

Come, Holy Spirit, and fill the hearts of Your faithful people and kindle in them the fire of Your love: You, who through diverse tongues gathered together the nations in the unity of faith.

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH Reformation Saturday
Church Phone: 867-5088 — October 28, 2023 --- 5:30 pm
Worship with Holy Communion

The Reformation took place at a time when God was using His Word to bring reform to the church. God was changing the church from what it had become; to what He desired it to be. Reformation was a time when the Lord, through His Spirit, raised men up who were willing to stand for what was God pleasing and true; even if it meant putting their lives on the line. Dr. Martin Luther was one of these men called by the Lord to bring about change. He was called to stand up to the church of His day and lead His church to face the ways in which it was walking contrary to the Holy Scriptures. Luther, though far from perfect, was led by the Holy Spirit to stand on the principles that we still stand on today: Grace alone; Faith alone; and Scripture alone. He was a servant of the Lord, and his tool was the Holy Scripture.

Opening Prayer **Opening Hymn:** *“A Mighty Fortress is Our God” 656 (Please Rise)*

Invocation: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

P: God desired that His Word, be clearly heard and understood. **C:** *He led a man, who struggled long and hard to see His Truth.*

P: God patiently formed and shaped his understanding and brought him wisdom through His Holy Spirit. **C:** *Truth not of human wisdom, but truth based upon the inerrant Word of God.*

P: God provided this man strength, courage, and stubbornness to enable him to accomplish his task. **C:** *He was to bring the focus of the church back to the Cross.*

P: Luther taught God’s truth: “We are saved by grace, through faith, without works so no one could boast.” **C:** *He proclaimed boldly that we stand on Scripture Alone, Faith Alone, and Grace Alone.*

P: We do not trust in the teachings of Luther for our comfort and strength. **C:** *We trust in the clear teachings of the Holy Scripture which point to salvation coming from the cross.*

Introit: *Psalm 46*

P: God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. **C:** *Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.*

P: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, **C:** *The holy place where the Most High dwells.*

P: God is within her, she will not fall; **C:** *God will help her at break of day.*

P: Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall; C: *He lifts His voice, the earth melts.*

P: The Lord Almighty is with us; C: *The God of Jacob is our fortress.*

P: Come and see the works of the Lord, the desolations He has brought on the earth. C: *He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth. He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; He burns the shields with fire.*

P: “Be still, and know that I am God; C: *I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.*”

P: The Lord Almighty is with us; C: *The God of Jacob is our fortress.*

All: *Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

Luther’s Evening Prayer:

C: *I thank You, my Heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.*

Hymn: “*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*” 803

Scripture Alone- is a basic truth and principle of our faith. We believe and confess, without reservation, that the Holy Bible is the inerrant Word of God. It was brought to us through the work and will of the Holy Spirit, Who led men to write the exact Words the Father desired for His people. No Word of Scripture fails to be the Lord’s authority, because all of Scripture is His Word and Authority; and it will never fail to provide us His truth. We trust not in the wisdom and word of man, but in the Word of the Almighty God alone found in the Bible.

Faith Alone- Faith is a gift of the Lord to His people, through His Word and Spirit. Faith is the gift which enables us to grasp the promises and truths the Lord has placed into His Word. Faith is that blessing which all believers possess, it enables us to receive the wonder of His grace, and to be blessed in His Sacraments. Faith offers us hope, assurance, and the comfort of knowing salvation has been granted to us freely by the Heavenly Father. The Scripture tells us: “*Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen*”. Faith grasps a hold of the Cross and makes us secure in our salvation.

Grace Alone- Grace is God’s undeserved love showered upon His people through His loving mercy. Grace alone is why we receive His gifts, because every one of us is a sinner; deserving of nothing but damnation on our own merit. Grace is from God; it stems from His desire to make us His own. He has chosen His “Means of Grace” and they are: His Word, His Sacraments, and the Pronouncement of Absolution. These each demonstrate, grace does not and cannot stem from us, but stems from Him alone.

Hymn: *“O Little Flock, Fear Not the Foe”* 666

Gospel - the Gospel is the Father’s declaration of His love for those who are lost in sin. It is the Father making it clear: His plan, His Work, and His fulfillment alone brought to us eternal life. There is only One Gospel, based upon what Christ alone has done. The Gospel in the narrow sense is very specific: *“God the Father, sending His Son Jesus to earth, as a man, to go to the cross, spill His blood, pay the price, die, rise and grant to us eternal life.”*

Baptism- proclaims to His church His desire to provide His own grace, strength, Spirit, comfort, and forgiveness upon sinners. He opens the heart of those who are sinners, and provides for them eternal life. He grasps a hold of the one baptized and envelops them in His arms and claims them as His own. He gives: *everlasting life; the cleansing of our sins, unity with Him and fellow believers.* Baptism is His remarkable gift to His Church.

Lord’s Supper- is God’s “Means of Grace” to share with us His Son’s body and blood. He provides us: forgiveness, strength to live our faith, unity with fellow believers, and His Spirit to guide and help us proclaim the wonder of His grace in this world. It will always be His Supper because: He is the One who has provided it, He gave us the rules, He gave us His Word, and He supplies His blessings through it.

Hymn: *“Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word”* 655

First Lesson: *Revelation 14: 6-7* /// **Epistle Lesson:** *Romans 3: 19-28*

Holy Gospel: *John 8: 31-36* /// **Confession of Faith:** *Nicene Creed (Back of Hymnal)*

Hymn: *“Built on a Rock”* 645 vs. 1, 3, 5

Sermon

Offering (*Brought to Altar*)

Prayers: The families of Meny, Blake and Maryeth; Meny, Bobby and Rebecca; Meny, Margie, Faith, and Eden; and Meny, Trey, Alicia and Easton.

The Lord’s Prayer (back of hymnal)

Confession of Sins

C: *Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, have mercy upon us. Forgive us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.*

Absolution: Upon this your confession, I by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Admonition to Communicants: I exhort you in Christ, that you give attention to the Testament of Christ in true faith, and above all take to heart the Words with which Christ presents His body and blood to us for forgiveness. That you take note of, and give thanks for, the boundless love that He showed us when He saved us from the wrath of God, sin, death, and hell by His blood; and that you then externally receive the bread and wine, that is, His body and blood, as a guarantee and pledge. Let us then in His name, according to His command, and with His own Words administer and receive His Sacrament.

Blessing of Elements /// Distribution

Closing Hymn: “*God’s Word is our Great Heritage*” 582

Closing Litany:

P: God has called us out of darkness into His marvelous Light **C:** *By Grace, given through His Spirit, He has opened our eyes to see.*

P: God has called us as His servants to reach others lost in sin. **C:** *By Faith, He enables us to grasp His truths and share those truths with others.*

P: God has called us to trust in His Word alone for His truth. **C:** *By His Word, He enables us to know Him and stand on His truth.*

P: God has called us to remain faithful to Him and His Word **C:** *By Grace, through Faith, given by the Spirit through the Word, we will remain faithful until we enter into His eternal kingdom.*

Closing Prayer: Blessed Lord, who has caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may in such wise hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by patience and comfort of Your holy Word we may embrace, and ever hold fast, the blessed hope of everlasting life, which You have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. **C:** *Amen.*

Benediction

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Kirk Horstmeyer, Pastor
Beth Vance, Organist

WHAT THE SCRIPTURES TEACH CONCERNING THE LORD'S SUPPER

In I Corinthians 11 the Holy Spirit led Paul to write, "This is my body" and "This cup is the new covenant in my blood" to explain the spiritual truth of the Supper: Christ is truly present in His body and blood in the bread and wine. This is a mystery, a Heavenly gift; one we can only understand in faith. Paul further says, "Therefore whoever eats the bread and drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord" and, "Let a man examine himself...for he who eats and drinks, eats and drinks judgment to himself if he does not judge the body rightly." There is no doubt from our Lord's Word, we are receiving His body and blood. The Father offers us forgiveness, unity of faith, strengthening of faith, etc.; it is never our right, we approach His altar only by His invitation. If you are visiting we ask that you please speak with the Pastor before receiving the Lord's Supper. We strive to lovingly carry out our responsibility to ensure the supper remains a blessing for all, never a curse. May His richest blessing be upon you all.

THIS WEEK

TONIGHT: Reformation Worship w/HC 5:30 pm
TOMORROW: **Reformation** Worship 8 am, SS 9:10 am, Worship 10:15 am
TUESDAY: Confirmation 6 pm
THURSDAY: Bible Study 9:30 am and 6 pm
Next SATURDAY: Confirmation 9:30 am, Worship w/HC 5:30 pm
Next SUNDAY: Worship w/HC 8 am, SS 9:10 am, Worship w/HC 10:15 am

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE: Sat, Oct 21: 53 LS: 44; Sun, Oct 22: 8 am: 64; 10:15 am: 48

Member Prayer List: Next Saturday and Sunday we will be praying for the families of Bob Meyerholtz; Miles, John and Julie; and Militello, KaSandra, Noah and Gabrielle.

HELP NEEDED FOR ASSISTING WITH LIVE STREAMING: I'm looking for another person to learn how to livestream our church service. You should be comfortable with computers. The instructions are all written out and it's not hard to learn. We livestream the first service so you need to commit to being at the 8am service once or twice a month since we rotate this responsibility. If you are interested, please call or text Cheryl Bratten 812-604-9076.

Thanksgiving Meal will be on November 19 after 10: 15 service! *** It has been changed from the 12th.
The Rummage Sale will be on November 11 from 7:00 am through 12:00 pm. This is now set so we will not be having any more changes.

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER CALENDAR EVENTS

Rummage Sale Saturday, November 11, 7 am – 12 Noon. If you have donations to bring, they will be accepted on 7-8-9 (Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday) ONLY. This will make it easier on the gracious volunteers & kids sorting and stacking items. Thank You.

Thanksgiving Meal: Sunday, November 19 following the 10:15 am service.

Special Voter's Meeting: Sunday, November 19 following the 10:15 am service. Voter's Meeting held for *Election of 2024 Officers and 2024 Budgets*. All members are welcome to attend.

Thanksgiving Worship Service: Wednesday, November 22 w/HC at 7 pm

Hanging of the Greens: Sunday, November 26th after 10:15 service

Mid-Week Advent Meals: November 29, December 6 & 13 begin at 6:10 pm

Mid-Week Advent Worship: December 6, 13, 20 at 7 pm

Council Luncheon & Organizational Meeting: Sunday, December 3 after 10:15 service

Children's Sunday School Christmas Program: December 10 during the 10:15 am service

Saturday, December 23 Worship Service w/HC at 5:30 pm (normal time)

Sunday, December 24 there will **ONE Service at 9:45 am** in the morning which will involve *Confirmation & High School Youth* participation; and **two services** in the evening at **6:00 pm with Choir Participation and 10:00 pm Candle- Light Service**

Monday, December 25 at 9:30 am Christmas Day Service with Holy Communion

SCRIP NEWS: It's a good time to begin thinking of your holiday grocery shopping and gift giving needs. All SCRIP cards are not available each month, so shop early to make sure you get the cards you need. SCRIP also is a good way to give back to Immanuel as well. Current Cards available listed in the SCRIP Binder in Lounge. The December order will go in on Monday, December 4th.

Turn your orders into, Waverlyn Karch in the church office or put in the SCRIP MAILBOX in the lounge hallway.