

WELCOME TO BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH



REFORMATION SUNDAY

October 29, 2023

8:00 & 9:30 AM

We are so glad you are here in God's house for worship.

Before worship, talk to God!

(see inside cover of hymnal for pre-service prayer prompts)

During worship, let God talk to you!

After worship, talk to one another.

If You're a Visitor, let us get to know you. Scan the QR Code here:



Parents of Young Children: *We love to have children in worship.* God put the wiggle in children; don't feel you have to completely suppress it in God's house. We know the presence of children in worship is a gift to the church! It is in the Lord's house that we learn how to listen and speak to our God with our brothers and sisters in faith. Feel free to quietly explain the parts of the service and the actions of those leading worship. Children learn how to worship by copying you. If you have a need, we have "worship bags" in the Narthex filled with items to help children and families during worship. There is a *Nursery* across the courtyard in the office complex, where you as a parent may take your little one needing a break. You are then able to return to church and continue your worship of the Lord.

Please place cell phones and electronic devices on mute as you join us in worship this morning. Thank you.

PRELUDE:

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

Jubilate Bells

~Lauren Delancy

WELCOME



All Sing:

1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; At Thy

Men and Boys Sing:

2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, Dark as

All Sing:

3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous; Bright with



speaking it was done. For created
night and deep as death, Broke the light of
Thine own ho - li - ness, Glo - rious now, we



light we thank Thee, While Thine or - dered sea - sons run.
Thy sal - va - tion, Breathed Thine own life - breath - ing breath.
press toward glo - ry, And our lives our hopes con - fess.



All Sing Refrain:

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to



Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!

- 4 **Women and Girls:**
 From the cross Thy wisdom shining Breaketh forth in conqu'ring might;
 From the cross forever beameth All Thy bright redeeming light
All Sing:
 Alleluia, Alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!
 Alleluia, Alleluia! Alleluia without end!
- 5 **All Sing:**
 Give us lips to sing Thy glory, Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,
 Throats that shout the hope that fills us, Mouths to speak Thy holy name.
 Alleluia, alleluia! May the light which Thou dost send
 Fill our songs with alleluias, Alleluias without end!
- 6 **All Sing:**
 God the Father, light-creator, To Thee laud and honor be.
 To Thee, Light of Light begotten, Praise be sung eternally.
 Holy Spirit, light-revealer, Glory, glory be to Thee.
 Mortals, angels, now and ever: Praise the holy Trinity!

INVOCATION: *(Article 1 of the Augsburg Confession)*

Leader: We unanimously hold and teach that there is one true God,

People: **and that there are three persons in this one true God,
 equal in power and alike eternal:**

Leader: God the Father, God the + Son, God the Holy Spirit.

People: **All three are one divine essence, eternal, without division,
 without end, of infinite power, wisdom and goodness,
 one creator and preserver of all things visible and invisible.**

CALL TO REPENTANCE: *(Adapted from Article 2 of the Augsburg Confession)*

Leader: Since the fall of Adam all people are conceived and born in sin;
 and by nature are full of evil lust and inclinations
 and are unable by nature to have true fear of God
 and true faith in God.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION OF SINS:

(Adapted from Luther's Small Catechism & Article 4 of the Augsburg Confession)

Leader: Do you believe that this is true of you, that you are a sinner?

**People: Yes, I believe it;
I am a sinner.**

Leader: How do you know this?

People: From the Ten Commandments, for these I have not kept.

Leader: Are you sorry for your sins?

**People: Yes, I am sorry that I have sinned against God
and against my brothers and sisters.**

Leader: What do you deserve from God because of your sins?

**People: I deserve God's displeasure, wrath and punishment,
as well as temporal and eternal death.**

Leader: Do you hope to be saved?

People: Yes, that is my hope.

Leader: How can you hold such hope?
In Whom, then, do you trust?

People: In my dear Lord, Jesus Christ.

Leader: What has Christ done for you that you trust in Him?

**People: He died for me and on the cross.
He shed His blood for my forgiveness.**

Leader: What moved Christ to offer Himself
in order to make payment for your sins?

People: His great love for His Father, for me, and for all sinners.

Leader: While we cannot obtain forgiveness of sin
and righteousness before God
by our own merits, works or satisfactions;
we receive forgiveness of sin
and become righteous before God by grace,
for Christ's sake, through faith,
when we believe that Christ suffered for us
and that for His sake our sin is forgiven
and righteousness and eternal life are given to us.
Therefore, as you believe, so let it be.
Now I, as a called and ordained servant of Christ,
forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father,
and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
Soli Deo Gloria!

People: **To God Alone be the Glory!**
Alleluia, Amen.

RESPONSIVE HYMN: "Christ Is Our Cornerstone" LSB 912

1 Christ is our cor - ner - stone, On Him a - lone we build;
2 Here may we gain from heav'n The grace which we im - plore,
△ 3 Oh, then, with hymns of praise These hal - lowed courts shall ring;

With His true saints a - lone The courts of heav'n are filled. On His
And may that grace, once giv'n, Be with us ev - er - more Un - til
Our voic - es we will raise The Three in One to sing And thus

great love Our hopes we place Of pres - ent grace And joys a - bove.
that day When all the blest To end - less rest Are called a - way.
pro - claim In joy - ful song, Both loud and long, That glo - rious name.

RESPONSIVE PSALM: *Psalm 46*

Leader: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
Therefore, we will not fear though the earth gives way,
though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,
though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

People: **There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

WOMEN: *God is in the midst of her;
she shall not be moved;
God will help her when morning dawns.*

MEN: *The nations rage,
the kingdoms totter;
He utters His voice,
the earth melts.*

Leader: The Lord of hosts is with us;

People: **the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

WOMEN: *Come, behold the works of the Lord,
how He has brought desolations on the earth.*

MEN: *He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
He breaks the bow and shatters the spear;
He burns the chariots with fire.*

Leader: “Be still, and know that I am God.

People: **I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth!”**

Leader: The Lord of hosts is with us;

People: **the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: *Romans 3:19-28*

We know that whatever the Scriptures say applies to everyone under their influence, and no one can say a thing. The whole world is brought under the judgment of God. Not one person can have God’s approval by any effort to follow the laws in the Scriptures. These laws show what sin is.

But God has made a way to be right with Him, apart from the law. Everyone who believes has God’s approval through faith in Jesus Christ.

There is no difference between people. Because all people have sinned, they have fallen short of God’s glory. They receive God’s approval freely by an act of His kindness through the price Christ Jesus paid to set us free from sin. God showed that Christ is the throne of mercy where God’s approval is given through faith in Christ’s blood. In His patience God waited to deal with sins committed in the past. He waited so that He could display His approval at the present time. This shows that He is a God of justice, a God who approves of people who believe in Jesus.

So, do we have anything to brag about? Bragging has been eliminated. On what basis was it eliminated? On the basis of our own efforts? No, indeed! Rather, it is eliminated on the basis of faith. We conclude that a person has God’s approval by faith, not by his own efforts. – GW ®

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks Be to God.**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

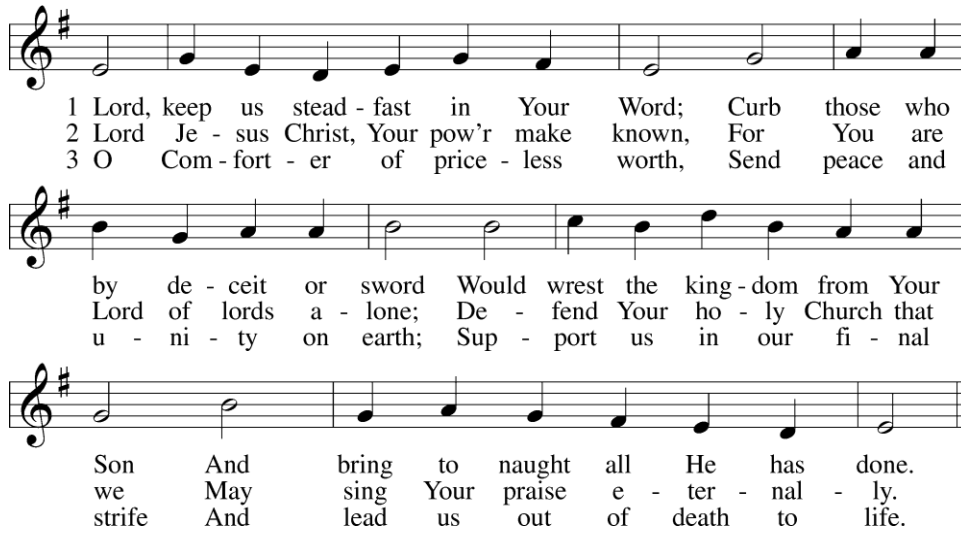
THE HOLY GOSPEL: *John 8:31-36*

So Jesus said to those Jews who believed in Him, “If you live by what I say, you are truly my disciples. You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

They replied to Jesus, “We are Abraham’s descendants, and we’ve never been anyone’s slaves. So how can You say that we will be set free?”

Jesus answered them, “I can guarantee this truth: Whoever lives a sinful life is a slave to sin. A slave doesn’t live in the home forever, but a son does. So if the Son sets you free, you will be absolutely free. – GW ®

SERMON HYMN: “*Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word*” LSB 655



1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in Your Word; Curb those who
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, Your pow'r make known, For You are
3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, Send peace and

by de - ceit or sword Would wrest the king - dom from Your
Lord of lords a - lone; De - fend Your ho - ly Church that
u - ni - ty on earth; Sup - port us in our fi - nal

Son And bring to naught all He has done.
we May sing Your praise e - ter - nal - ly.
strife And lead us out of death to life.

MESSAGE: “*But God*”

Text: Romans 3:19-28

NEW MEMBERS RECOGNITION

HYMN OF THE DAY: *“Though All Our Life Is Like a Scroll”*



All 1 Though all our life is like a scroll Un -
 All 2 Though pomp - ous - ly we try to dress In
 Choir 3 Though earth's deep wa - ters foam and roar As
 All 4 Though crit - ics cut out Scrip - ture's claims And
 All 5 Now sing a high dox - ol - o - gy To



rolled with blem - ished pa - ges; Though sin has shred - ded
 cos - tumes of our mak - ing; Though fig leaves of self -
 surg - ing waves are roll - ing; Though all the na - tions
 treat them with de - ri - sion; Though they con - duct their
 God who gives sal - va - tion. Both here and in e -



what was whole And death is now our wa - ges; Yet
 righ - teous - ness Are fu - tile and heart - break - ing; Yet
 rage with war While bells of doom are toll - ing; Yet
 hos - tile aims With scal - pels of sus - pi - cion; Yet
 ter - ni - ty Let this be our vo - ca - tion. To



here we stand in con - fi - dence, With Je - sus as our
 filth - y rags Christ glad - ly wore So we would per - ish
 God gives peace - ful for - ti - tude, He nur - tures us with
 how the liv - ing, two - edged sword Pro - claims the dead and
 Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it raise A sym - pho - ny of



sole de - fense, For He a - lone still saves_ us.
 nev - er - more. His grace a - lone still clothes_ us.
 Heav - en's food. True faith a - lone still an - chors.
 ris - en Lord! God's Word a - lone: still truth - ful.
 grate - ful praise, For He a - lone is wor - thy.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH: (*Adapted from Luther's Small Catechism*)

Leader: Let us pray together as Jesus taught us:
Our Father who art in heaven,

**People: Dear God, You tenderly invite us to believe
that You are our true Father and that we are Your dear children.**

Leader: Hallowed by Thy name,

**People: Dear Lord, Your name is holy in itself,
but we pray that it may be kept holy by us.**

Leader: This is accomplished Lord when Your Word is taught clearly and purely;

**People: and we, as your children, lead holy lives in accordance with it;
help us to this end. Amen.**

Leader: Thy Kingdom come,

**People: Your Kingdom comes when You, our heavenly Father, give us Your
Holy Spirit, so that by Your grace we may believe Your Word, live
our lives for You, and share the Good News of Christ with others that
Your Kingdom may abound in the hearts of many.**

Leader: Thy will be done,

**People: Your will is done when You curb and destroy the purpose of the devil,
the world and our sinful flesh;
and strengthen us to gladly know and do what pleases You.
May this Your good and gracious will be done in us until the end.
Amen.**

Leader: Give us this day our daily bread,

**People: Thank You good and gracious God for Your daily blessings
by which You provide all things needed
to support our bodies and lives.**

Leader: Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;

**People: We pray, dear Father, that You would not look at our sins,
nor deny our prayers because of them.**

Leader: And lead us not into temptation,

**People: We pray, Lord, that You would guard and keep us so that the devil,
the world, and our sinful nature may not deceive or mislead us.
Amen.**

Leader: Deliver us from evil.

**People: We pray, Almighty God, that You would rescue us from every evil,
and at last, when the hour of death comes,
You would grant us a blessed end
and graciously take us from this world of sorrow
to Yourself in heaven. Amen and Amen.
For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory,
forever and ever!**

CONFESSION OF FAITH: “We All Believe In One True God” LSB 953



1 We all be-lieve in one true God, Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost,
2 We all be-lieve in Je - sus Christ, Son of God and Mar - y's son,
3 We all con-fess the Ho - ly Ghost, Who from both in truth pro-ceeds,



Ev - er - pres - ent help in need, Praised by all the heav'n - ly host;
Who de - scend - ed from His throne And for us sal - va - tion won;
Who sus - tains and com-forts us In all tri - als, fears, and needs.



All He made His love en-folds, All cre - a - tion He up-holds.
By whose cross and death are we Res - cued from all mis - er - y.
Bless-ed, ho - ly Trin - i - ty, Praise for - ev - er be to Thee!

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

FROM LUTHER'S SMALL CATECHISM:

Leader: Baptism is not just plain water,

**People: it is the water included in God's command
and combined with God's word.**

Leader: His words recorded in Matthew's Gospel:
"Go and make disciples of all nations,
baptizing them in the name of the Father
and of the + Son
and of the Holy Spirit."

Leader: Through the declaration of God's word
and on account of His promise,
baptism works forgiveness of sins,
rescues from death and the devil,
and gives eternal salvation to all who believe.

**People: It also indicates that the old nature in us
should by daily contrition and repentance
be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires,
and that as new creations in Christ
we should daily emerge
and arise to live before God
in righteousness and purity.**



HOLY BAPTISM:

8:00 + *Judah Philip Lopez* +

Elder: Through Baptism,
God has made *Judah* a member of the priesthood
we all share in Christ Jesus,
that together we may present the forgiveness of God in Christ
to our world.

People: **We welcome you into the Lord's family.
We receive you as a fellow member of the body of Christ
and a worker with us in the kingdom of God.**

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BLESSING: (*Adapted from Article 6 of the Augsburg Confession*)

Leader: Now faith should abound with fruit
and produce good works in us for God's sake,
not placing our trust in them,
as if to merit favor before God;
for we have received His favor through faith in Christ,

People: **To Whom Alone,
with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
belongs ALL Glory.
Alleluia, Amen.**

Between each stanza, the choir will sing:

"The Lord of hosts is with us, the God of Jacob is our stronghold." ~ Psalm 46:7

Congregation: Stanzas 1, 2 & 4

Choir Only: Stanza 3



All: 1. A might - y for - tress is — our God,
Men: 2. No strength of ours can match — his might!
Choir: 3. *Though hordes of dev - ils fill — the land*
All: 4. God's Word for - ev - er shall — a - bide,



A sword and shield vic - to - rious;
 We would be lost, re - ject - ed.
All threat - 'ning to de - vour — us,
 No thanks to foes, who fear — it;



Women: He breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod
 But now a cham - pion comes — to fight,
 We trem - ble not, un - moved — we stand;
 For God him - self fights by — our side



And wins sal - va - tion glo - rious.
 Whom God him - self e - lect - ed.
They can - not o - ver - pow'r — us.
 With weap - ons of the Spir - it.



Choir: The old — e - vil foe,
 Ask who — this — may be:
 This world's — prince — may rage,
 If they — take — our house,

Sworn to work us woe,
All: Lord of hosts is he!
In fierce war en - gage.
 Goods, fame, child, or spouse,

With dread craft and might
 Christ Je - sus, our Lord,
He is doomed to fail;
 Our life wrench a - way,

He arms him - self to fight.
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored.
God's judg - ment must pre - vail!
 They can - not win the day.

On earth he has no e - qual. *(Interlude)*
 He holds the field vic - to - rious. *(Interlude)*
One lit - tle word sub - dues ——— *him. (Interlude)*
 The King - dom's ours for - ev - er. The

King - dom's ours for - ev - er.

POSTLUDE:

“God of Grace”
 ~ Paul Manz

Brass and Organ

+ + + + + +

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 “Thy Strong Word” LSB 578

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“Christ is our Cornerstone” LSB 912

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“Psalm 46”

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“Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word.” LSB 655

Text: Martin Luther 1483-1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.
Tune: *Geistliche Lieder auff's new gebessert*, Wittenberg, 1543, ed. Joseph Klug. Text and music: Public domain.

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“We All Believe in One True God” LSB 953

Text: Tobias Clausnitzer, 1619-84; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.
Tune: *Neu-vermehrtes...Gesangbuch*, 3rd ed., Meiningen, 1693; setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941.
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“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” LSB 656

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Composite. Tune: *EIN FESTE BURG*, Martin Luther, written c. 1529.
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SERVING GOD’S HOUSE TODAY:

Children's Sermon... Alissa Brege

Lector 8:00 & 9:30... David Akins

Organist... Robert Bottoms

Liturgist 8:00... Pastor Kyle Blake

Preacher... Senior Pastor Kevin L. Kritzer

Accompanist... Kevin Bowers

Director of Music & Worship Arts... Noah Freeman

Liturgist 9:30... Karl Fink

Brass

Trumpets... Meghan Turner, Mara Widmann

Timpani... Gabriel Nobles

Trombones... Ken Black, Rich Bullock

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The *Bethany Bullet* is a weekly capsule of worship highlights, and important information about events taking place at Bethany Lutheran Church. If you would like to receive the *Bethany Bullet* please email Aimee Coleman at acoleman@bethanylutheran.org with your name and email address. Tell a friend about the *Bethany Bullet*!

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