, Nancy O'Callaghan,
Don Ray, Pam Shealy, Keith Solt, Norm Sorensen, Barbara Teague,
Tom Wainner, Maxine Whistler, Bill Wing, Ron & Jeanette Woodward,
our seminarians: Jordan Baker, Caitlynn Fox, and Joe Ley,
the students, staff, & mentors at Christenberry Elementary school,
synod partners in Guatemala,
and all those affected by the devastation of Hurricane Helene*

Completed Life
Emlyn Cobble

SHARING THE EUCHARIST

(Please stand.)

SHARING OF THE LORD'S PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

(Please be seated.)

A WELCOME TO GOD'S TABLE AND SIGNING OF THE PEW REGISTER

OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC

"How Excellent Thy Name:"
-Handel

We respond to God's Word by giving our offerings for God's work in the world. In our offerings to God, we give all that we are and have: ourselves, our abilities, and our possessions.

(Please stand.)

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

"Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart"



Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,



give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.



Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,



give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.



And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am



rich," be - cause of what the Lord has done for us. And



now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am



rich," be - cause of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

Text: Henry Smith
Music: GIVE THANKS, Henry Smith

Text and music © 1978 Integrity's Hosanna! Music (ASCAP). All rights reserved. International © secured.

The offertory prayer reminds us that God is the source of all gifts.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

- P: Blessed are you, O God,
C: **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 Presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

- P: The Lord be with you.
C: **And also with you.**
P: Lift up your hearts.
C: **We lift them to the Lord.**
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**
P Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God. The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.
C: **We praise you, O God.**
P: Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.
C: **We bless you, O God.**
P: We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.
C: **We thank you, O God.**
P: 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 his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith:
C: **Christ has died.**
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.
P: We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world.
Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end.
C: **Amen.**

The words Jesus used in instituting the Lord's Supper remind us of God's wonderful works, invite us to receive the sacrament, and ask for the Holy Spirit to bless us.

This prayer is based on
Matthew 6:9-13 and
Luke 11:24.

LORD'S PRAYER

mp
Our God, in heaven, ho - ly is your name, your
reign come, your will done, on earth as in hea-ven.
Give us to-day our dai - ly bread, and help us for-give, as we have been for - gi - ven.
mf
In the time of tri-al, lead us in - to light, for yours is the kin-dom, and the
f po - wer, and the glo-ry, for e - ver. *mp* Our God, in
hea-ven, ho - ly is your name, ho - ly is your name.

Words: Matt. 6:9-13;
adapted by
Mark A. Miller and
Laurie Zelman
Music: Mark A. Miller
Adapted and music
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(Please be seated.)

COMMUNION

Regarding the Sacrament of Holy Communion, all those who are baptized and profess Jesus Christ as Lord are encouraged to commune. For those who need gluten free wafers, they are available at the baptismal font, in the silver pyx. Those who prefer, may receive only the wafer. Additionally, there are individual communion sets in a basket on both front pews. If you are unable to come forward for any reason, alert an usher. Those who do not yet commune may come forward to receive a blessing.

LAMB OF GOD

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.

COMMUNION HYMN

“As A Mother Comforts Her Child”



As a moth-er com-forts her child, so God will com - fort you.



As a hen gath-ers her brood, so Christ will gath - er you.



As a wise one coun-sels her friend, so the Spir-it will coun-sel you.



The Trin - i - ty of love will be with you.

Text: Brian Wentzel, b. 1979
Music: TRINITY OF LOVE, Brian Wentzel
Text and music © 2018 Augsburg Fortress

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The blessing prepares us to continue our mission as Christian people in the world. The Sign of the Cross may be made by all as a reminder of Christ in whose name we are baptized and live.

(Please stand.)

BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in his grace.

C: Amen.

BENEDICTION

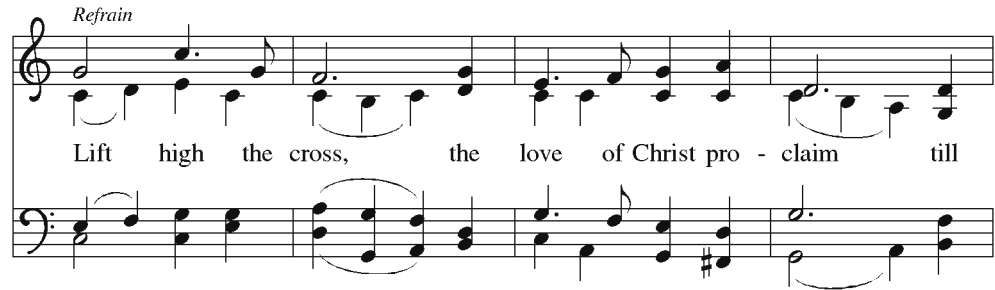
SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE

SENDING HYMN ELW 660

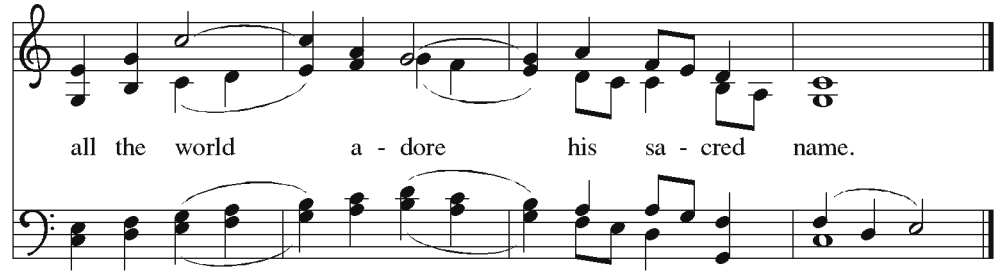
"Lift High the Cross"

As the cross is carried out into the world, we visually and spiritually follow the cross as we are led to love and serve the Lord.

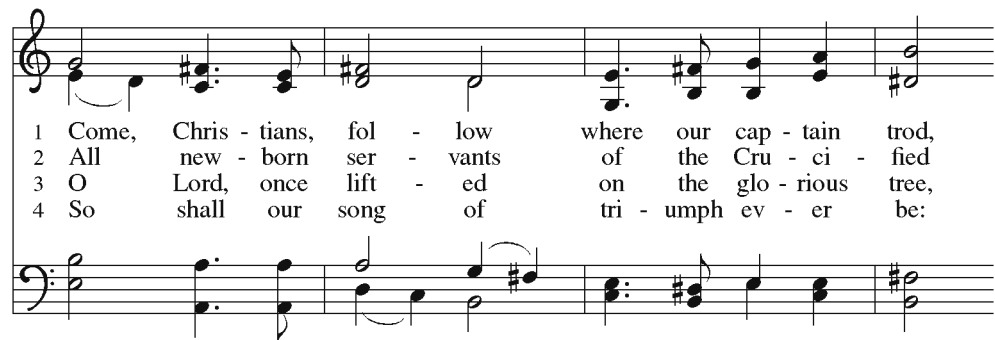
Refrain



Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till

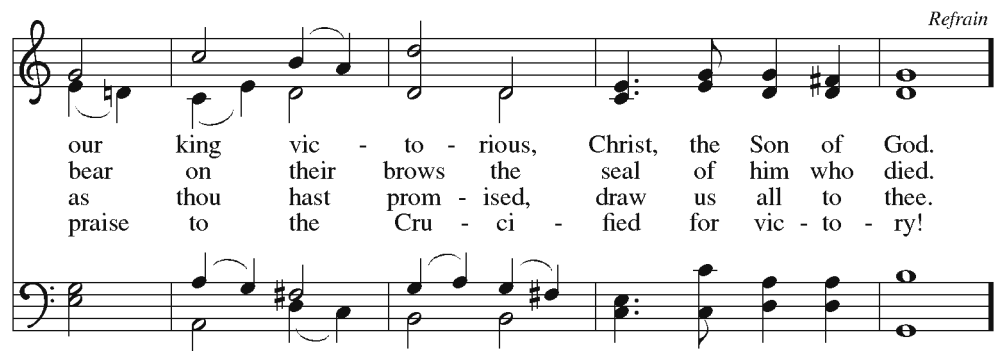


all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.



1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,
2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied tree,
3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Refrain



our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
bear on their brows the seal of him who died.
as praise thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.
praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

After each service, we encourage visitors and members to greet the pastors and each other in the Welcome Center.

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827-1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874-1956
Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875-1947
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

C: Thanks be to God.

The SJLC Minute

October 2024

Let All That You Do
Be Done in

Love
Stewardship Appeal 2025



TODAY IS COMMITMENT SUNDAY!

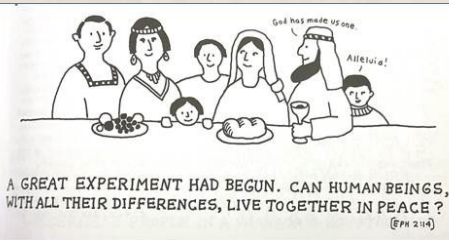
At St. John's Lutheran Church, we love inclusively, grow spiritually, and serve faithfully. We embrace ministry in downtown Knoxville, seeking to meet the needs of families who live in neighborhoods around the church, collaborate with local businesses, and respond to those in need, all in the heart of the mission district.

This year's three ministry initiatives include: expanding ministry programming for all ages, building communications impact, and exploring creative expressions of evangelism.

Please bring your completed Commitment Card forward at Communion and place it in the baskets located at the front of the church. If you need an extra Commitment Card, they are

located at the back of the church on the baptismal font. You can also send in a scanned pledge card to Toni in the church office at toni@sjlcknox.org or mail your card.

Join us in prayerfully supporting this important part of ministry planning for 2025!



ADULT FAITH FORMATION

In our last meeting, we discussed Chapter 12 in Daniel Erlander's *Manna and Mercy*, "Jerusalem," which covered Holy Week--from Jesus' entry to Jerusalem on Palm Sunday through the Crucifixion on Good Friday. Today, we'll read and discuss Chapter 13, "A Risen

Jesus, A Risen People" (pp. 58-66). For those who have books, take special note of four of the ways that the early believers determined that these early Christians did NOT have to follow all Jewish rules and rituals. Look, too, at some of the key elements of the early church (Erlander lists 9 on pp. 64-65).

For those with books, bring them to the gathering, but you don't need to have read the chapter to benefit from our deliberations and conversations. As usual, we'll have coffee and treats. Join us!

It's Fall Y'all, so let's enjoy the season together with a Harvest Festival on **Sunday, October 27** after the second service!

We'll gather in the courtyard and fellowship hall for nostalgic fall activities like **bobbing for apples**, **pumpkin painting**, **cornhole**, and plenty of cozy treats like **cider and spiced donuts**. **Pie contest** for best homemade pie? You betcha!

TODAY

*Everyone is welcome!
Be sure to invite friends to share
in the festivities.*

CELEBRATE FALL

HARVEST FESTIVAL

27 OCT

12:30 PM

St. John's Lutheran Courtyard
544 N. Broadway

NOSTALGIC FAMILY FUN FOR ALL AGES

www.sjlcknox.org/calendar

CALENDAR

- Oct. 27** **Reformation Sunday**
*Nursery
*Children ... Music, Lesson, Snack, and Craft
*Youth ... Games and Spiritual Gains
*Parents ... Coffee and Conversation about The Art of Neighboring
*Adults ... Manna & Mercy Study
Harvest Festival
Stephen Ministry Meeting*
Celebration of Life for Emlyn Cobble*
- Oct. 28** Undivided*
Staff Meeting
APATT Feeding Ministry
- Oct. 31** Community Conversations
Highways and ByWays
Feeding Ministry
- Nov. 1** Wedding Rehearsal
- Nov. 2** Avery Green & Sarah Anderson Wedding

B.E.E.R. in October

B.E.E.R. (Brothers Engaged in Enriching Relationships) will meet at The Barrelhouse by Gypsy Circus at 621 Lamar St. on Tuesday, October 29 at 6:00.

So come and grab a bite, a brew or cider, and share your upcoming holiday adventures. Barrelhouse also serves non-alcoholic beverages so there should be something for everyone.

Questions? Contact Garry Menendez menendez@utk.edu or Matt Whitehead mattwhitehead@gmail.com.





Sara here: We've got something exciting in the works for November, and we need you to be a part of it!

I can't give too much away just yet, but trust us—it's going to be fun, and we want everyone included!

Here's what we need from you:

Please send us a current picture of yourself (or your household, if you live with others). It can be a solo shot, a family pic, or even one with your pets! We'd love to see those smiling faces.

Simply email the photo along with the names of who's in the picture to Toni by October 27. Her email is toni@sjlcknox.org

That's all we can say for now, but we promise it will all come together in a special way. Thank you for being part of this fun and meaningful project!



SAM--Senior Adult Ministry

November 6 at 11:30 am
Lunch: Olive Garden for \$5
RSVP: Mary Cole at

mecole@comcast.net or 865-370-3132

Blessing Basket Canned Food: soups, chili, vegetables, beans, fruit, applesauce, canned tuna, canned chicken, peanut butter, jelly, Dinty Moore Stews, crackers, etc. Thanksgiving is a great time to share food with our brothers and sisters who live in the VMC Apartments Minvilla and Caswell. Be generous.

Program: Linda Donaldson, a member of SJLC, has graciously agreed to provide a program about antique jewelry. She owns the Golden Carat Jewelry Shop in Sevierville as well as an antique store. She has been an expert in this field for many years. If you have some old jewelry that you would like her to evaluate, please bring it to the SAM meeting. This will be fun.

I hope you will join us Wednesday, November 6th for a delicious lunch, a wonderful program, devotions, prayers, laughter, and the opportunity to get to know each other. Hope to see you there.

Peace and love, Mary



Sending Thanks:

Last month, we focused inward with the "Gratitude Project." This month, we invite you to turn that outward with our "Sending Thanks" project!

Blank thank you cards are available in the Welcome Center for you to write notes of gratitude to anyone you'd like. This is a chance to express your appreciation and share the love of Christ through simple, heartfelt messages.

Bring your completed cards back on November 3, and we'll mail them for you.

An Invitation for You

You are invited to participate in a three-session conversation concerning self-care. I will join Dr. Mark LeMay, our partner in ministry who sees clients at St. John's each week.

We look forward to learning together as we consider the following topics:

- Healthy Boundaries on October 31

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Peace and Love,
 Pastor Amy



A Word about Worship from Pastor John

Reformation Sunday, October 27, we celebrate Martin Luther's life-giving realization, centuries ago, that God's love can't be earned or lost: it's a gift of grace. Wear red if you have it, and we'll have extra to be sure everyone's included in the celebration.

All Saints Sunday, November 3, we remember those we love who have gone on to heaven. In worship, we light candles, ring bells, and say their names. Also, between services is First Sunday Brunch, a great time to get to the church family better.

Veterans Day is November 11, so November 10 we honor our veterans who have served in our armed forces, securing our freedom and peace.

November 17, after second service, is our Stewardship Celebration Potluck and Ministry Fair, when we celebrate all of our contributions to ministry at St. John's: worship, outreach, children and youth, senior adults, feeding ministries, music, yoga, and more!

Christ the King Sunday, November 24, we celebrate the strange kind of king we follow: one who comes not to be served, but to serve. Also, after second service is Hanging of the Greens, when we decorate our church, inside and out, for Advent and Christmas.