

The Festival of THE LUTHERAN REFORMATION

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH | Kearney, Nebraska

Sunday, October 30, 2016

WELCOME TO GOOD SHEPHERD!

We are so happy you could join us today! If we can assist you in any way with questions about our confession of faith, spiritual struggles, understanding our liturgical service, or any other need, please let us know. It is our prayer that the Gospel of Jesus Christ will strengthen and comfort you.

For your convenience, Listening Devices are available for those who need assistance in hearing the service. Please speak with an usher if you need one. A Nursery is also available and is equipped with a speaker so that a minimal amount of the service is missed. The nursery is located in the hallway just off the entryway (first door on left).

SERVICE NOTES FOR THE LUTHERAN REFORMATION

Lord, keep us faithful to your Word! On October 31, 1517—498 years ago—a Roman Catholic monk named Martin Luther nailed 95 Theses to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany. Luther, in an effort to reform, the church, actually sparked a movement that would rise up into a revolution against the church. The 95 points which he nailed to the door were doctrinal points in which the church had fallen away from the Word of God. He pointed out that the church's sole responsibility is to remain faithful to the Word of God—something which the church during his time had forgotten.

Today, in our celebration of the Festival of the Lutheran Reformation of the Church, we emphasize the true Church's unfailing reliance on the Word of God and unflinching testimony to it in the face of persecution. Jesus promised to pour out his Spirit on the Church that we might be God's mouthpiece even before kings. Today the Church prays that the Lord give us the strength to be faithful and the peace of knowing our lives are safe in his hands.

ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE

The service that we follow today is an adaptation of the *Deutche Messe*, authored by Martin Luther in 1526. The hymns of the liturgy (most written by Luther) will give you a feel for what Lutherans heard and sang almost 500 years ago as they worshiped the same Savior who

gathers with us. While the settings may be somewhat unfamiliar and difficult to sing, the words teach the Scriptures beautifully. This service was the basis for many Lutheran orders of service over the past generations. You will, undoubtedly, find the general flow of the service to be rather familiar.

HOLY COMMUNION IS OFFERED TODAY

with the body and blood of Christ. As Christians who believe that the Bible is inspired by God and that every word written in it is God's holy Word, we believe that we receive the body and blood in, with, and under the bread and wine. While this is something that goes beyond our human understanding, our faith allows us to accept this as true. God warns us in the Bible that anyone who doesn't understand this teaching or who denies this real presence of Christ's body and blood will do damage to his or her soul if not taught first.

In Holy Communion, we share in the mystery of the bread and wine offered together

As a congregation we care about people and about the spiritual well-being of individuals, especially those attending the Lord's Table today. If you are a guest and desire to commune, please speak to the pastor before the service. Our altar is open to those who confess oneness with us in doctrine, are not under church discipline in another congregation, and are members of our congregation, one of our sister congregations in the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod [WELS], or a member of our sister synod, the Evangelical Lutheran Synod [ELS].

SERVING IN THE DIVINE SERVICE

Preaching & Presiding Minister	Pr. Nathanael Seelow
Keyboardist	Michelle Reinsch
Ushers	Chris Stutz & Randy Webb
Greeters	Donna Haas & Bert Mues
Sound Technician	Jamie Scott
Altar Guild	Lois Brei

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THE DIVINE SERVICE

Luther's "Deutsche Messe" of 1526 (Adapted)



"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." His coworkers were banished from their homes for a time after his death; they received comfort when they heard a young girl sing it in Weimar where they were in seclusion. And even armies have sung it before battles.

Notice the absence of the public Confession of Sins. The addition of confession and absolution for all at the beginning of worship became part of the Lutheran liturgy in America with the introduction of the "Common Service" of 1888. This addition came as a result of a decline of use of Private Confession and Absolution.

OPENING HYMN

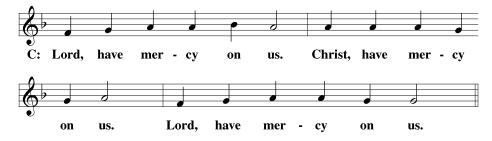
A Mighty Fortress | CW 200

Please stand for the final stanza.

DIALOGUE

- M I rejoiced with those who said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord."
- One thing I ask of the Lord, this is what I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple.
- M Who may ascend the hill of the Lord? Who may stand in his holy place?
- He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to an idol or swear by what is false.

LORD, HAVE MERCY — Kyrie



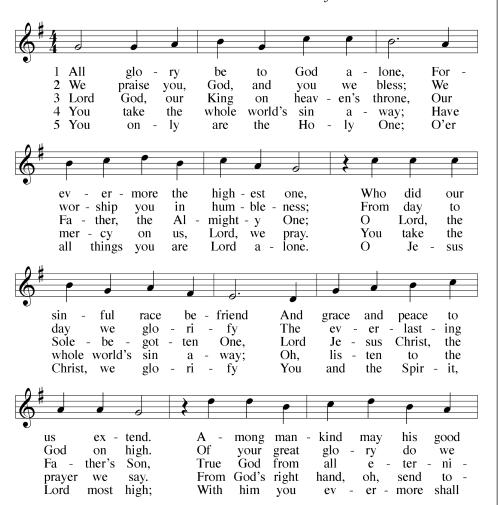
DIALOGUE

M God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth gives way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea.

- The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.
- M Sing to the Lord, you saints of his; praise his holy name. For his anger lasts only a moment, but his favor lasts a lifetime.
- Sing to the Lord a new song, his praise in the assembly of his saints.
- M Glory be to God on high!

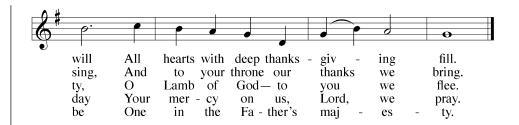
GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

All Glory Be to God Alone | CW 262



During worship in Luther's day, the liturgy was all done by priests, cantors, or choirs. Responses, prayers, and even the Scripture readings were sung or chanted. Luther did not make many alterations to the flow and style of worship. He kept the practice of chanting and singing throughout the service, even giving his colleagues instructions for proper chanting vatterns, but Luther introduced congregational participation as he and his coworkers wrote many hymns for the church. He wanted people to be active in worship, not bystanders. Luther also found music to be a great way to teach the truths of Scripture. Historians have noted that Luther "sang the Reformation into the

hearts of the people."



The Service of the Word



SALUTATION

- M The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY — Collect

M 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.

C Amen.

Be seated.

FIRST LESSON

Daniel 6:10-12, 16-23

OW, WHEN DANIEL LEARNED that the document had been signed, he went to his house. It had windows on its upper story that opened toward Jerusalem. Three times each day he would get on his knees and pray and offer praise before

The Prayers of the Day are an ancient set of prayers that sum up the petitions of the congregation using a pattern noted for its brevity and beauty. Each Sunday has its unique Prayer of the Day, reflecting the theme of the Gospel of the Day.

Faithfulness to God's Word in the face of persecution requires trust. God shut the lions' mouths to answer the king's his God. He continued to do that just as he had been doing before this. ¹¹ Then these men came as a group and found Daniel praying and seeking favor from his God.

¹² Then they went and said to the king concerning the decree, "Your Majesty, did you not sign a decree that anyone who prays to any god or person for thirty days except to you, Your Majesty, would be thrown into the den of lions?"

The king answered, "Indeed I did. The command is like the law of the Medes and the Persians that cannot be revoked."

¹⁶ Then the king gave the order, and Daniel was brought and thrown into the lions' den. The king said to Daniel, "May your God, whom you serve continually, rescue you." ¹⁷ A stone was brought and placed over the mouth of the pit and the king sealed it with his signet ring and the signet rings of his nobles so that nothing could be changed with regard to Daniel's situation. ¹⁸ Then the king went to his palace. He spent the night without food, and no entertainment was brought before him, and he could not sleep.

¹⁹ Then at dawn the king arose as soon as it was light and hurried to the lions' den. ²⁰ As he came near the pit, he cried out in a fearful voice. The king said to Daniel, "Daniel, servant of the living God, your God whom you serve continually: Was he able to rescue you from the lions' den?"

²¹ Then Daniel spoke with the king, "Your Majesty, may you live forever! ²² My God sent his angel and shut the mouth of the lions, and they have not hurt me because he found me innocent before him. Also before you, Your Majesty, I have committed no crime."

²³ Then the king was very glad, and said that Daniel should be brought up from the pit. So Daniel was brought up from the pit, and he was unharmed because he trusted in his God.

- M The Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God!

question: Is your God able to rescue you? Yes, he is. God shut the lions' mouths to show his Church of all the ages that God is able to guard and keep his own. You can trust him and be faithful to his Word in the face of any persecution.

PSALM OF THE DAY



The might-y Lord is with us; the God of Ja-cob is our for-tress.



Refrain

God is our re- | fuge and strength,* an ever-present help in | trouble.

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.

Refrain

There is a river whose streams make glad the ci- | ty of God,* the holy place where the Most | <u>High</u> dwells.

God is within her, she | will not fall;*

God will help her at | break of day.

"Be still, and know that | I am God;*

I will be exalted among the nations,

I will be exalted | in the earth."

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son* and to the Holy | Spirit, as it was in the be- | ginning,* is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Refrain

The almighty and Most High God controls nature. safeguards His chosen city against attacking foes, and stands over all nations at war. He is our sure fortress. In mercy, He makes Himself accessible and is, therefore, "God with us." We as individuals, and as the Church, experience many troubles in this life on account of the devil, the world, and our own sinful nature. Yet amid every crisis of body or soul, God is with us in His Son so that we may face every upheaval. Pray the Psalm: O Lord, make us to know You as our refuge and strength, our very present help in every trouble.

Amen.

SECOND LESSON Romans 3:19-28

OW WE KNOW that whatever the law says is addressed to those who are under the law, so that every mouth will be silenced and the whole world will be subject to God's judgment. ²⁰ For this reason, no one will be declared righteous in his sight by works of the law, for through the law we become aware of sin.

²¹ But now, completely apart from the law, a righteousness from God has been made known. The Law and the Prophets testify to it. ²² This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all and over all who believe.

In fact, there is no difference, ²³ because all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God ²⁴ and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God publicly displayed as the atonement seat through faith in his blood. God did this to demonstrate his justice, since, in his divine restraint, he had left the sins that were committed earlier unpunished. ²⁶ He did this to demonstrate his justice at the present time, so that he would be both just and the one who justifies the person who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷ What happens to boasting then? It has been eliminated. By what principle—by the principle of works? No, but by the principle of faith. ²⁸ For we conclude that a person is justified by faith without the works of the law.

M The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

GRADUAL HYMN

O God, Our Lord, Your Holy Word | CW 204

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 10:16-23

Please stand.

M The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, chapter ten.

C Praise be to you, O Lord.

In Paul's letter to the Romans, he writes of both Law and Gospel. He writes of God's anger against sin and God's righteousness given through Jesus. Here, at this transitional point, is the promise of Jesus' righteousness and the freedom he brings. Yes, freedom from sin and freedom to live in all righteousness comes to us who live by faith. We have been declared innocent, and no law will shackle us again. Now we live for him who has set us free.

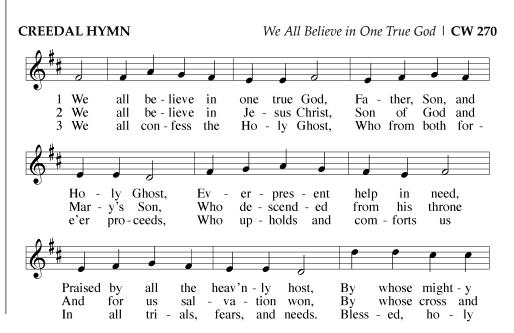
A hymn (or chanted "Alleluia" verse) formed a bridge or step between the Epistle Lesson and the Gospel as the presider traditionally stepped (Latin = "gradus") either from one side of the altar to the other or out into the middle of the congregation to read the Gospel.

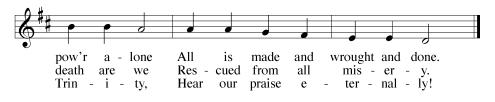
Who would send defenseless sheep into a world of ravenous wolves? It makes no sense, yet that is precisely the plan that Jesus describes for his Church. It makes no sense—unless you are the Good Shepherd who wants his sheep to utterly depend on him. Our trust in Iesus doesn't guarantee an absence of persecution, but faithfulness in spite of it. We will witness to the Word of God before brothers, fathers, children, governors and princes. Jesus promised, "All men will hate you because of me, but he who stands firm to the end will be saved."

OOK, I AM SENDING YOU OUT as sheep among wolves. So be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves. ¹⁷ Be on guard against people. They will hand you over to councils, and they will whip you in their synagogues. ¹⁸ You will be brought into the presence of governors and kings for my sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles. ¹⁹ Whenever they hand you over, do not be worried about how you will respond or what you will say, because what you say will be given to you in that hour. ²⁰ In fact you will not be the ones speaking, but the Spirit of your Father will be speaking through you.

²¹ "Brother will hand over his brother to death, and a father will do the same with his child. Children will rise up against parents and have them put to death. ²² You will be hated by all people because of my name, but whoever endures to the end will be saved. ²³ And when they persecute you in one town, flee to the next. Amen I tell you: You will not finish going through the cities of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

- M This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise be to you, O Christ.





Be seated.

CHIEF HYMN

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word | CW 203

SERMON Romans 3:19-28

Futility is Found in Works; Righteousness is Found in Faith

OFFERING

Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him. If you are visiting with us today, please do not feel obligated to give an offering.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH/LORD'S PRAYER

Please stand.

- I invite you to lift up your hearts to God and pray with me the Lord's Prayer as Christ our Lord taught us.
- Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
- O God, our heavenly Father, look with mercy on all your children on earth. Give us grace that we might proclaim your Word faithfully and live our lives according to your will, for then we show that your name is precious to us. We also pray that you would keep us from any teaching and living which would dishonor your name.
- **C** Thy kingdom come.
- M We pray, O Lord, that your kingdom and the rule of your 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, your Son, so that the Christian Church might grow and prosper.

"Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word" was written by Martin Luther in 1541. The hymn was originally written for the Wittenberg boys' choir to sing at a prayer service for God's protection against Turkish (Muslim) invaders. It was printed in a hymnal for the first time in 1543 as "A hymn for children to sing...." Luther wanted children to learn and sing good hymns that strengthen heart and soul!

The **sermon** based on the law and gospel found in Scripture alone was Luther's most important change to the service. His preaching was direct and lively, although many of his sermons would appear long by modern standards. Parishioners in Luther's day stood for the service, often over two hours.

Luther instructs,
"After hearing the
Word, and in
preparation for the
Sacrament, follows a
paraphrase of the
Lord's Prayer and
an admonition for
those who wish to
partake of the
Sacrament."

- Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
- M Heavenly Father, we pray that the Holy Spirit would strengthen us to do and accept your 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.
- Give us this day our daily bread.
- M Dear Father in heaven, we pray that you would also give us our daily bread, preserve us from greed and selfish desires, and help us to trust that you will provide for all our needs.
- And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
- Gracious Lord, forgive our sins as we forgive those who sin against us so that our hearts may rest and rejoice in a good conscience before you, and we pray that no sin may ever frighten or alarm us.
- C Lead us not into temptation.
- Merciful Father, protect us from all temptations and help us by your Spirit to put down our sinful flesh, to despise the world and its vices, and to overcome the devil and all his trickery.
- But deliver us from evil.
- M Finally, heavenly Father, we pray that you would deliver us from all evils of body and soul now and forever.
- For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever.
- M 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 will receive it, and it will be yours."
- C Amen.

The Service of the Sacrament



ADMONITION OF COMMUNICANTS

I admonish you in Christ that you look upon the Sacrament of Christ in true faith, above all having confident assurance in your hearts in the words by which Christ grants his body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. That you remember and give thanks for his boundless love of which he gave proof when he redeemed us by his blood from God's wrath, sin, death, and hell, and thereupon take to yourselves externally the bread and wine, that is, his body and blood, as your guarantee and pledge. In his name, therefore, and according to his command, let us proceed, by the use of his own words, to the use and administration of the Sacrament.

Luther's
admonition for those
who commune reflects
his emphasis on
ongoing catechetical
instruction for all
Christians. This was
especially important
during the
Reformation era when
so many in the church
were poorly
instructed, if at all.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Matthew 26:26-28; 1 Corinthians 11:24,25

M 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."

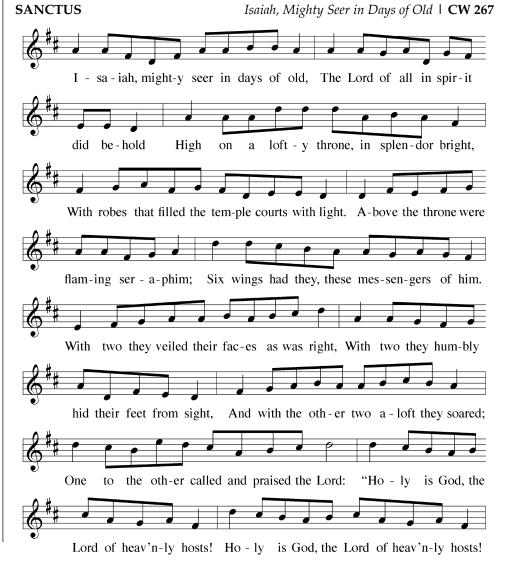
Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

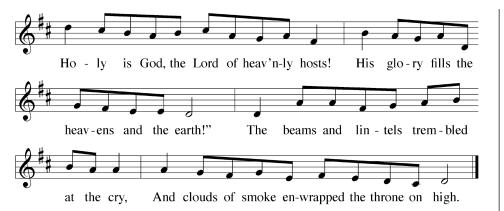
PREFACE

- M The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- M Lift up your hearts.
- **C** We lift them up to the Lord.
- M 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 on this day overcame death and the grave and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

This hymn is Martin Luther's metrical version of Isaiah 6:1-4, which includes the song of the heavenly seraphim angels. Luther replaced the historic "Holy Holy Holy" with this hymn version and then placed it right before the Lord's Supper, because, through faith, we have the same sight as Isaiah in the presence of God.





PAX DOMINI

M The peace of the Lord be with you always.

С Amen.

Be seated.

DISTRIBUTION

Those who will be receiving Holy Communion today may wish to read Personal Preparation for Holy Communion, found on page 156 in the front section of the hymnal. This page helps us put into practice what the Bible encourages: "Everyone ought to examine themselves before they eat of the bread and drink from the cup." (1 Corinthians 11:28)

Prayer suggestions for before and after receiving the Lord's Supper can be found in the hymnal on pages 10-11 and 134-139.

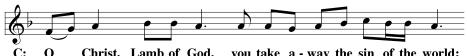
In dismissing the communicants, the minister says:

M Now, may this true body and blood strengthen and keep you in the true faith to life everlasting. Your sins • are forgiven. Go in peace. Amen.

LAMB OF GOD — Agnus Dei

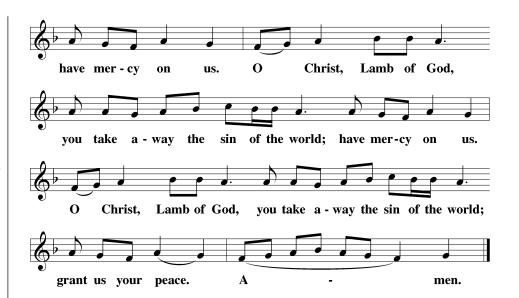
Iohn 1:29

Please stand.



0 Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; About the Pax Domini, Luther wrote: "The Pax is, so to speak, a public absolution of the sins of the communicants, the true voice of the gospel announcing remission of sins, and therefore the one and most worthy preparation for the Lord's Table, if faith holds to these words as coming from the mouth of Christ."

Notice how this tune and the tune of the Kyrie are very similar. This is because Martin Luther's good friend, Johann Bugenhagen, composed this setting of the Agnus Dei while Luther composed the Kyrie. The similarity of these melodies is intentional They foreshadow the "summit" of the Service of the Sacrament, in which God's mercy is shown in the Supper.



POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

- Me give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that you have given us to eat and to drink 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 who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

BLESSING

- M 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.
- C Amen.

Luther directed the clergy to use these words of **blessing** which God gave Old Testament priests to speak over his people of Israel.

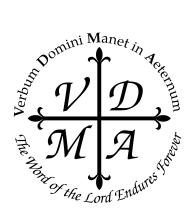
God's Word is Our Great Heritage | **CW 293**Sung to the tune of CW 200

found the end of this service to be abrupt. A final hymn was added by Scandinavian Lutherans in the 1800s. The famous hymn, "God's Word Is Our Great Heritage," was written by Nikolai Gründtvig to be a 5th stanza of "A Mighty Fortress" for the 300th anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation in 1817.

Modern Lutherans

God's Word is our great heritage
And shall be ours forever;
To spread its light from age to age
Shall be our chief endeavor.
Through life it guides our way;
In death it is our stay.
Lord, grant, while worlds endure,
We keep its teachings pure
Throughout all generations.

Be seated.



"Verbum Domini Manet in Aeternum" is the motto of the Lutheran Reformation. It is based on 1 Peter 1:24-25, and appeared first 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 all who worked and served in the court—prince and servant alike. It was subsequently used by his successors, his brother John the Steadfast, and his nephew John Fredrick 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.

Announcements

BIBLE CLASS AND SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY! Following the service today, Sunday School and Bible Class will meet. Sunday School will begin at 10:45 in the Education Building. Bible Class will begin at 10:45 in the Multipurpose Room. We will continue our look at the *Book of Revelation*.

CONGREGATION AT PRAYER A copy of the newest "A Congregation at Prayer" is available on the table in the entryway. This packet is not only a good outline for personal and family devotions, but it also includes an up-to-date prayer list for those in (and outside) our congregation.

NOVEMBER CHURCH CALENDAR The November church calendar is available on the table in the entry way or online at www.goodshepherdkearney.org/calendar.

SUNDAY MORNING TREAT SIGN-UP A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the entry way to bring fellowship treats for this fall and early winter. If you're willing to provide food on a given Sunday, please consider signing up.

TRUNK-OR-TREAT This year's trunk or treat event will take place this afternoon from 4:30-6pm. Feel free to bring your kids or your grandkids by for some halloween fun!

This Week's Calendar

TODAY, October 30	4:30-6p — Trunk-or-Treat
Tuesday, November 1	7p — "Broken" Bible Class
Wednesday, November 2	AM — Hospital/Shut-in Calls 4p — Catechism
Thursday, November 3	1:30p — Grace Upon Grace BIC
	9:30a — Divine Service with Holy Communion 10:30 — Fellowship 10:45a — Sunday School 10:45a — <i>Book of Revelation</i> Bible Class
	Ushers: Tony Wenz & Les Adelung
	Greeters: Tom & Marlene Hansen
	Sound Tech: Logan Hansen
Cleaning (10/30-11/5)	

