

Christ Lutheran Church - St. Catharines

Reformation Sunday

October 27th, 2024



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Christ Lutheran Church – St. Catharines
140 Russell Avenue
St. Catharines, ON
L2R 1W1

Phone: 905-685-8294
Church Website: www.christlutheransc.ca

Romans 10:15 - - *How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!*

Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday – 9 a.m. to 12 noon

Bulletin Announcements: Please send to secretary@christlutheransc.ca
Deadline for submission is Thursday at 9 a.m.

Pastor: Rev. Todd Hoeffs 289-362-0113 pastortoddhoeffs@gmail.com
Deaconess: Louise Gondosch 905-329-8579 parish.assistant@christlutheransc.ca
Business Manager: Emily Fernando 905-685-8294 christlutheran.stcatharines@gmail.com
Secretary: Bronwyn Goodburn 905-685-8294 secretaryclc.sc@gmail.com
Facebook www.facebook.com/ChristLutheranChurchSC
CLChurch YouTube channel Christ Lutheran Church-YouTube (*link*)
Pastor Todd's YouTube channel "Gathering the Scattered" (*link*)
Seminarian Augustine Aylin, Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary Colloquy Student Fieldworker

WELCOME TO CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH – ST. CATHARINES!

We're glad you've joined us for worship!

Please be aware that our Worship Services are ***recorded and posted on YouTube and Facebook.*** There is, although very slight, a possibility that your image might be posted. If you have any concerns, please either speak to the Elder on duty or alternatively seat yourself more towards the back of the sanctuary or along either of the outside aisles. May our gracious and loving Lord bless you as you worship Him. We pray we all remain safe and healthy.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIPPING

O God, heavenly Father, your Son Jesus Christ enjoyed rest and refreshment in the home of Mary and Martha of Bethany: Give us the will to love you, open our hearts to hear you, and strengthen our hands to serve you in others for his sake; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

DAILY SCRIPTURE MEDITATIONS

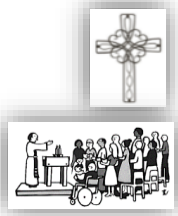
Monday: Psalm 28 Wed: Ezekiel 14:12-23 Friday: Revelation 7:2-4; 9-14
Tuesday: Ezekiel 18:1-32 Thurs: Ruth 1:19-22 Saturday: Ruth 2:10-14

Musician – Mayumi Munoz + **Reader** – Chris Mason

ALSO HAPPENING THIS WEEK AT CHRIST LUTHERAN

Monday: 10 – 11 AM Luther Manor Bible Study
1 PM "Sewing Sircle"
7:30 PM Choir Practice
Tuesday: 9:30 – 10:30 AM Prayer Meeting
9:30 – 11 AM Precious Moments
Wednesday 1 – 2 PM Bible Study "Wednesday in the Word"
Thursday: 10 – 11:30 AM SOUL
Sunday: 9 – 9:30 Bible Study (Mark Gospel Readings)
9 – 9:50 AM Sunday School and Coffee Hour
10 AM – Worship

November 2024 Worship Schedule



November 3rd – All Saints Day + Gospel Tune Service of the Word
Rev. Ron Mohr, Lutheran Bible Translators (Guest Bible Study Leader)
November 10th – Pentecost 25 + Hymnal Divine Service Setting 4
November 17th – Pentecost 26 + Scripture & Song Worship (the Band)
November 24th – Christ the King Sunday + LSB Holy Communion Setting 1



YOU ARE INVITED!! EVERY SUNDAY!!

***COFFEE & TEA TIME
CHRIST CAFÉ DOWNSTAIRS
SUNDAYS FROM 9 – 9:50 AM
ALL ARE WELCOME.***

**Anyone willing to help serve or bring treats, please contact
Judy Mason**

Please Note: For our Worship today, all who use a regular size bulletin will have the Order of Service completely in the bulletin, but the hymns will be available as lyrics on the PowerPoint and in the Lutheran Service Book hymnal [burgundy book on the pew slots]. Thank you.



Flowers have been placed on the altar this morning by Andy & Bette Vasko and family to the glory of God and in memory Elmer Vasko.



Today, we still study Jacob’s family in “A Family Grows”. Jacob experiences love at first sight when he meets Rachel at the well. Welcomed to his uncle Laban’s household, Jacob agrees to work seven years in order to marry Rachel. When the wedding celebration finally arrives, Laban tricks Jacob into marrying Rachel’s older sister, Leah. Realizing the deception, Jacob confronts his uncle, who gives him Rachel’s hand for another seven years of service.

PRECIOUS MOMENTS: We invite you to bring your "Precious little one" Tuesday mornings between 9:30 - 11:00 am. During our time together we play, sing songs about Jesus, read and learn Bible stories, make a special craft and have a snack. This year we are also adding a devotion time for 'Moms.'" We meet downstairs in the church nursery. The coffee and tea are always on and you will be greeted with friendly smiles. Feel free to drop in.

LWML-C/MARY MARTHA EVENTS

Saturday, November 16th at 9 AM – Christmas Bazaar

Tuesday, November 19th at 7 PM – Warm feet for the Street packaging

Tuesday, December 17th at 7 PM – Christmas Pot Luck

Everyone at Christ is welcome to attend.



Last Sunday’s Attendance – October 20th, 2024: 84			SOUL 29 & 12 PSW		
WEEKLY OFFERINGS			2024-10-13		
	Budget	Weekly need	Last Sunday	YTD	+/(-)
Current	303,899.00	5,844.21	1,337.00	147,244.34	(98,212.54)
LCC Missions	17,500.00	336.54	88.00	15,905.86	1,771.24
Property Improvements			60.00	4,1344.50	



November 23rd, 2024

Yes, it will be one year already on November 23rd that our family: Kareem, Hamida, Ameer, and Asser arrived in Canada.

The Fellowship Committee and your Refugee Committee are planning a first anniversary dinner for our family on that Saturday. Please keep tuned for further details. Everyone is welcome.

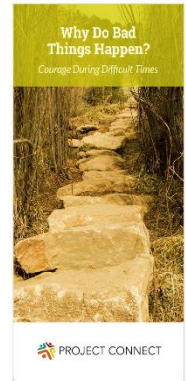


LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRY SERMONS: *These highly regarded sermons are broadcast each Sunday morning on 99.5 FM WDCX, Buffalo, at 10:30 A.M. Check the website for participating stations or you can listen any time to a podcast or MP3 or read the text at www.ill.ca.*

They are a worthwhile addition to your regular observance of the Lord's Day and a particularly helpful alternative if you know you will be unable to attend our regular Worship Service at Christ Lutheran Church for any reason. The Lutheran Hour speaker is Rev. D. Michael Zeigler.

WHY DO BAD THINGS HAPPEN?

Another Project Connect booklet from the Lutheran Hour. It talks about the Bible's answer to these questions: **1. Why do pain and suffering exist? 2. What benefit can possibly come from my troubles? 3. What has God done to deal with the evil and pain in this world?** There are some interesting statements such as: "Pain is God's bullhorn to rouse a deaf world." "God allows trials to come to us so we become refined and more compassionate people. Our problem is that often we do not want to be improved." Jesus was the man who was treated more unfairly than anyone else in history. Jesus Christ is the only God with scars. Romans 8:28, *"And we know that all things work together for good for those who love God and care called according to His purpose."* If you don't see this booklet in our display rack please ask Pastor John.



Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary is hosting a chapel service and presentation on **Thursday, October 31st, beginning at 10 am.** The Seminary Rare Book Room has recently been gifted a treasure: a small volume containing six captivating original pamphlets produced by Martin Luther between 1520 and 1539. Join us for a presentation by Prof. Kirk Radford called "From the Pen of the Reformer" on these extraordinary pamphlets. Paid parking available on the Brock campus at Lot E. (Accessible parking at the seminary for those who need it.) **The event is FREE, but we do ask that you register by emailing reception@concordia-seminary.ca.**



**CONCORDIA
ROCKS
BONSPIEL**

Saturday Nov. 23, 2024

- \$50 per curler
- Draws at 8:30 & 10:00
- catered lunch
- awards at 3:30
- novices welcome
- all proceeds for CLTS Student Aid Fund

- Williamsford Community Centre, 112 Salter St., Williamsford, Ontario

Reserve your spot by emailing Carol carollc1952@gmail.com or text 226-668-4353

Calling all curlers (and the curling curious)! Register for the first ever **Concordia Rocks Bonspiel. Saturday, November 23, 2024** at the **Williamsford Community Centre** (112 Salter St, Williamsford, Ontario, close to Owen Sound). 2 games, 2 draws, lunch, refreshments, prizes, and a whole pile of fun. Draw 1 @8:30 and Draw 2 @10:00. All proceed to the Student Aid Fund of Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary in St. Catharines. Novices are welcome! Registration \$50.00/curler. Limited to the first 32 curlers. For more info visit: www.concordia-seminary.ca. Reserve your spot by emailing Carol at carollc1952@gmail.com or text 226-668-4353

UPDATED BAZAAR NOTES: (SAT. NOV. 16, 2024)

Support our efforts to raise funds for Missions – around the world and in our Community. We greatly appreciate your help!

PLEASE HELP US ADVERTISE

- **Please take a poster** if you have any area (like in a condo or apartment building) where you could post one, or if you could give one to a friend from another church to post there. (extras in the Narthex)
- **Take invitations and please pass them to your friends.**

DONATIONS

- Please consider making donations to the Bake, Deli, or Craft Tables or Judy's Silent Auction (speak to her directly about that)
- The **Craft Table** is now also for **GIFT ITEMS** (new unwrapped gifts!)
- Notebooks will be at the Tables on Friday, to record what you have made for the **Bake & Deli**. (requested by Public Health) Please write your name & what you have donated, inside.
- For Baking----Please write on any pertinent information such as if it contains nuts or anything anyone might be allergic to.
- We would be pleased to receive your donations any time on the Friday (Nov. 15) up until 8 p.m.
- You may price your own, or we will price it on the Friday after it's brought in,- your choice. Thank you in advance.
- Items for the "Nearly New" Tables may be brought in at any time and placed in the back-room downstairs. Please bring only good quality items. We no longer have a white elephant area. These are meant to be things that are, as the name suggests, in nearly new or gently used condition.
- They may be placed neatly on the cupboard shelves – only one side of the room is for Bazaar donations – look for the labels.
- Monetary donations also gratefully accepted – cash or cheque made out to the Mary Martha Society
- If you have any questions, please contact Carole or any of our Mary Martha ladies.
- **WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT OUR BAZAAR** and thank you for supporting and helping us.



I am collecting items for the upcoming Silent Auction portion of the Bazaar: **Please note**. I don't need "stuff", rather need:

Suggestions: Bottles of wine; Gift Cards for Restaurants, LCBO, Beer Store, Movies, etc. (THESE ARE NEEDED THE MOST); Hockey Tickets (ICE DOGS – if you have season tickets and know there is a game you cannot use them for, PLEASE DONATE IT).

Please state the value of the item donated. We are grateful for any and all donations received. Thank you, Judy Mason.



October is Cybersecurity Awareness Month

There are plenty of phish in the sea.

Don't be one of them!

Please be aware there have been e-mails sent out in

Pastor Hoeff's name that are Phishing Scams.



Ways to prevent Phishing yourself from Phish net:

- Be very careful about not replying to any such spam mails.
- Do not follow any links that come with the spam mails.
- Never copy an unknown link from these kinds of spam mails.
- Be careful about opening or saving any document or attachment that comes with spam mails.
- Never ever send your confidential information about your account in an e-mail.
- Do use firewalls, anti-spyware and anti-virus software and update software regularly.
- Do not respond to those scam mails.
- The church will NEVER ask for money or gift cards via an e-mail.

CHRISTMAS URN WORKSHOP at The Watering Can in Vineland

3725 King St., Vineland, ON, L0R 2C0

Thursday, NOVEMBER 14, 2024

Doors Open AT 6 p.m.

Workshop Starts Promptly at 6:30 p.m.



*****TRADITIONAL URN*****

******Become the designer of your own Winter Wonderland Planter******

SOUL FUNDRAISER

Cost is \$75.00

Deadline for sign up and payment is Sunday, November 3rd

Please notify Wendy Shook

if you are interested—905-380-6544



UNBREAKABLE
WITH THE WHOLE ARMOUR OF GOD

NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING LCC for youth ages 13 to 18 from July 4 to 8, 2025, at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo. The theme is **UNBREAKABLE** with the whole Armour of God." The two main speakers are Rev Dr. Robert Bugbee and Jennifer Kerr (a mental and relational health counsellor from Regina. Mark the date. More information will follow.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOX GIFT



Operation Christmas Child has become a Holiday tradition for many of us here at Christ Church. The love and care put into every shoebox gift has changed the lives of children worldwide, and I think we can say it has changed us as well. Together, let's continue to make these children an important part of our Christmas celebration by extending Christ's love and compassion. (www.samaritanaspurse.ca)

HOW TO PACK YOUR SHOEBOX

1. Pick a designated shoebox from the narthex.
2. Decide on the category and age (Girl/boy 2-4; 5-9; 10-14).
3. Fill the box, mark it and put an elastic around it.
4. Enclose a \$12.00 cheque.
5. **Drop the box off at the church by Sunday, November 17th, 2024.**



SUGGESTED GIFTS

Toys: Slinky, yo-yo, kazoos, animals, stickers, dolls, balls, cars.

School Supplies: Pens, paper, stamps, markers, calculators, pencil crayons & sharpener, colouring books.

Hygiene Items: Soap, toothbrush, comb, washcloth. **NO** toothpaste or shampoo.

Other: Hard candy only, sunglasses, ball caps, socks, flip-flops, watches, hairclips, T-shirts, underwear, small picture books, flashlights, batteries.

Please **DO NOT** include: Used items, war related items, medicines, cosmetics, breakable items, perishable foods or liquids (shampoo etc.), gum.

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Lutheran Service Book Divine Service Setting Three

REFORMATION SUNDAY HOLY COMMUNION

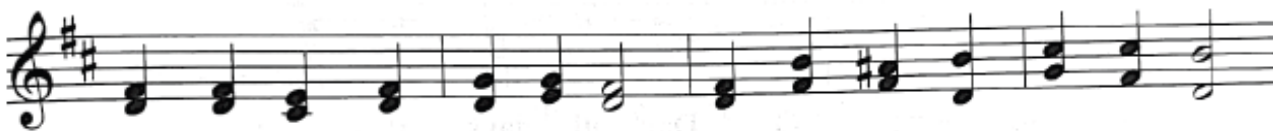
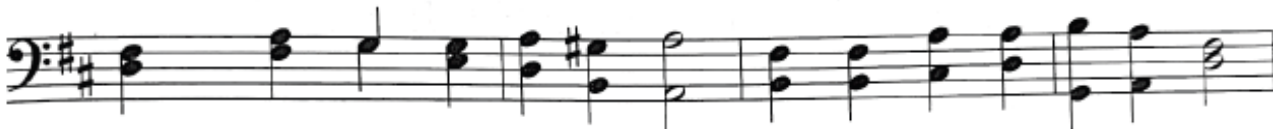
October 27, 2024 + 10 AM worship

OPENING HYMN *"Christ Whose Glory Fills The Skies"*

LSB # 873



1 Christ, whose glo - ry fills the skies, Christ, the true and on - ly light,
2 Dark and cheer - less is the morn Un - ac - com - pa - nied by Thee;
3 Vis - it then this soul of mine, Pierce the gloom of sin and grief;



Sun of righ - teous - ness, a - rise; Tri - umph o'er the shades of night.
Joy - less is the day's re - turn Till Thy mer - cy's beams I see,
Fill me, ra - dian - cy di - vine, Scat - ter all my un - be - lief;



Day - spring from on high, be near; Day - star, in my heart ap - pear.
Till they in - ward light im - part, Glad my eyes, and warm my heart.
More and more Thy - self dis - play, Shin - ing to the per - fect day.



Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-88
Tune: attr. Johann G. Werner, 1777-1822; setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941

RATISBON
77 77 77

John 8:12; Mal. 4:2; 2 Peter 1:19; Luke 1:78-79

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**
Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.

I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

O almighty God, merciful Father,

I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the your Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

LORD, HAVE MERCY

(LSB Page 186)

Lord, have mer-cy up-on us; Christ, have mer-cy up-on us; Lord, have mer-cy up-on us.

GLORIA

(LSB Pages 187-189)

1. Glory be to God on High: **And on earth, peace, goodwill toward men!**
We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify thee,
we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory;
O Lord God, Heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-on us.
For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord;
Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. A-men.

SPOKEN PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray: Almighty Father, in mercy You give the Light of Your saving Gospel to Your Church. Keep us in sound teaching, so that we may firmly believe and faithfully follow Your life-giving Word, and finally, with its holy comfort, die in peace and joy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE WORD

The First Reading: *St. John's Revelation 14: 6-7*

Then I saw another angel flying in mid-heaven, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who live - on the earth—to every nation and tribe and language and people. He said in a loud voice, 'Fear God and give him glory, for the hour of his judgment has come; and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water.' This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Epistle

Romans 3: 19-28

[St. Paul writes:] 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. For 'no human being will be justified in his sight' by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin. But now, irrespective of law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus. Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law. This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

CHOIR ANTHEM **"Ancient Words"**

*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
Ancient words ever true -- changing me and changing you
We have come with open hearts, oh let the ancient words impart:*

Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, 'If you continue in my word, you truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.' 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"?' Jesus answered them, 'Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.

John

8:31-36

*Holy words of our faith -- handed down to this age
Came to us through sacrifice -- oh heed the faithful words of Christ
Ancient words ever true, changing me and changing you
We have come with open hearts -- oh let the ancient words impart
In this world where'er we roam; Ancient words will guide us home
We have come with open hearts, Oh let the ancient words impart*

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THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by Whom all things were made. Who for us men and for our salvation came down from Heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and was made man. And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into Heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, Whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

CHILDREN'S LESSON



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, A sword and shield vic -
 2 No strength of ours can match his might. We would be lost, re -
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land All threat - ning to de -
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, No thanks to foes, who



to - rious; He breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod And wins sal -
 ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, Whom God Him -
 vour us, We trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; They can - not
 fear it; For God Him - self fights by our side With weap - ons



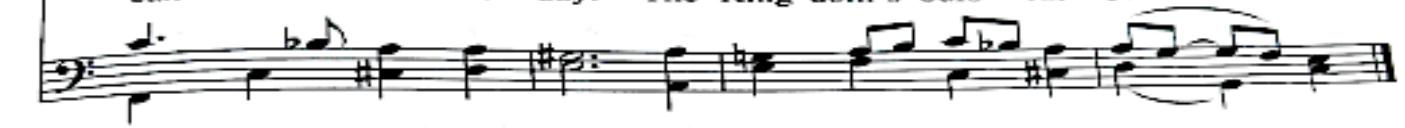
va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe Has sworn to
 self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be? The Lord of
 o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage; In bat - tle
 of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house, Goods, hon - or,



work us woe. With craft and dread - ful might He
 hosts is He, Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord, God's
 we'll en - gage. His might is doomed to fail; God's
 child, or spouse, Though life be wrenched a - way, They



arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
 on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
 judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
 can - not win the day. The King - dom's ours for - ev - er!



Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546, in *Luthers Book of Songs*, 1978.
 Spanish or Juan Ramirez Cabrera, 1817-1919.
 Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; setting: Adam Schuetz Bach, 1685-1750.
 Text in English: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship.
 Text in Spanish and Italian: Public Domain.

REV. JUSTO M. GONZALEZ
 1978

PL 86-2-25 Rev. 1977-05 Rev. 8-11-78 24 1077

**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spirit with-in me.
Cast me not a-way from Thy pres-ence and take not Thy Ho-ly Spi-rit from me.
Re-store un-to me, the joy of Thy sal-va-tion,
and up-hold me with Thy free sp-rit. A-men.**

THE OFFERINGS *are gathered.* THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray for the Church, the world, and one another. Father, you have created us, blessed us, and forgiven us. You send us to share your forgiveness with all others. Help us to do that eagerly and well! Give us strength to find our joy and purpose in life by loving you with our whole heart, soul, mind, and strength, and our neighbour as ourself. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Shape your Church into the image of Jesus. Make it a place of steadfast love and righteousness. Make it a place of forgiveness, hope, and praise. Make it a place of truth and grace. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Strengthen your persecuted people with your Holy Spirit. Give them the fullness of joy that Jesus promised, because he has overcome the world. Help them to share that joy, and the hope that is within them, even with their enemies, so that in Christ, they may be reconciled. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this congregation in pathways of faithful worship, loving service, and wise words. Let everything we say and do help lead even one other precious soul a step closer to Jesus. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord, please give wisdom, integrity, and common sense to everyone in positions of authority in our country, and around the world. Teach them rightly to use the authority and power entrusted to them. And help all of us to be good neighbors, citizens, and stewards of your good creation. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Your Son healed everyone who called upon him for aid. We pray, therefore, on behalf of everyone who suffers in body, mind, or spirit, including our dear ones: {List names}. Restore them to health, and strengthen their faith in you,

the God whose promises have their Yes in Jesus Christ. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Hear our prayers, dear Father, as they touch your heart through the Spirit who searches our hearts. For the sake of your beloved Son, answer them as may be best for us and give you glory. **Amen.**

THE SACRAMENT [Sung]

The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.**

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is good and right so to do.

It is truly good, right and joyful that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, 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; And so with the Church on earth and with all the company of Heaven, we praise Your name and join their un-ending hymn:

SANCTUS

**Ho—ly, Ho—ly, Holy Lord God, of Sab---aoth;
heav'n and earth are full, of thy glory.**

Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he, blessed is he, blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.

THE LORD'S PRAYER **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name....**

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." The peace of the Lord be with you always. **Amen.**

LAMB OF GOD

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
have mercy upon us;**

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
have mercy upon us;**

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us thy
peace; A-----men.**

HOLY COMMUNION AT CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

As a baptized Christian in the faith:

- 1) I believe in the Scriptural teaching that Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and wine of this Sacrament. Jesus Himself says: "Eat My Flesh and drink My Blood and I will raise you up on the Last Day." [John 6]
- 2) I believe that I am worthy to receive the Sacrament as a baptized believer, who admits and confesses sins, receives forgiveness and desires to live a new life in Jesus Christ;
- 3) I believe that by eating and drinking Jesus Christ in the Bread and Wine I receive forgiveness of sins, salvation, new life and unity with other brothers and sisters in the faith;
- 4) I believe what is taught by Martin Luther in the Small Catechism: "a person is fully prepared who believes in the words 'given and shed for you for the forgiveness of all sins'."
- 5) Non-members who believe this confession of faith we welcome to join us for Holy Communion
- 6) If you desire Holy Communion, church membership or further information about receiving the Sacrament, please speak with the Pastor or an elder before worship.

HOLY COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

For those who have need, please feel free to stand at the rail if kneeling is difficult.

The common cup and trays of individual glasses are available.

Gluten free wafers are also available.

Light purple glasses of sacramental wine mixed with water are in the centre ring of the trays.

COMMUNION HYMNS IN LUTHERAN SERVICE BOOK

"Father, Most Holy"

LSB # 504

1 Fa - ther most ho - ly, mer-ci - ful, and ten - der; Je - sus, our
 2 Trin - i - ty bless - ed, u - ni - ty un - shak - en, Good-ness un -
 3 Mak - er of all things, all Thy crea-tures praise Thee; All for Thy
 Δ 4 Lord God Al - might - y, un - to Thee be glo - ry, One in three

Sav - ior, with the Fa - ther reign - ing; Spir - it of com - fort,
 bound - ed, ver - y God of heav - en, Light of the an - gels,
 wor - ship were and are cre - at - ed; Now, as we al - so
 per - sons, o - ver all ex - alt - ed! Glo - ry we of - fer,

ad - vo - cate, de - fend - er, Light nev - er wan - ing;
 joy of those for - sak - en, Hope of all liv - ing,
 wor - ship Thee de - vout - ly, Hear Thou our voic - es.
 praise Thee and a - dore Thee, Now and for - ev - er.

Text: Latin, c. 10th cent.; tr. Percy Dearmer, 1867-1936, alt.
 Tune: *Antiphoner*, Paris, 1681; setting: Joseph Herl, b. 1959
 Text and tune: Public domain

CHRISTE SANCTORI
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"Let All Mortal Flesh"

LSB # 621



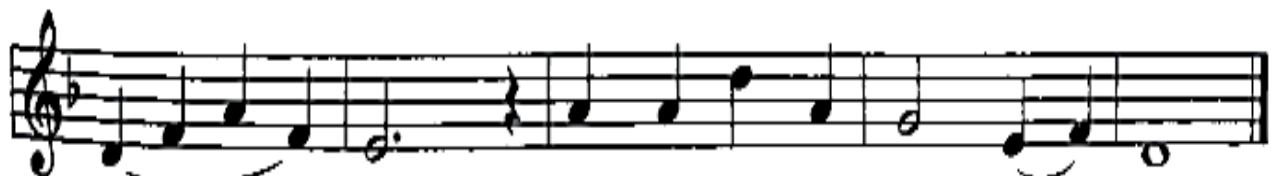
1 Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence And with fear and
 2 King of kings yet born of Mar - y, As of old on
 3 Rank on rank the host of heav - en Spreads its van - guard
 4 At His feet the six - winged ser - aph, Cher - u - bim with



trem - bling stand; Pon - der noth - ing earth - ly - mind - ed,
 earth He stood, Lord of lords in hu - man ves - ture,
 on the way As the Light of Light, de - scend - ing
 sleep - less eye, Veil their fac - es to the pres - ence



For with bless - ing in His hand Christ our God to earth de -
 In the bod - y and the blood, He will give to all the
 From the realms of end - less day, Comes the pow'rs of hell to
 As with cease - less voice they cry: "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -



scend - ing Comes our hom - age to de - mand.
 faith - ful His own self for heav'n - ly food.
 van - quish As the dark - ness clears a - way.
 lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

"Draw Near & Take"

LSB # 637

1 Draw near and take the bod - y of the Lord,
 2 He who His saints in this world rules and shields,
 3 Come for - ward then with faith - ful hearts and sin - cere,

And drink the ho - ly blood for you out - poured;
 To all be - liev - ers life e - ter - nal yields;
 And take the pledg - es of sal - va - tion here.

Of - fered was He for great - est and for least,
 With heav'n - ly bread He makes the hun - gry whole,
 O Lord, our hearts with grate - ful thanks en - dow

Him - self the vic - tim and Him - self the priest.
 Gives liv - ing wa - ters to the thirst - ing soul.
 As in this feast of love You bless us now.

text: Latin, 7th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, alt.
 name: *Trente quatre Pseaumes de David*, Geneva, 1551, ed. Louis Bourgeois;
 setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941

text and music: Public domain

OLD 124TH, alt.
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1 Cor. 11:23-26; Ps. 148:1 Cor. 10:16

"Glorious Things Of You Are Spoken"

LSB # 648

1 Glo - rious things of you are spo - ken, Zi - on, cit - y
2 See, the streams of liv - ing wa - ters, Spring - ing from e -
3 Round each hab - i - ta - tion hov - 'ring, See the cloud and
4 Sav - ior, since of Zi - on's cit - y I through grace a

of our God; He whose word can - not be bro - ken Formed you
ter - nal love, Well sup - ply your sons and daugh - ters And all
fire ap - pear For a glo - ry and a cov - 'ring, Show - ing
mem - ber am, Let the world de - ride or pit - y, I will

for His own a - bode. On the Rock of A - ges found - ed,
fear of want re - move. Who can faint while such a riv - er
that the Lord is near. Thus de - riv - ing from their ban - ner
glo - ry in Your name. Fad - ing are the world's vain plea - sures,

What can shake your sure re - pose? With sal - va - tion's
Ev - er will their thirst as - suage? Grace, which like the
Light by night and shade by day, Safe they feed up -
All their boast - ed pomp and show; Sol - id joys and

walls sur - round - ed, You may smile at all your foes.
Lord, the giv - er, Nev - er fails from age to age.
on the man - na Which God gives them on their way.
last - ing trea - sures None but Zi - on's chil - dren know.

SONG OF SIMEON

**Lord, now lettest thou thy servant, depart in peace; according to thy Word;
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before
The face of all people; a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people
Is-----rael. Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end, Amen.**

O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good --

And His mercy endures forever.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

O Father, as You fed Your children with the True Manna, the Living Bread from Heaven, give unto us, we humbly pray You, that the Body and Blood of Your Son may be our support throughout our earthly pilgrimage, until we reach that land where there is neither hunger nor thirst, Your magnificent Heavenly Banquet; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Who lives and rules with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

Amen.

THE BLESSING [Sung]

The Lord be with you -- **And with thy spirit.**

Bless we the Lord -- **Thanks be to God.**

The Lord bless you and keep you, The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; he Lord lift up His countenance upon you and + give you peace.

Amen! Amen! A—men!

CLOSING HYMN *"O Lord, We Praise You"*

LSB # 617 1 & 3

1. O Lord, we praise You, bless You, and adore You, In thanksgiving bow before You.

Here with Your body and Your blood did nourish

Our weak souls that they may flourish: O Lord, have mercy!

May Your body, Lord, born of Mary, That our sins and sorrows did carry,

And Your blood for us plead In all trial, fear, and need:

O Lord, have mercy!

3. May God bestow on us His grace and favour to please Him with our behavior

And live together here in love and union; Nor repent this blest Communion!

O Lord, have mercy!

Let not Your good Spirit forsake us; and that heavenly-minded He make us;

Help Your Church, Lord, to see -- Days of peace and unity:

O Lord, have mercy!

Martin Luther, 1521; public domain

<https://clcgracelutheranchurch.org/fridley/hymns/tlh/tlh313.htm>

If therefore

the

Son



makes you free,

YOU will be



free

indeed.

JOHN
8:36

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The Truth will Set you Free

I	G	L	D	N	D	L	F	M	L	H	Y	T	C
L	U	I	E	D	O	F	T	A	R	I	Y	F	H
L	I	S	V	S	G	A	A	A	M	F	A	R	I
R	L	T	I	R	M	T	M	N	E	I	I	R	L
E	T	E	L	E	O	H	B	O	A	M	L	R	D
S	Y	N	M	F	R	E	A	E	B	G	O	Y	R
U	G	H	R	T	F	R	S	N	L	E	O	V	E
U	N	D	E	R	S	T	A	N	D	I	Y	A	N
R	T	E	M	L	E	M	E	V	O	L	E	E	Y
T	M	U	R	D	E	R	E	R	T	E	N	V	D
L	T	H	E	T	R	U	T	H	L	I	F	E	E
F	L	M	F	H	A	S	L	A	V	E	S	L	M
A	B	R	A	H	A	M	K	I	L	L	M	E	M
I	R	T	S	E	T	Y	O	U	F	R	E	E	N

SET YOU FREE
LIAR
FATHER
THE TRUTH
UNDERSTAND
BELIEVE
ABRAHAM
GUILTY
CHILDREN
FAMILY
MURDERER
LOVE ME
DEVIL
SLAVES
LISTEN
FROM GOD
KILL ME
OBEY

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/1811232/>

REV. TODD HOEFFS

Reformation Day

John 8:31-38

"We May Never Pass This Way Again"

October 27, 2024

*Way back in the year 1546, 2 weeks before his death,
A very ill Martin Luther travelled from Wittenberg to his hometown Eisleben, Germany.
He had premonitions that death would come soon.
So Martin preached 2 weeks in a row.
His last sermon, shortened in length due to illness,
clearly expressed how central faithfulness to the Scriptures for the future of the church.
You'd think this kind of event could attract thousands.
I mean, the leader of the reformation, who just 30 years prior,
nailed his 95 Theses on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg.
95 issues for discussion against the church of the day, namely paying to be forgiven.
The end of an era stood before them.
But no, thousands didn't come.
Some writers claim Martin expected over 600 to show up
and felt sad a little less than 270 appeared.
If the death of the church's reformer couldn't bring out the crowd,
This fact should keep us from being too proud.
That Reformation Day is less about spectacular pride and humble, faithful growth.
That Reforming remain a way forward;
Reforming that involves reading of Scripture – praying in every situation,
Gathering the scattered weekly in the church to embrace Jesus' Gospel gifts.
That is reforming.
The past is history.
We have today, we look in hope toward the future.
The moment we are in at this second will not return again.
All of our lives are in constant change.
A major value in times of change – TRUTH.
Jesus nails this directly today in John's Gospel.
"...you will know the truth ..."
Hear that. You will know the truth.
How? Is 'truth' even possible?
When we don't believe someone – a family member, a politician, the media, a friend –
when we don't believe what they say is true,
how can we believe what's been written down thousands of years ago to be true?
How can we believe anything?
When Jesus says these promising,
affirming words to His disciples two thousand years ago –*

"...you will know the truth ..." – I'm not sure *we* do.

Our Lutheran Reformation history for the last 507 years has placed truth in the same category as doctrine, learned rigid content and virtually divorced from boots on the ground mission and ministry among the people who are the reason truth is crucial.

Reformation life in the church

is not about recreating a past we view with rose coloured glasses.

It's not about how good we feel and how rotten the world is.

Sadly the church's collective history is overflowing with examples of

Fighting, back-biting, hoarding beliefs only for ourselves,

ruffling another person's feathers, or another church's, so we feel better or superior.

That truth is what I have, but you don't.

That's not what Martin Luther would've imagined for the church.

He said many times he would die a reformed catholic.

A church treasuring the truth of faith and releasing the unnecessary trappings.

This truth convicts the religious leaders Jesus is facing down.

They want it all about them.

But God is saving Israel as a nation, not just Abraham.

God is saving Israel because they carry the promise of salvation, for all, not just a few.

God has always been saving *people*, not just individuals.

God is still saving *the* church, through Christ and the Spirit,

not just my church or my friends or my own self.

God has been saving the church *for all time*—the people as a whole—
and not just individuals sitting in the pews.

God has been saving BECAUSE people need saving.

Israel constantly got into trouble in the Old Testament.

So Jesus clarifies, "everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin."

Now that's a statement that pounds.

Everyone sins.

Religious leaders then didn't buy that.

Certainly not slaves to sin. As if tied to it or even in love with sinning.

Sin isn't just a bad act, but a power underneath in our hearts that makes us do back acts. We sin because we are sinners.

So our slavery is slavery to this will inside of us.

There may be kinds of freedom that we can make for ourselves, but not this one.

That's Jesus's point.

This slavery is too deep. And all of us have it.

Why else do the religious crowd throw the lie in His face
that they've NEVER been slaves?

Really? Assyria? Babylon? Greece? Rome?

The lie betrays their depravity.

Sin enslaves in two ways.

First, sin enslaves us by producing compelling desires.

Sin enslaves by making anything look more desirable than Jesus.

That's what sin is: desiring something above Jesus and then acting on it.

And the second way sin enslaves is that it eventually condemns us.

Unless something intervenes, it leads separation from God.

This is slavery because it leads you down a path that toward destruction.

Jesus alone free us from this slavery.

He frees us from the condemnation of sin by becoming a *condemnation* for us.

"Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us" ([Galatians](#)

[3:13](#)). Jesus also frees us from the domination of sin

by changing our nature at the root through the new birth.

Meaning: with freedom in Christ, we are given eyes to see

that He as our Saviour is more desirable than anything in the world.

Jesus alone sets us free.

"So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."

The freedom Jesus promises involves letting go of our small self,
our many biases and complaints, and even our fear of loss and death.

Freedom is letting go of wanting more and better things;

it is letting go of our need to control and manipulate God and others.

It is even letting go of our need to know and our need to be right—

which we only discover with spiritual growth and maturity.

We become ever more free as we let go of our primary motivations:

our need for power and control, our need for safety and security,

and our need for affection and esteem.

Christ-centred living is real true liberation.

We are people of the truth.

We name what's real, what's true, and what works—now and in the long run.

This way is simply love.

Faith is love.

Love is freeing.

Most people do not grow up thinking of religion as a path of freedom.

Instead, its usually about prescriptions, dos and don'ts, musts, oughts, and shoulds—
against which we pushed back, like children always do.

When we're young, we think rebellion is the only path to freedom!

Some amount of structure is important, but it is first-level growth.

Far too much religion stays right there.

While Christ is changeless, we are not.

We do not just stand still.

Rebellion isn't freedom; rebellion is sin. And its selfish.

We are not the center of the universe.

We do not need to place our thoughts and feelings in the centre of every conversation.

And if we're honest, we learn we don't want to be.

Me 1st is isolating and lonely.

The little lost lamb needs finding.

The one lost coin is found.

The pearl of great price is bought at an enormous cost.

Christ sets in place an identity we can rest securely in.

A place of truth.

Where there is truth, there is peace.

Where there is truth and peace there is trust.

What is truth? Christ is the truth.

And our Reformation is participation in the life of Christ as His Body in the world.

Baptism gives us Jesus' identity.

Hearing and reading Scripture gives us Jesus' identity.

We can see our own selves in the story of the Bible.

The Spirit makes sure we remain in that identity.

Holy Communion celebrates this identity,

Creating a spiritual family bond --seen on earth and unseen in Heaven.

We are chosen. We are led. We are made free.

The Son sets you free.

The Son unlocks the chains of sin when He is nailed down to the cross.

The Son releases the shadow of death by succumbing to death publicly.

The Son destroys the devil's grip by letting him believe Calvary is a loss.

All that's loss is gain in the shed blood of God's Son

And know the devil is a powerless angry evil angel.

"You will know the truth and the truth will make you free."

Indeed we are.

Indeed Martin Luther enjoyed this same freedom.

Reformation may have been fuelled by geo-political forces and social unrest in Europe.

Power struggles between Pope and Princes, Emperor and economies —

all these helped shape the course of what happened with the church,

far beyond what Martin Luther was essentially all about.

Because Reformation, in the end, is a *movement* in history

and a *movement* of Spirit in the hearts of people

continually changing and transforming, and treasuring our freedom.

Reformation was and is a gift——

something we continue to cherish, share, work at and move towards.

Not stuck, static. Not fixated, nor constricted. Not divided,

autonomous nor conflicted out of some sentimental view of the past.

But Spirit filled, Spirit driven, transformative, forgiveness, merciful,

Always growing towards Jesus' vision, His Kingdom, His truth,

which never goes out of style no matter what era we're in.

Amen.