

ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

– CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESION –
LAKEWOOD, COLORADO



**FESTIVAL OF THE REFORMATION
OCTOBER 27, 2019**

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*My hope is built on nothing less than
Jesus' blood and righteousness;
No merit of my own I claim,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.
On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.*

ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC)
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Thomas Schuetze, pastor (303-428-5524)

Ed Chiappetti, president – Mike Sprengeler, SS Superintendent

Ruth Greening, Jeanna Kettner, Suzannah Miller, Lisa Sprengeler, organists

A Special Welcome to our worship guests. It is the prayer of St. Paul Congregation that your faith is strengthened today by the preaching of our Lord's pure Word and by the psalms and hymns and spiritual songs that our Scripture-based liturgy offers every week. We invite you to sign our guest book in the entry. If you would like more information about our church, please speak to the pastor or members at your convenience.

For Pre-Service Meditation: Psalm 46 (pew bible, page 504)

Liturgical Notes: The colors up from have been changed to red for the Festival of Reformation. Red symbolizes the working of the Holy Spirit in hearts through the preaching of God's Word, as on the Day of Pentecost. The Holy Spirit showed His presence then in tongues of fire which came to rest on the apostles (Acts 2:3). Red, being the color of blood, may also remind us of the dedication of such servants of God as Martin Luther who were willing to suffer and even shed their blood, if need be, for the sake of the Gospel message of salvation by grace through faith alone in Jesus Christ.



*Large print bulletins are available in the tract rack
or by request from an usher.*

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Opening Prayer: Lord God heavenly Father, as we gather together this morning in Your presence, grant that we might humbly confess our sins and rejoice in Your grace. Open our hearts to hear the message from Your Word and move us then to apply that message to our lives. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Hymn 684

Come unto Me, Ye Weary

Welcome

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Confession of Sins

P Let us come before the Lord this morning with hearts of repentance and faith knowing that as our Lord tells us, "If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."

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, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew 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.

Announcement of Forgiveness

P Almighty God, in His mercy, has given His Son Jesus Christ to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. Those who receive this gift of God's love by faith have become the children of God and upon them He bestows the gift of the Holy Spirit. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all!

C (sings) Amen.

Responsive Reading from Psalm 116

P I love the LORD, for He heard my voice:
C He heard my cry for mercy.
P Because He turned His ear to me:
C I will call on Him as long as I live.
P The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me:
C I was overcome by trouble and sorrow.

P Then I called on the name of the LORD:
C "O LORD, save me."
P Be at rest once more, O my soul:
C For the Lord has been good to you.
P For You, O LORD, have delivered my soul from death:
C My eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.
P That I may walk before the LORD:
C In the land of the living.
P The LORD is gracious and righteous:
C Our God is full of compassion.

Hymn 559 (1,2,4)

Oh, How Great is Your Compassion

P The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.
P Let us pray: Dear heavenly Father, we give thanks to You for restoring to Your Church the pure teachings of the Word through Your servant, Martin Luther. We pray that You would continue this blessing to us now and for generations to come. We recognize that as long as we live in the hostile environment of a sinful world, we shall be targets for those who would draw us away from You. Therefore, we pray, grant us a rich measure of Your Holy Spirit that we may always continue in our Savior's Word and be His disciples indeed.
C (sings) Amen.

First Lesson

Jeremiah 31:31-34

31 "The time is coming," declares the LORD, "when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah. 32 It will not be like the covenant I made with their forefathers 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. 33 "This is the covenant I will make with the house 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. 34 No longer will a man teach his neighbor, or a man his brother, saying, '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."

Second Lesson

Romans 3:19-28

19 Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God. 20 Therefore no one will be declared righteous in his sight by observing the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of sin. 21 But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. 22 This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no

difference, 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. 25 God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood. He did this to demonstrate his justice, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished — 26 he did it to demonstrate his justice at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus. 27 Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded. On what principle? On that of observing the law? No, but on that of faith. 28 For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from observing the law.

Confession of Faith

The Nicene Creed

Sung to tune of *Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying*

At all times and in all places
God's people of all lands and races
Declare the faith we call our own:
We believe, one hope confessing,
In God, the source of ev'ry blessing,
Almighty Father, Lord alone.
By His great majesty
Creation came to be, earth and heaven.
God formed them all; things great and small
Came forth at His creating call.

We believe in Christ, our Savior,
Who brought to earth God's holy favor.
By God the Holy Ghost conceived,
Born of Mary, virgin mother,
The Word-made-flesh, our human brother,
The name of Jesus He received.
By Pontius Pilate slain,
He rose to life again and ascended
To God's right hand. At His command
In judgment all the world will stand.

We believe in God the Spirit
Through whom, as Christians, we inherit
Forgiveness wrought by God's own Son.
Now one body, saints in union,
We share a mystic, sweet communion,
With prophets and apostles one.
One Church, one Lord we claim,
One Baptism in His name, one sure promise:
Triumphant, we the grave shall flee
To live with God eternally!
Amen.

The Sermon

Text: John 8:31-36

31 To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. 32 Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” 33 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?” 34 Jesus replied, “I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. 35 Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. 36 So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.”

THE REFORMATION CRY FOR FREEDOM

1. A cry that came forth from bondage.
2. A freedom that's attainable only in Christ.

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After the sermon the congregation stands and sings:

Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing My great Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King, The triumphs of His grace!

Jesus! The name that charms our fears, That bids our sorrows cease.
'Tis music in the sinner's ears; 'Tis life and health and peace.

He breaks the pow'r of canceled sin; He sets the pris'ner free.
His blood can make the foulest clean; His blood avails for me.

See all your sins on Jesus laid; The Lamb of God was slain.
His soul was once an off'ring made For ev'ry soul of man.

To God all glory, praise, and love Be now and ever giv'n
By saints below and saints above, The Church in earth and heav'n.

Lutheran Service Book #528:1,3,4,6,7

Offering of Thankful Hearts

Prayer / Lord's Prayer

Hymn 656 (1-3)

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

The Benediction

Closing Hymn: 656 (4)

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today (10/27)	8:30 am	Choir Practice
	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:45 am	Sunday School (Reformation Sunday lesson)
	10:45 am	Bible Class
Sun (11/3)	8:30 am	Choir Practice
	9:30 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	10:45 am	Quarterly Voters' Meeting
	3:30 pm	Joint Choir Practice with the choirs of Prince of Peace, Loveland, and Redeemer, Cheyenne
	4:00 pm	Front Range Reformation Festival Service, followed by potluck (rescheduled from last Sunday)

EXTENDED CALENDAR

- Elders' Meeting: Sunday, Nov.10, 8:30 am
- Thanksgiving Eve Worship: Wednesday, Nov.27, 7:00 pm

SERVING US AT GOD'S HOUSE DURING OCTOBER

- Ushers: Ed Chiappetti, Don Claeys
- Elder: Larry Reed
- Communion Assistant: Wayne Ruegge

DURING NOVEMBER

- Ushers: Wayne Ruegge, Joshua Ruegge
- Elder: Ed Chiappetti
- Communion Assistant: Larry Reed

TIME CHANGE: Remember to turn your clocks back an hour next week as Daylight Saving Time ends on Sunday, November 3.

THE FRONT RANGE REFORMATION SERVICE will be conducted next Sunday November 3, at 4:00 pm (reschedule from today due to weather concerns). The service will be followed by a potluck meal. There will also be choir practice before the service at 3:30.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAY (ANNIVERSARY) BLESSINGS TO ...

Emily Ruegge, Nov 8	Linda Wamboldt, Nov 24
Joshua Ruegge, Nov 9	Gene Wamboldt, Nov 24
Annabell Garvin, Nov 18	(Bryan & Katie Garvin, Nov 14)
Jerry Wamboldt, Nov 23	(Adam & Shawna Fritzler, Nov 24)

CALL NEWS: Pastor Timothy Wheaton of Blue Springs, MO has accepted the call to Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Loveland. ++ The CLC Call Committee for Educational Institutions has called Pastor Michael Eichstadt of Hales Corners, WI to be the new professor at Immanuel Lutheran College.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR HOME DEVOTIONS
OCTOBER 28 – NOVEMBER 2

Mon Genesis 2:15-24 For those who have already celebrated Reformation—this Scripture reminds us of a reformation truth: responsibility and account-ability come with Christian life. Adam should have been perfectly able to observe a single restriction on his freedoms, and God blessed him with a suitable helper. However, they mismanaged their privileges, suffered heavy penalties—and the fallout still affects us today. So we all need reforming.

Tues Mark 9:38-50 Jesus tolerated faulty religions, but He allowed no wiggle-room for anyone putting a believer in harm's way (42). We are sinners not because our hand, foot, or eye makes us so (43-48) but because our hearts are wicked, and that calls for a heart transplant. Luther was *seasoned* with the fire of the Holy Spirit, and his *offering* to God was *seasoned with the salt of Scripture* (49-50). Lord, mercifully renew/reform us every day!

Wed 2 Corinthians 2:14-17 As God leads us forward and onward in Christ's triumphal procession, we smell good to our companions—whereas folks who disdain His parade say that we are stinkers (14-16a). That makes us both happy and sad: how stressful (16b)! God has put a lot of time and effort into us, so let's make use of our time of grace—as Luther did—to God's glory.

Thurs Jeremiah 16:16-21 rings another bell on Reformation Eve: Jesus used fishermen to go fishing for souls, and we join the hunt for other lost sheep, trying our best to bring them back to the Good Shepherd. Luther did likewise, God being his strength and fortress (*TLH*, 262) in the midst of perverse and obstinate adversaries (19-20). God manages to rescue many souls; Hallelujah to Jesus and His on-going search-and-rescue mission!

Fri Luke 11:37-54 Jesus didn't sidestep His critics, for table manners must come in second-best to morals, and external piety must come in second-best to God's interests (41-44). Scribes, Pharisees, and lawyers were in big trouble with God, for their religion was ritual, technical, and paper thin. What they needed was reformation of heart and soul . . . at the feet of Jesus.

Sat Acts 4:1-12 The Sadducees (nationalists and modernists) rejected most of the Bible, campaigned for “the State of Israel” rather than the Kingdom of God, yet had enough clout to arrest Peter and John, haul them into court, and put them on trial (1-6). The answer to their question came straight from God (7-8) that Jesus was God's cure for their sin-problem (9-12). Indeed, the Reformation message has always been that Jesus is the inclusive, exclusive, and universal Savior of fallen mankind. Dear God, help us ever to retain the truth—that in grace and mercy You beheld our wretched state and saved us!