



*Grace Alone / Faith Alone / Scripture Alone*

Reformation Sunday:

October 29, 2023



# GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

## ***God's Word for this week***

Lord, keep us faithful to your Word! The Festival of the Lutheran Reformation of the Church emphasizes the true Church's unfailing reliance on the Word of God alone and unflinching testimony to it in the face of persecution and trials of all kinds. Jesus promised to pour out his Spirit on the Church that we might be God's mouthpiece to the world. Today the Church prays that the Lord would give us the strength to be faithful and the peace of knowing our souls are safe in his hands – thanks to the pure Gospel of Christ alone.

## ***Before Worship***

Take time for prayer and to review the lessons and the service notes. For personal preparation for Communion, see Red Hymnal: p.156.

## ***General Information***

The restrooms are located in the fellowship hall. Visitors – welcome, and please take a moment and sign the guestbook in the fellowship hall. If you need special assistance for communion, please notify an usher and/or the pastor.

## ***Serving in Worship***

Music: Rachel Halldorson  
Ushers: Mike Jensen, Kurt Knurr  
Pastor: Wayne Halldorson  
Pastor's Cell: 903-717-1922  
Pastor's Email: grace.tx.pastor@gmail.com

## ***Church Information***

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### ***T-Loop Hearing Assistance***

*If you have a hearing aid with a T-coil, you can connect it to the T-Loop device installed throughout the church building. Headsets are available for anyone needing hearing assistance. Personal ear-buds can also be used with a head set. See Kris Martinson if you need assistance.*



# REFORMATION WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION

558 *Salvation unto Us Has Come*

CW 558 sts. 1, 6, 8–10



1 Sal - va - tion un - to us has come by God's free grace and  
6 Since Christ has full a - tone-ment made and brought to us sal -  
8 The law re - veals the guilt of sin and makes us con - science -  
9 Faith clings to Je - sus' cross a - lone and rests in him un -  
10 All bless - ing, hon - or, thanks, and praise to Fa - ther, Son, and



fa - vor; good works can - not a - vert our doom, they help and  
va - tion, each Chris - tian there - fore may be glad and build on  
strick - en; but then the gos - pel en - ters in the sin - ful  
ceas - ing; and by its fruits true faith is known, with love and  
Spir - it, the God who saved us by his grace; all glo - ry



save us nev - er. Faith looks to Je - sus Christ a - lone, who  
this foun - da - tion. Your grace a - lone, dear Lord, I plead, your  
soul to quick - en. Come to the cross, trust Christ, and live; the  
hope in - creas - ing. For faith a - lone can jus - ti - fy; works  
to his mer - it! O tri - une God in heav'n a - bove, you



did for all the world a - tone; he is our one Re - deem - er.  
death is now my life in - deed, for you have paid my ran - som.  
law no peace can ev - er give, no com - fort and no bless - ing.  
serve our neigh - bor and sup - ply the proof that faith is liv - ing.  
have re - vealed your sav - ing love; your bless - ed name be hal - lowed!

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Paul Speratus, 1484–1551, abr., alt.  
Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, Wittenberg, 1524  
Text and tune: Public domain

## ***Invocation***

We gather here today in God's house to celebrate the Reformation of the church in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## ***Confession & Absolution***

From Luther's Small Catechism

The Bible says, "If we say we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness"

### **What is confession?**

Confession has two parts: The one is that we confess our sins; the other, that we receive absolution or forgiveness from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting but firmly believing that our sins are thus forgiven before God in heaven.

### **What sins should we confess?**

Before God we should plead guilty of all sins, even those we are not aware of, as we do in the Lord's Prayer. But before the Pastor we should confess only those sins which we know and feel in our hearts.

### **How can we recognize these sins?**

Consider your place in life according to the Ten Commandments. Are you a father, mother, son, daughter, employer or employee? Have you been disobedient, unfaithful, or lazy? Have you hurt anyone by word or deed? Have you been dishonest, careless, wasteful, or done other wrong?

*A moment of silence for private confession of sins.*

Having now confessed your sins before God, hear the comforting assurance of forgiveness:

### **How will the pastor assure a penitent sinner of his forgiveness?**

He will say "According to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ and by his authority, I forgive you your sins in the name of the Father and the † Son and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**"

Let us now give glory to God for the powerful and saving Gospel:

### 936 All Glory Be to God Alone

Gloria in Excelsis

1 All glo - ry be to God a - lone, for -  
5 You on - ly are the Ho - ly One; o'er

ev - er - more the high - est One, who did our  
all things you are Lord a - lone. O Je - sus

sin - ful race be - friend and grace and peace to  
Christ, we glo - ri - fy you and the Spir - it,

us ex - tend. A - mong man - kind may his good  
Lord Most High; with him you ev - er - more shall

will all hearts with deep thanks - giv - ing fill.  
be one in the Fa - ther's maj - es - ty.

Text: tr. W. Gustave Polack, 1890-1950, alt.; Martin Luther, 1483-1546, abr.  
Tune: Gesangbuch . . . Psalmen, Geistliche Lieder, Strassburg, 1541, alt.  
Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: CCLI no. 1133502  
Tune: Public domain

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

## ***Prayer of the Day***

Let us pray:

Gracious Lord, our refuge and strength, pour out your Holy Spirit on 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.**

*Be seated*

# **THE WORD**

## ***First Reading***

Daniel 6:10–23

<sup>10</sup>Now when Daniel learned that the decree had been published, he went home to his upstairs room where the windows opened toward Jerusalem. Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God, just as he had done before. <sup>11</sup>Then these men went as a group and found Daniel praying and asking God for help. <sup>12</sup>So they went to the king and spoke to him about his royal decree: “Did you not publish a decree that during the next thirty days anyone who prays to any god or human being except to you, Your Majesty, would be thrown into the lions’ den?”

The king answered, “The decree stands—in accordance with the law of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be repealed.”

<sup>13</sup>Then they said to the king, “Daniel, who is one of the exiles from Judah, pays no attention to you, Your Majesty, or to the decree you put in writing. He still prays three times a day.” <sup>14</sup>When the king heard

this, he was greatly distressed; he was determined to rescue Daniel and made every effort until sundown to save him.

<sup>15</sup>Then the men went as a group to King Darius and said to him, “Remember, Your Majesty, that according to the law of the Medes and Persians no decree or edict that the king issues can be changed.”

<sup>16</sup>So the king gave the order, and they brought Daniel and threw him into the lions’ den. The king said to Daniel, “May your God, whom you serve continually, rescue you!”

<sup>17</sup>A stone was brought and placed over the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet ring and with the rings of his nobles, so that Daniel’s situation might not be changed. <sup>18</sup>Then the king returned to his palace and spent the night without eating and without any entertainment being brought to him. And he could not sleep.

<sup>19</sup>At the first light of dawn, the king got up and hurried to the lions’ den. <sup>20</sup>When he came near the den, he called to Daniel in an anguished voice, “Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to rescue you from the lions?”

<sup>21</sup>Daniel answered, “May the king live forever! <sup>22</sup>My God sent his angel, and he shut the mouths of the lions. They have not hurt me, because I was found innocent in his sight. Nor have I ever done any wrong before you, Your Majesty.”

<sup>23</sup>The king was overjoyed and gave orders to lift Daniel out of the den. And when Daniel was lifted from the den, no wound was found on him, because he had trusted in his God.

**Psalm 46: 864 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God**

CW 864 sts. 1, 4



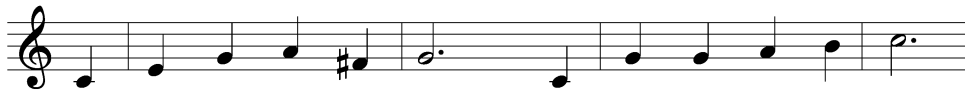
1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a trust - y  
4 The Word they still shall let re - main nor an - y



shield and weap - on; he helps us free from ev - 'ry  
thanks have for it; he's by our side up - on the



need that has us now o'er - tak - en.  
plain with his good gifts and Spir - it.



The an - cient e - vil foe now means to work us woe;  
And should they take our life, goods, hon - or, child, and wife,



deep guile and aw - ful might are his dread arms in  
though all of these be gone, our vic - to - ry is



fight; on earth is not his e - qual.  
won; the king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Text: tr. composite; Martin Luther, 1483-1546  
Tune: Martin Luther, 1483-1546  
Text and tune: Public domain



<sup>19</sup>Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God. <sup>20</sup>Therefore no one will be declared righteous in God’s sight by the works of the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of our sin.

<sup>21</sup>But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. <sup>22</sup>This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, <sup>23</sup>for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup>and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. <sup>25</sup>God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished— <sup>26</sup>he did it to demonstrate his righteousness at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.

<sup>27</sup>Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded. Because of what law? The law that requires works? No, because of the law that requires faith. <sup>28</sup>For we maintain that a person is justified by faith apart from the works of the law.

***Verse of the Day***

John 8:31

**Alleluia. If you continue in my Word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free. Alleluia.**

## 877 Reformation Song

Gradual Hymn

5 And on this Ref - or - ma - tion Day  
we join with saints of old to sing;  
we lift our hearts as one in praise:  
glo - ry to Christ our gra - cious King.

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are printed below the notes. The final measure of the fourth staff has a first ending (1) and a second ending (2-4).

## Gospel Reading

Matthew 10:16–23

<sup>16</sup>“I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves. <sup>17</sup>Be on your guard; you will be handed over to the local councils and be flogged in the synagogues. <sup>18</sup>On my account you will be brought before governors and kings as witnesses to them and to the Gentiles. <sup>19</sup>But when they arrest you, do not worry about what to say or how to say it. At that time you will be given what to say, <sup>20</sup>for it will not be you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.

<sup>21</sup>Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child; children will rebel against their parents and have them put to death. <sup>22</sup>You will be hated by everyone because of me, but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved. <sup>23</sup>When you are persecuted in one place, flee to another. Truly I tell you, you will not finish going through the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.”

# 819 If God Himself Be for Me

CW 819 sts. 1, 3, 6-7



1 If God him - self be for me, I may a host de - fy;  
3 I build on this foun - da - tion, that Je - sus and his blood  
6 No dan - ger, thirst, or hun - ger, no pain or pov - er - ty,  
7 My heart for joy is spring - ing and can no more be sad;



for when I pray, be - fore me my foes, con - found - ed, fly.  
a - lone are my sal - va - tion, my true, e - ter - nal good.  
no earth - ly ty - rant's an - ger shall ev - er van - quish me.  
my soul is filled with sing - ing, sees on - ly sun - shine glad.



If Christ, my head and mas - ter, be - friend me from a - bove,  
With - out him all that pleas - es is val - ue - less on earth;  
Though earth should break a - sun - der, you are my Sav - ior true;  
The sun that cheers my spir - it is Je - sus Christ, my King;



what foe or what dis - as - ter can drive me from his love?  
the gifts I have from Je - sus a - lone have price - less worth.  
no fire or sword or thun - der shall sev - er me from you.  
the heav'n I shall in - her - it makes me re - joice and sing.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-1676, abr.; (sts. 1, 7): tr. Evangelical Lutheran Hymn-book, 1907; (sts. 3, 6): tr. Richard Massie, 1800-1887  
Tune: Melchior Teschner, 1584-1635, alt.  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon

Daniel 6:13-16 *"Heroes know how to face the LIONS!"*

## ***Nicene Creed***

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.**

**He suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.**

**He ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who in unity with the Father and the Son  
is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead**

**and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

I invite you to lift up your hearts to God and pray with me the Lord's Prayer as Christ our Lord taught us.

First, we pray that God our Father in heaven would look with mercy on all his children on earth. We ask him to give us grace that we might proclaim his Word faithfully and live our lives according to his will, for then we show that his name is precious to us. We also pray that he would keep us from any teaching and living which would dishonor his name.

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.**

We pray that his kingdom and the rule of his grace might come to us and grow in us each day; that all who are still captives in Satan's kingdom might be brought to know Jesus Christ, his Son, so that the Christian Church might grow and prosper.

**Thy kingdom come.**

We pray that the Holy Spirit would strengthen us to do and accept God's will in life and death, in good times and in bad, and that we might have power to put down our own sinful will and its desires.

**Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**

We pray that our Father would also give us our daily bread, preserve us from greed and selfish desires, and help us to trust that he will provide for all our needs.

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

We ask that God would forgive our sins as we forgive those who sin against us so that our hearts may rest and rejoice in a good conscience before him, and that no sin may ever frighten or alarm us.

**And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

We pray that God would protect us from all temptations and help us by his Spirit to put down our sinful flesh, to despise the world and its vices, and to overcome the devil and all his trickery.

**And lead us not into temptation.**

And finally, we pray that God would deliver us from all evils of body and soul now and forever.

**But deliver us from evil.**

All those who sincerely desire these things will say from their hearts “Amen,” trusting without doubt that their prayers are answered in heaven, as Christ has promised: “Whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.”

**For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

*Offering*

## **THE SACRAMENT**

*Exhortation*

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, as we gather to celebrate the Testament of our Lord, let us take to heart the words of Christ by which he imparted to us his body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins.

Let us remember and give thanks for his boundless love, which he proved to us when he redeemed us from God’s wrath, from sin, death, and from hell by his own precious blood.

Let us faithfully confess, as a family of believers united in doctrine, that in this bread and wine—which are his body and blood—we receive the pledge and guarantee of his forgiveness.

Let us receive and enjoy this Sacrament according to the command that Christ gave, in line with the principles of his word, and glorify the name of the one who has so richly blessed us with this meal.

### **640 God’s Word Is Our Great Heritage**

Sanctus

God’s Word is our great her - i - tage and shall be ours for -  
ev - er; to spread its light from age to age shall be our  
chief en - deav - or. Thro’ life it guides our way, in death it  
is our stay. Lord, grant, while worlds en - dure, we keep its  
teach - ings pure through - out all gen - er - a - tions.

Text: tr. Ole G. Belsheim, alt.; Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872  
Tune: Friedrich O. Reuter, 1863–1924  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my † body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my † blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Amen.**

## 947 Lamb of God, Pure and Holy

Agnus Dei



1 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, who on the cross did suf - fer,  
3 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, who on the cross did suf - fer,



ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, your-self to scorn did of - fer.  
ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, your-self to scorn did of - fer.



All sin you car-ried for us, else had de-spair reigned o'er us:  
All sin you car-ried for us, else had de-spair reigned o'er us:



have mer - cy on us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!  
your peace be with us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!



## ***Our Practice of Close Communion***

*In line with Scripture, Grace Lutheran Church follows the practice of close communion. In 1 Corinthians 1:10 we are told, "I appeal to you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another so that there may be no divisions among you and that you may be perfectly united in mind and thought." That unity takes work to establish (courses are available), and 1 Corinthians 10:17 highlights the powerful unity we express by communing together: "Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf." Therefore (just as the early church did) we invite forward only those who are in full agreement with the teachings of our church. This is not a judgment of anyone's faith, but rather it is a call for all visitors to examine and judge the teachings of our church body in light of God's Word. We therefore welcome confirmed members of our synod, the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, and members of our sister synod (ELS) to partake of the Lord's Supper with us today. We humbly, respectfully, and lovingly ask that visitors speak with our pastor after the service if there are any questions about our doctrine or practices.*

## ***Distribution***

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us by the power of your Gospel in word and sacrament. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**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 on you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**Amen.**

# 563 My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

Closing Canticle



1 My hope is built on noth - ing less than Je - sus'  
2 When dark - ness veils his love - ly face, I rest on  
3 His oath, his cov - e - nant and blood sup - port me  
4 When he shall come with trum - pet sound, oh, may I



blood and right - eous - ness; I dare to make no  
his un - chang - ing grace; in ev - 'ry high and  
in the rag - ing flood; when ev - 'ry earth - ly  
then in him be found, clothed in his right - eous -



oth - er claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.  
storm - y gale my an - chor holds with - in the veil.  
prop gives way, he then is all my hope and stay.  
ness a - lone, fault - less to stand be - fore his throne.



*Refrain*  
On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Text: Edward Mote, 1797–1874, alt.  
Tune: John Stainer, 1840–1901, alt.  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Acknowledgments

A Version of Luther's German Mass (1526) from Christian Worship  
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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## ***Reformation Sunday***

Please join us following the service for a potluck lunch – and thanks to all who brought food and to all who help clean up following.

## ***Outreach Event***

We have scheduled a Chili Cookoff & Food Drive/Pick up for November 18th. Members & visitors will sample chili and vote for your top 3 favorites. We will have prizes for the winning Chefs. We will have hot dogs & chips for the kids and each family will get to fill a bag of food pantry items.

We need food pantry donations. Popular items are mac-n-cheese, fully prepared microwavable dishes, canned vegies and boxes of cereals. Please bring your donations and place them into the storage room off of the fellowship hall.

We will invite the public to enter the chili cookoff, but Grace members are also welcome to sign up and compete. As always, pray that God will richly bless us with a strong turnout and opportunities to share the reason for our faith in Jesus.

## ***Bible Classes***

Please take advantage of the Bible Classes now offered at Grace: Sunday morning 9 am / Wednesday afternoon 3 pm / the last Friday of the month at 10:30 am. Talk to pastor if you'd like to join in one of the current BIC courses as well.

## ***Upcoming Schedule***

Today	9 / 10 am	Bible Class / Worship + Communion
Today	11:00 am	Special <b>Reformation</b> Potluck lunch
Nov. 1	3:00 pm	Genesis Bible Class resumes
Nov. 2	10:00 am	Mornings with Mommy (GMC)
Nov. 5	2:00 am	Daylight Savings ends (go back 1 hr.)
Nov. 5	9 / 10 am	Bible Class / Worship

## ***A Look at our Church Library***

Have you ever checked out a book from our church library? Grace offers books to take home and read available to members and friends of Grace. You are invited to pick one out for yourself! Maybe you're looking for a devotional book or perhaps you're interested in a certain subject on a deeper level. You might enjoy something to supplement what you're already doing at home. You can even find information on other religions highlighting what others believe and how that compares to what Scripture says. All the books available in the Grace library are carefully vetted and written by trusted authors and pastors that mirror what we teach here at Grace. New books continue to be added to assist you in your personal spiritual growth. Check one out today!

### **Fall Recommendation: *People's Bible***

When you're at home reading the Bible, do you ever wish you had the pastor right there to explain something to you? You could have him on speed dial, but you more likely soon forget what you were wondering about and never get the explanation you were hoping for. Help is here! The library at Grace now has the complete People's Bible series for you to check out and take home. For instance, if you are reading through the book of Acts, you can check out the Acts People's Bible to read along with it! The People's Bible is a Bible commentary for everyone. Written by experienced pastors and professors who begin with the original Hebrew or Greek text, each easy-to-read volume helps Christians enrich their study of the Bible and points them to its central focus, Jesus Christ. (NPH) It's almost as good as having a pastor with you as you're reading! You can always bring your questions to Pastor Halldorson but for those times when he's not readily available, check out what the People's Bible has to say. It's a great way to grow in your understanding of Scripture at home!

*Your church secretary, Rachel Halldorson*