

Sola Gratia

Grace Alone

Sola Fide

Faith Alone

Sola Scriptura

Scripture Alone

REFORMATION SUNDAY

OCTOBER 26, 2025 ✠ 8:00 & 10:15 AM

A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS!

We're thrilled that you are here and we want you to feel at home.

- * Restrooms are near the door that you came in today.
- * The service is printed in this worship folder. Join in as your comfortable. Ask anyone if you're lost - they'll be glad to help!
- * We're glad you brought your kids! We know and Jesus knows that little kids have a hard time sitting quietly sometimes. They are still welcome here. Jesus said: Let the little children come to me! If your little one is restless, feel free to spend a minute in the entryway, you should still be able to hear through speakers.
- * If you could use some hearing assistance, please ask the usher in the entryway, we have headsets available.

Please introduce yourself to Pastor Boettcher or Pastor Peil. They would love to meet you and serve you however they can!

VDMA - *Verbum Domini Manet in Aeternum*

(The Word of the Lord Endures Forever)



is the motto of the Lutheran Reformation, a confident expression of the enduring power and authority of God's Word. The motto is based on 1 Peter 1:24–25. It first appeared in the court of Frederick the Wise in 1522. He had it sewn onto the right sleeve of the court's official clothing, which was worn by prince and servant alike. It was used by Frederick's successors, his brother John the Steadfast, and his nephew John Frederick the Magnanimous. It became the official motto of the Smalcaldic League and was used on flags, banners, swords, and uniforms as a symbol of the unity of the Lutheran laity who struggled to defend their beliefs, communities, families, and lives against those who were intent on destroying them. It was found inscribed inside churches, over doorways, on foundation stones, even on horse's helmets! The VDMA logo and statement has appeared throughout Lutheran churches worldwide and remains an enduring motto of the Reformation to this day.

"NOTE WELL, THAT THE POWER OF SCRIPTURE IS THIS: IT WILL NOT BE ALTERED BY THE ONE WHO STUDIES IT;
INSTEAD IT TRANSFORMS THE ONE WHO LOVES IT." DR MARTIN LUTHER

MARTIN LUTHER'S STRUGGLE TO UNDERSTAND "THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD" IN HIS OWN WORDS

I had conceived a burning desire to understand what Paul meant in his Letter to the Romans, but thus far there had stood in my way, not the cold blood around my heart, but that one word which is in chapter one: "The righteousness of God is revealed in it [that is: in the Gospel]." I hated that word, "righteousness of God," which, by the use and custom of all my teachers, I had been taught to understand philosophically as referring to formal or active righteousness, as they call it, i.e., that righteousness by which God is just and by which He punishes sinners and the unjust.

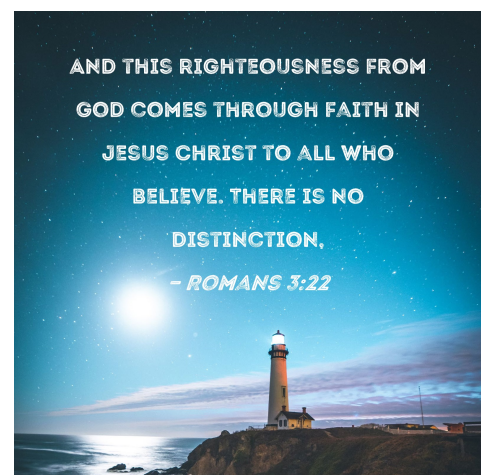


But I, blameless monk that I was, felt that before God I was a sinner with an extremely troubled conscience. I couldn't be sure that God was appeased by my satisfaction. I did not love, no, rather I hated the righteous God who punishes sinners. In silence, if I did not blaspheme, then certainly I grumbled vehemently and got angry at God. I said, "Isn't it enough that we miserable sinners, lost for all eternity because of original sin, are oppressed by every kind of calamity through the Ten Commandments? Why does God heap sorrow upon sorrow through the Gospel and through the Gospel threaten us with His righteousness and His wrath?" This was how I was raging with wild and disturbed conscience. I constantly badgered Paul

about that spot in Romans 1 and anxiously wanted to know what he meant.

I meditated night and day on those words until at last, by the mercy of God, I paid attention to their context: "The righteousness of God is revealed in it, as it is written: 'The righteous person lives by faith.'"

I began to understand that in this verse the righteousness of God is that by which the righteous person lives by a gift of God, that is: by faith. I began to understand that this verse means that the righteousness of God is revealed through the Gospel, but it is a passive, i.e. that by which the merciful God justifies us by, as it is written: "The righteous person lives by faith." All at once I felt that I had been born again and entered into paradise itself through open gates. Immediately I saw the whole of Scriptures in a different light. I ran through the Scriptures from memory and found that other terms had analogous meanings, e.g., the work of God, that is, what God works in us; the power of God, by which He makes us powerful; the wisdom of God, by which He makes us wise; the strength of God, the salvation of God, the glory of God.



I exalted this sweetest word of mine, "the righteousness of God," with as much love as before I had hated it with hate!

- MARTIN LUTHER

The Festival of **THE LUTHERAN REFORMATION**

∞ The congregation speaks and sings the words in **BOLD** type. ∞

PLEASE STAND.

DIALOGUE OF PRAISE, REPENTANCE AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father and of the Son ✚ and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

1 Kings 8:27-30; Mt 28:18-20

Blessing and honor and glory and power be unto the One who sits on the throne,

And to the Lamb, forever and ever.

Revelation 5:13

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves,

it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.

Ephesians 2:8-9

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works,

which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Ephesians 2:10

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Almighty God, merciful Father,
I, a troubled and repentant sinner,
confess that I have sinned against you
in my thoughts, my words, and my actions.
I have not loved you with my whole heart;
I have not loved others as I should.
I am distressed by my sins and am deeply sorry for them.**

silence for personal reflection

Jesus' death paid for the guilt of your sins and the sins of the whole world. He said to His people, "If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven."

John 20:23

Because of the promise of our Savior Jesus, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ✚ and of the Holy Spirit. You are a dear child of God and an heir of eternal life!

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

And also with you.

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.

HYMN 512 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

THE WORD OF GOD

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 31:31-34

In this prophecy, the Lord promised a new covenant—one not written on tablets of stone but upon the hearts of his people. In this covenant of grace, God forgives sin and grants the freedom that comes from truly knowing him. God's approval comes through faith in his mercy, not through our works—faith in his promise, period.

The days are coming," declares the Lord, "when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah. It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them," declares the Lord. "This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time," declares the Lord. "I will put my law in their minds

and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. No longer will they teach their neighbor, or say to one another, 'Know the Lord,' because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest," declares the Lord. "For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more."

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

A MIGHTY FORTRESS

The choir will sing stanzas 1+3; the congregation joins in stanzas 2+4.

A Mighty Fortress" is Luther's famous hymn based on Psalm 46. When he was discouraged he would often invite those with him to sing it, saying, "Come, let us sing Psalm 46." This battle hymn of the Reformation is still a favorite among Lutherans.

1 A mighty fortress is our God,
a trusty shield and weapon;
he helps us free from ev'ry need
that has us now o'ertaken.
The old evil foe
now means deadly woe;
deep guile and great might
are his dread arms in fight;
on earth is not his equal.

**2 With might of ours can naught be done,
soon were our loss effected;
but for us fights the valiant one
whom God himself elected.
You ask, "Who is this?"
Jesus Christ it is,
the almighty Lord,
and there's no other God;
he holds the field forever.**

3 Though devils all the world should fill,
all eager to devour us,
we tremble not, we fear no ill;
they shall not overpower us.
This world's prince may still
scowl fierce as he will,
he can harm us none.
He's judged; the deed is done;
one little word can fell him.

**4 The Word they still shall let remain
nor any thanks have for it;
he's by our side upon the plain
with his good gifts and Spirit.
And take they our life,
goods, fame, child, and wife,
though all may be gone,
our victory is won;
the kingdom's ours forever!**

SECOND READING

Galatians 5:1-6

The Apostle Paul proclaims the freedom Christ has won for us. The Galatians were being told that Jesus wasn't enough - they needed to follow certain laws in order to be justified. God's approval comes through faith in Jesus—nothing else can be added.

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

Mark my words! I, Paul, tell you that if you let yourselves be circumcised, Christ will be of no value to you at all. Again I declare to every man who lets himself be circumcised that he is obligated to obey the whole law. You who are trying to be justified by the law have been alienated from Christ; you

have fallen away from grace. For through the Spirit we eagerly await by faith the righteousness for which we hope. 6For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any value. The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

REFORMATION INTROIT

from Psalm 46

Sung by the Ensemble

*The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.*

*Therefore will we not fear
though the earth be removed
And though the mountains be
carried into the midst of the sea.*

*God is our refuge and our strength,
A very present help in trouble.*

*Glory be to the Father
and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost,*

*As it was in the beginning, Is now, and ever
shall be, world without end. Amen*

*The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.*

*Therefore will we not fear
though the earth be removed
And though the mountains be
carried into the midst of the sea.*

*The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.*

Please stand

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 8:31-36

Our Lord Jesus teaches that true discipleship is found in holding to his word. His truth alone breaks the bonds of sin and makes us free indeed. For only through faith in the Son do we stand approved before God—faith in him, and nothing else.

To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

They answered him, "We are Abraham's descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?"

Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to You, O Christ!

Be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY 877 Reformation Song

This hymn is led by our Ensemble, please join in singing as you feel comfortable.

SERMON

John 8 Free? From what? For what?

Please stand

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Luther's Small Catechism - Explanation of the Second Article of the Apostles' Creed - published 1529

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord. He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sin, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver but with his holy, precious blood, and with his innocent suffering and death. All this he did that I should be his own, and live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as he has risen from death and lives and rules eternally. This is most certainly true.

Be seated

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For the gift of the eternal Gospel, that it may be so treasured among us that its glories may never fade in our midst or its living light be lost to us, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all churches where the teachings of men have obscured the Good News of God's grace in Christ, that the Holy Spirit may mercifully renew them in the truth of God's gifted righteousness, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the spread of the Gospel to every nation, tribe, language and people, that all those who dwell on earth may come to know and live in the freedom of the Son, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For faith to use our freedom in Christ to serve our neighbor in our daily callings, that we might bear fruit in keeping with our new lives as God's children to the glory of our Father, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For God's faithful servants of old who spoke His truth, let us give thanks to God;

and that by His grace, we may one day also stand with this great cloud of witnesses, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

We pray for... Cheri Trujillo (Joni Kohagen's niece diagnosed with aggressive cancer), John Farrel (health struggles), Frankie (Robyn's young friend with cancer), Harry (Nancy's brother-in-law with serious health struggles), Mike Jacobs (nephew of Jeff and Jean in treatment for cancer), Al Perry's grandmother Helen (close to death), the building project at Prince of Peace

Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, and ask you to remember us in your kingdom as we 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.

OFFERING



Moved by God's love in Christ, we return to God our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to Him.

There is an offering plate in the entry way for those who wish to give in that way.

*To donate online, either scan the QR code on the left or text **princeofpeace** (no spaces) to **(833) 693-7056**. You'll receive a link in response. Follow the link to the Prince of Peace secure giving page.*

A NOTE TO OUR GUESTS *Children and those who are not communicant members of our church may come forward for a blessing. Those who do are asked to cross their arms on their chest to indicate this.*

Prince of Peace practices closed communion, because the Bible teaches it and because we love you. That means we ask that only members of Prince of Peace or other congregations in our fellowship take the Lord's Supper this morning. This is not a judgment of anyone's faith, it is simply our desire to uphold what God says in 1 Corinthians 10 and 11 about who should receive Holy Communion and how. Because we believe from these words that Jesus' body and blood is really present in and with the bread and wine, we want to be sure that it is received in the manner He has commanded us.

Please speak to Pastor Boettcher or Pastor Peil about communing with us in the future if you're not part of our congregation. **Thank you for your understanding!**

THE SACRAMENT

Stand

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is good and right so to do.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who preserves His Church to the end of time when He will come again as king to judge all people and take His own to glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise Your holy name and join their glorious song:

(sung) **Sing holy, holy, holy Lord,
The God on high by all adored. Alleluia, Alleluia!**

The heav'ns above and earth below

To one and all His glory show.

Sing hosanna! Christ has risen! Life is dawning, joy increasing. Alleluia!

Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD JESUS

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.

(sung) **O Christ, the Lamb of God, we pray,
Take all our sinfulness away. Alleluia, Alleluia!
O Christ, the Lamb of God, we pray,
Take all our sinfulness away.
Mercy show us, peace bestow us. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Be seated

DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

HYMN 557 Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice

HYMN 519 There Is A Redeemer

HYMN 630 Thy Strong Word

After the distribution, the minister speaks this blessing:

The true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you to life everlasting. Go in peace. Your ☩ sins are forgiven.

Amen.

Stand

PRAYER

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;

His mercy endures forever.

Psalms 118:1

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

1 Corinthians 11:26

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet you have given us in this Sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit, help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

BLESSING

Numbers 6:24-26

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.

Be seated

CLOSING HYMN 640 God's Word Is Our Great Heritage



Thank you to these people for serving us and our Savior with music this morning!

Ensemble: Chandra, Sophie Leng, Tori Diersen, Lexi Watanabe, Chris Watanabe, Zach Brandt, Tom Bruce

Brass: Tom Bruce, Greta Boettcher

Viola/Flute/Organ: Tori Diersen

5th-8th grade students of Prince of Peace Lutheran School and their director, Chandra Lange

Acknowledgments

Setting Two from Christian Worship

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide.

Liturgical and musical settings of Scripture based on text from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide.



This painting is part of a larger picture that hangs over the altar of St. Mary's Church in Wittenberg, Germany. It was painted by Lucas Cranach at the time of the Lutheran Reformation to remind the worshippers what the Christian Church is really about. Christ Jesus crucified is the center and foundation and focus. To the right, Martin Luther is preaching with one hand on the Bible and the other hand pointing at the crucifix, for the Word of God shows us the Word Incarnate, Jesus Christ. Cranach understood and Luther preached what Jesus once said: "These are the Scriptures that testify about me" (John 5:39). Jesus comes through His Word to those who gather in His Name. He comes to forgive, to bless and to strengthen. And so Jesus is the point of all Lutheran preaching, which is based on the Scriptures.

The Lutheran Reformation is not about Martin Luther or the other reformers. It is about preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Luther's goal was that we might follow the example of St. Paul who said: we preach Christ crucified (1 Corinthians 1:23). As children of the Reformation, our heritage is to preach and defend the Gospel against error and against our own doubts. Only the good news of Christ crucified for sinners can truly bring peace to the conscience and salvation to those lost in sin. Today we thank God that He has saved us through that Good News and we ask God's strength to stand firm in the Good News He has entrusted to us.

In the Lutheran Reformation, the Lord raised up Martin Luther and other bold confessors to reclaim the Holy Gospel in its truth and purity. By the 1500's A.D. the Christian Church, in the main, had replaced Christ with good works, indulgences, penance, and whatever else popes and councils of the Church decreed that people must do to satisfy God's wrath. Martin Luther and other reformers, by the grace of God, rediscovered the truth revealed in God's Word alone that Christ is the only true salvation and He is received and man is justified by the grace of God in Christ alone.

We gather this morning to give thanks to the Lord for restoring the Holy Gospel and pray Him that we continue to keep His Word rightly preached and His sacraments rightly administered, according to the Holy Scriptures, and as they are confessed in the Book of Concord. Article IV of the Augsburg Confession, which states the doctrine of justification, has traditionally been called the article by which the true Holy Christian Church stands (or falls if it is lost). God help us that our Lutheran congregations ever hold to this article that shapes everything else we believe:

"Our churches teach that people cannot be justified before God by their own strength, merit or works. People are freely justified for Christ's sake, through faith, when they believe that they are received into favor and that their sins are forgiven for Christ's sake. By His death, Christ made satisfaction for our sins. God counts this faith for righteousness in His sight. (Romans 3:21-23; 4:5)"

By Grace alone. By Faith alone. By Scripture alone.

LUTHER'S SEAL



This seal (or “coat of arms”) has become one of the best known emblems of evangelical Lutheran Christians. Martin Luther explained how the symbol points us to the Jesus Christ and the gift of eternal life that He gives us:

“First, there is a **black cross in a heart** that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black , which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn’t destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17). The heart should stand in the middle of **a white rose**. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12). This rose should stand in a **sky-blue field**, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed. Around the field of blue is **a golden ring** to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.”

Letter from Martin Luther to Lazarus Spengler, July 8, 1530



LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

WEBSITE
popslc.org

  
@poplutheranslc

MAIN OFFICE
(801)261-3808

DAVID M. BOETTCHER | PASTOR
CELL: (385)409-1653
david.boettcher@popslc.org

TYLER R. PEIL | PASTOR
CELL:(402)936-3655
tyler.peile@popslc.org

MICHAEL E. PAULSEN | PRINCIPAL
CELL:(262)490-4772
mike.paulsen@popschool.org