

Contemporary Worship

October 25, 2026

Reformation Sunday

Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

GATHERING MUSIC

Grace Alone – Nelson/Brown

*Every promise we can make, every prayer and step of faith,
Every difference we will make is only by His grace.
Every mountain we will climb, every ray of hope we shine,
Every blessing left behind is only by His grace.*

*Grace alone which God supplies,
Strength unknown He will provide.
Christ in us our Cornerstone,
We will go forth in grace alone.*

*Every soul we long to reach, every heart we hope to teach,
Everywhere we share His peace is only by His grace.
Every loving word we say, every tear we wipe away,
Every sorrow turned to praise is only by His grace.*

WELCOME

Leader: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the companionship of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

Assembly: **And also with you.**

OPENING SONG *

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

*A * in the order of service indicates that those who are able are invited to stand.*

1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,
2 World with - out end, . . . with - out end. A - men.

and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,
World with - out end, . . . with - out end. A - men.

and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.
World with - out end, . . . with - out end. A - men.

As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be. A - men.

Text: Paul M. Vasile, b. 1976, based on the Gloria Patri
Music: GLORY TO GOD (VASILE), Paul M. Vasile
Text and music © Paul M. Vasile, admin. Augsburg Fortress

READING

Romans 3:19-28

Paul's words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ's death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

¹⁹ Now we know that, whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰ For no human will be justified before him by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹ But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed and is attested by the Law and the Prophets, ²² the righteousness of God through the faith of Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³ since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴ they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had

passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶ it was to demonstrate at the present time his own righteousness, so that he is righteous and he justifies the one who has the faith of Jesus.

²⁷ Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law? That of works? No, rather through the law of faith. ²⁸ For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

Assembly: Thanks be to God.

OPENING SONG REPRISE *

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

HOLY GOSPEL*

John 8:31-36

Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

Leader: The Holy Gospel according to John, the eighth chapter.

Assembly: Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹ Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." ³³ They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?"

³⁴ Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin.

³⁵ The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶ So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.

Assembly: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

SONG *

Ancient Words

Verse 1: Holy words long preserved for our walk in this world;
They resound with God's own heart, O, let the ancient words impart.
Words of life, words of hope, give us strength, help us cope;
In this world where'er we roam, ancient words will guide us home.

Chorus: Ancient words, ever true, changing me, changing you;
We have come with open hearts, O let the ancient words impart.

Verse 2: Holy words of our faith handed down to this age,
Came to us through sacrifice;
O, heed the faithful words of Christ...*chorus*

Words & Music by Lynn DeShazo

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PRAYERS *

The assembly responds to each petition ending in "Hear us, O God."

Assembly: Your mercy is great.

The assembly responds to the final petition ending with "through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord."

Assembly: Amen.

PEACE *

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you always!

Assembly: And also with you!

*The assembly greets each other with
"peace be with you...and also with you."*

You're invited to share God's peace with those around you.

If you're worshipping on Facebook, you may also greet one another in the comments.

OFFERING

Reformation Song – Chester/Kauflin

As we respond to hearing God's Word and prepare to feast at God's table we contemplate the many ways we serve the Kingdom of God through our time, talents, and gifts.

Offering plates are available at each entrance to the sanctuary and the QR code below can be used to give our tithes and offering.



*Your Word alone is solid ground; the mighty rock on which we build.
In every line the truth is found, and every page with glory filled.*

*Through faith alone we come to You. We have no merit we can claim.
Sure that Your promises are true, we place our hope in Jesus' name.*

Gloria, gloria, glory to God alone.

*By grace alone we have been saved. All that we are has come from You.
Hearts that were once by sin enslaved, now by Your power have been made new.*

*And on this Reformation Day, we join with saints of old to sing.
We lift our hearts as one in praise: Glory to Christ our gracious King.*

CONFESSION *

Leader: Trusting in God's grace and mercy, let us confess our sins.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Leader: Gracious God,

Assembly: we confess that we fall short of your hope for us.

**We have not always loved you, cared for our neighbors,
or stood up for what is right.**

We have been afraid to change and slow to offer grace.

Forgive us, renew us, and set us free to live in the love of Jesus.

Amen.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS *

WORDS OF INSTITUTION *

LORD'S PRAYER *

**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.**

HOLY COMMUNION

*All those who confess Jesus as Lord and Savior are welcome to the table.
We invite you to come forward to receive the communion elements from the servers.
You will be handed a wafer from the server and are invited to select a cup of wine from the tray.
Pre-packaged elements of grape juice and gluten free wafers are available
in the baskets at the communion rail and at each entrance to the sanctuary.
You may partake of the elements at the communion rail and dispose of the cups and packaging in the baskets
at the end of each communion rail or take the elements back to your pew to partake of them and dispose of
the cups and packaging after the service.
"Bread from the Lord's Table" and/or a pastoral blessing are available for children who do not yet commune.*

Leader: Christ extends the invitation to all people to come and feast.

As you are served communion:

Communion Server: The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you
Communion Receiver: Amen.

Thy Word

Chorus: Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

Verse 1: When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way,
Still You're there right beside me.
And nothing will I fear as long as You are near.
Please be near me to the end...*chorus*

Verse 2: I will not forget Your love for me, and yet
my heart forever is wandering.
Jesus be my guide and hold me to Your side,
and I will love You to the end...*chorus*

"Thy Word" words and music by Amy Grant and Michael W. Smith

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Leader: Let us pray.

Gracious God,

we give you thanks for feeding us with the body and blood of Christ.
Renew us in the promises of baptism, strengthen us in faith,
and send us forth to live in the freedom of your gospel,
serving our neighbors with love and sharing the good news of your grace;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Assembly: **Amen.**

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONNECTION & SERVICE

BLESSING *

Leader: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Assembly: **Amen.**

SONG *

By Grace We Have Been Saved

Verse 1: By grace we have been saved through faith
and not by keeping law.
God's saints believed by what they heard
and not by what they saw.

Refrain: Oh, how I love Jesus!
Oh, how I love Jesus!
Oh, how I love Jesus,
because he first loved me!

Verse 2: Set free, we now have peace with God.
Salvation is secured.
How beautiful the feet of those
who share this gospel word...*Refrain*

*Words & Music: Trad. North American, Rusty Edwards, Frederick Whitfield
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DISMISSAL *

Leader: Go in peace.
Live in the freedom of Christ, renewed in the promises of baptism.

Assembly: Thanks be to God.

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SERVICE PARTICIPANTS:

Pastor Leslie Fox Lott, Transition Pastor
Pastor Denny Asp, Associate Pastor
Deacon Diane Schwiger-Alexander, Director of Youth & Family
Lisa Parrott, Director of Sunday School
Chad Baker, Director of Worship & Music
Praise Team

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FLOWER DEDICATION:

*The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in celebration of Reformation Sunday
by Jim and Ann Russell.*

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