

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

LIGHT OF CHRIST CHINESE LUTHERAN MISSION

9733 Olive Boulevard - Olivette, MO 63132 - (314) 993-2394

REFORMATION SUNDAY 8:00 SERVICE
COPY FOR AT-HOME WORSHIP



Pastor: **Rory C. Karg**

Vicars: **Justin Hilton & Nan Tian**

Deaconesses: **Kan Hsu & Helen Zhang**

Visit our Website or our Facebook Page for More Information

www.immanuelolivette.org

Reformation Sunday

Observed October 26, 2025

During our twenty-first-century time of technology and Twitter, does Martin Luther still have anything relevant to say? And why should the Church even celebrate a 500+-year-old piece of history? These questions point us to a bigger theme: what makes the Reformation timeless?

The Reformation was, first and foremost, all about the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It was then, and it still is now. The task of reformation never ends, for every person, in every generation, needs to hear the good news of their Savior from sin and eternal death. **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 Law leaves us speechless, for it condemns us and holds us accountable to God. By the Law, every sin is unmasked, every sinner declared guilty. In Christ, by His blood, we receive faith. This faith justifies us apart from the works of the Law. Thanks be to God that Christ gives us this Gospel. By it, sin is forgiven and sinners declared innocent. This is our freedom in Christ proclaimed throughout every nation, tribe, language, and people.

Our hymn of the day, often called the "Battle Hymn of the Reformation," was actually written as a hymn of comfort during trying times throughout Europe. Martin Luther's "*A Mighty Fortress*", draws inspiration from Psalm 46. It has been translated into almost every known language, including at least 80 *different* English translations! The tune, EIN FESTE BURG, is also the work of Luther. It presumably first appeared in 1529. As a young student, Luther earned money to pay his school fees by singing in the streets of Eisenach, and he also played the lute. Music was always an important part of his life, and he wrote "Next to the Word of God, music deserves the highest praise."

"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."

Martin Luther

Reformation Sunday

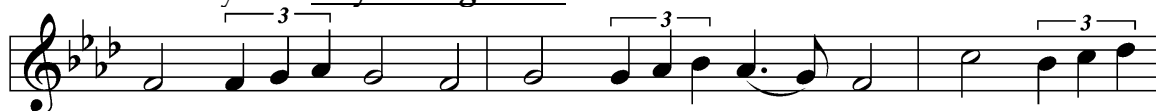
8:00 AM Worship

Prelude & Ringing of the Church Bells

Stand

Processional Hymn - Thy Strong Word

LSB 578



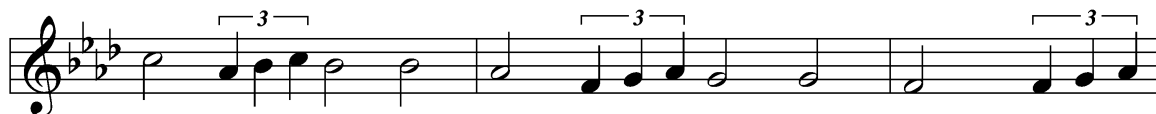
1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; At Thy
2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, Dark as
Men 3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous; Bright with
Women 4 From the cross Thy wis - dom shin - ing Break - eth



speak - ing it was done. For cre - at - ed
night and deep as death, Broke the light of
Thine own ho - li - ness, Glo - rious now, we
forth in con - qu'ring might; From the cross for -



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.
ev - er beam - eth All Thy bright re - deem - ing light.



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

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

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

5 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 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!

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907-76
 Tune: Thomas J. Williams, 1869-1944
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 Tune: Public domain

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation, Confession of Sins, and Declaration of Grace

L In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

L If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination

C Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess to you that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against you by thought, word and deed; therefore we flee for refuge to your boundless mercy seeking and imploring your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

L Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy on us and has given his only Son to die for us and for his sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on his name he gives power to become the children of God and has promised them his Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, to us all.

C Amen.



Gloria in Excelsis

4 *mf*

To God be the glo - ry, all glo - ry in the
 Lord Je - sus, the on - ly be - got - ten of the

high - est and peace to his peo - ple who dwell here be -
 Fath - er We praise and we bless you, the Son and the

low. Our hea - v'n - ly Fath - er, our Lord and our Sov - 'reign, to
 Lamb The sin of the world you have ta - ken up - on you, Have

you, the Al - migh - ty, our prais - es be - stow. We wor - ship and a -
 mer - cy up - on us, the Great I AM. For ho - ly, you

dore you, we bow here be - fore you with grate - ful thanks -
 meet us, yet low - ly, you greet us The Lord in the

- gi - ving, our song let us raise. All glo - ry and
 high - est, the Ho - ly One All glo - ry to the



Text Mark Schweizer, Tune The Ashgrove arr. Malcolm archer
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Salutation and Collect of the Day

L The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

L Let us pray:

Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people. Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and deliver us in times of temptation, defend us against all enemies, and grant to Your Church Your saving peace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

First Reading

Revelation 14:6-7

"Fear God and give Him glory."

⁶Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people. ⁷And he said with a loud voice, "Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come, and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalmody (*Spoken together*)

Psalm 46

"God is our refuge and strength."

C ¹God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

²Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, ³though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

⁴There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

⁵God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns.

⁶The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts.

⁷The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

⁸Come, behold the works of the LORD, how he has brought desolations on the earth.

⁹He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the chariots with fire.

¹⁰"Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"

¹¹The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Anthem – **Built on The Rock** (*arr. Hal H. Hopson*)

Built on the Rock the Church shall stand even when steeples are falling.

Jubilate, jubilate, jubilate Deo!

Crumbled have spires in ev'ry land; bells still are chiming and calling in.

Jubilate, jubilate, jubilate Deo!

Calling the young and old to rest, but above all the souls distressed,

Longing for rest everlasting.

Jubilate, jubilate, jubilate Deo!

Surely in temples made with hands, God, the Most High, is not dwelling;
High above earth His temple stands, all earthly temples excelling.
Yet he who dwells in heav'n above chooses to live with us in love,
Making our bodies His temple.

We are God's house of living stones, built for His own habitation.
He through baptismal grace us owns heirs of His wondrous salvation.
Were we but two His name to tell, yet He would deign with us to dwell
With all His grace and His favor.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Jubilate, jubilate Deo!

Epistle

Romans 3:19-28

A man is justified by faith.

Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand for the reading of the Holy Gospel

Holy Gospel

John 8:31-36

L The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

He who has ears, let him hear.

So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?"

Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

L This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

Children's Message

Stand for the hymn as you are able

Hymn of the Day **A Mighty Fortress Is Our God**

LSB 656



1 A might - y for - tress is our God,
2 With might of ours can naught be done,
3 Though dev - ils all the world should fill,
4 The Word they still shall let re - main



A trust - y shield and weap - on;
Soon were our loss ef - fect - ed;
All ea - ger to de - vour us,
Nor an - y thanks have for it;



He helps us free from ev - 'ry need
But for us fights the val - iant One,
We trem - ble not, we fear no ill;
He's by our side up - on the plain



That hath us now o'er - tak - en.
Whom God Him - self e - lect - ed.
They shall not o - ver - pow'r us.
With His good gifts and Spir - it.



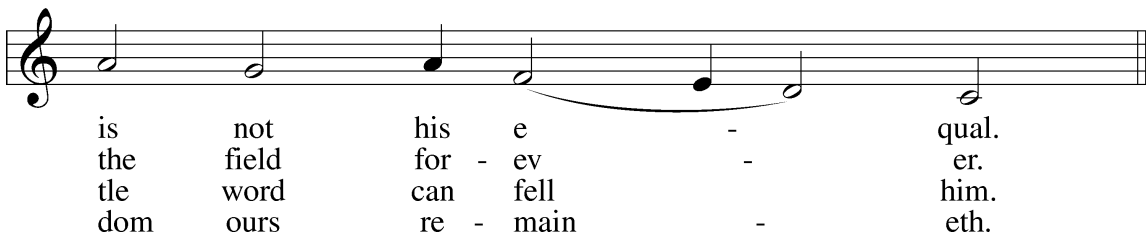
The old e - vil foe Now means
Ask ye, Who is this? Je - sus
This world's prince may still Scowl fierce
And take they our life, Goods, fame,



dead - ly woe; Deep guile and great might
Christ it is, Of Sab - a - oth Lord,
as he will, He can harm us none.
child, and wife, Though these all be gone,



Are his dread arms in fight; On earth
And there's none oth - er God; He holds
He's judged; the deed is done; One lit -
Our vic - t'ry has been won; The King -



Text: tr. composite
Text and tune: Martin Luther, 1483-1546
Text and tune: Public domain

Sit

Sermon

Stand

Creed Hymn

Hymns of Praise (Chinese) 575



1 I be - lieve in God the Fa - ther Whose great pow'r made
2 On the third day He was raised a - gain, And now sits at



heav'n and earth. I be - lieve in Je - sus Christ our Lord,
God's right hand; And from there He shall re - turn a - gain



God's be - lov - ed on - ly Son; Who was born of Vir - gin
As the judge of hu - man - kind. I be - lieve in God the



Ma - ry, By the Spir - it's work made man. And who
Spir - it, And one Church of all God's saints, In for -



suf - fer'd un - der Pi - late, Thro' the Cross went down to death.
give - ness, re - sur - rec - tion, And e - ter - nal life with God.

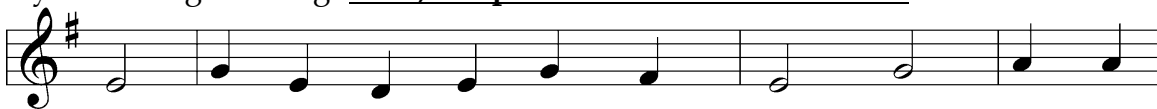
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Sit

We Worship the Lord with Our Offerings

Hymn during Offering- 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.

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

Stand

Prayer of the Church

- L** Let us pray to our God who has justified us by the work and grace of Jesus alone, that our faith may be strengthened and nourished by His Holy Word.

After each petition:

- L** Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

Our prayers conclude:

- L** O Lord, we give You thanks for all Your servants who have departed this life in faith. We especially bless You today for the great reformers of Your Church who call us back to the Gospel and to the righteousness we have in Christ alone. Keep us in fellowship with them, and bring us at last to our heavenly home and the joy of seeing our Redeemer face to face; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Lord's Prayer

- C** 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.

Benediction

- L** Let us bless the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

- L** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C Amen.

Sit

Hymn - The Church's One Foundation

LSB 644



1 The Church's one foun - da - tion Is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, Yet one o'er all the earth;
3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der The world sees her op - pressed,
4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion And tu - mult of her war
5 Yet she on earth has u - nion With God, the Three in One,



She is His new cre - a - tion By wa - ter and the Word.
Her char - ter of sal - va - tion: One Lord, one faith, one birth.
By schisms rent a - sun - der, By her - e - sies dis - tressed,
She waits the con - sum - ma - tion Of peace for - ev - er - more
And mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion With those whose rest is won.



From heav'n He came and sought her To be His ho - ly bride;
One ho - ly name she bless - es, Par - takes one ho - ly food,
Yet saints their watch are keep - ing; Their cry goes up, "How long?"
Till with the vi - sion glo - rious Her long - ing eyes are blest,
O bless - ed heav'n - ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by Your grace



With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.
And to one hope she press - es With ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
And soon the night of weep - ing Shall be the morn of song.
And the great Church vic - to - rious Shall be the Church at rest.
That we, like saints be - fore us, May see You face to face.

Silent Prayer, Announcements, & Postlude

Acknowledgments

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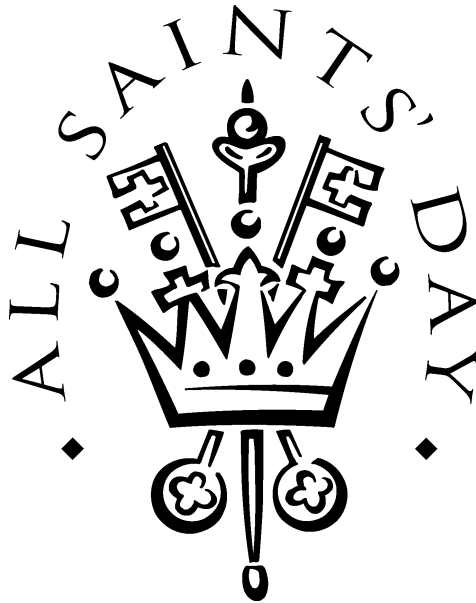
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All Immanuel members and our guests are asked to complete one of the worship attendance cards found in the pew racks. Please give your card to an usher as you leave worship. Guests are also asked to sign the guest book found in the outer narthex. Thank you!

Remembering our Loved Ones

We will give thanks in our worship services next weekend for those loved ones who have finished their course in faith and now rest from their labors. This will be done as we celebrate the Festival of All Saints' Day. If you have a loved one who has *died in Christ* since our last All Saints' Day celebration, November 3, 2024, and you would like that person remembered in our worship next weekend, please provide the information below to the church office TODAY!

We will need: Their name, date of death (*since 11/3/24*), relationship to you, & your name. Thank you!



You May Prepare for Next Week by Reading:

Revelation 7:2-17

The great multitude in white robes

Psalms 149

"The Lord takes pleasure in His people."

1 John 3:1-3

"See what kind of love the Father has given to us."

Matthew 5:1-12

The beatitudes

Hymn – **"For All the Saints"** (LSB 677)



At Immanuel Lutheran Church, we
are committed to living out our mission:



“Connected in Jesus | Compassion for All”

Serving Today:

Presiding Minister:

Pastor Rory Karg

Preacher:

Vicar Justin Hilton

Organist:

Paul Snyder

Choir:

Light of Christ and Immanuel Combined Choir

Acolytes:

Henry Goeggel

Elder:

Luke Burkemper

Ushers:

Team A – Jeff Carter, Head Usher

Chancel Flowers

The flowers in the chancel this morning are given to the praise and glory of God by Luke and Barb Burkemper in joyful thanksgiving as they celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary!

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PLACE FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL
THE CHART IS AVAILABLE IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL!**