

Reformation Day

October 26 and 27, 2025



Christ WITH Us



198 Westridge Avenue, Burlington, Wisconsin
262-763-8229 | stjohnsburlington.org
Pastor Kirk Lahmann | Pastor Kenneth Rodrigue

Welcome to Worship

Thank you for joining us for worship today! We are honored that you are with us. We pray that the Word of God you hear will strengthen your faith and increase your love for the Lord! Please fill out a “Welcome to Worship” card (found in the hymnal racks) and place it in an offering plate, located near the sanctuary doors, as you leave worship. If you are a guest, know that we are thankful you have joined us and hope that you will join us again soon.

Prepare for Worship

To prepare for worship, read through the service focus and the Scripture readings. Ponder the words of the Psalm of the Day. Spend time in prayer, using the prayers on the inside cover of the hymnal or on pages 255-258. For those intending to receive the Lord's Supper, read through the “Christian Questions” on pages 295-296. Consider reading through portions of the Small Catechism on pages 286-293.

Today's Focus for Worship – Christ WITH Us

Over 500 years ago, Lutheran Christians were under tremendous pressure. They were forced to defend themselves on battlefields both metaphorical and literal. But they took comfort that Christ himself was by their side upon the plain with his good gifts and Spirit. Just 175 years ago, the Lutheran Christians who founded WELS were also under tremendous pressure. The pressure continues today with opposition to the truths of the Word of God. But we take comfort that Christ is with us in Word and sacrament, and we move forward with the promise of his presence.

Serving at Worship

Presiding Minister: Pastor Kirk Lahmann

Guest Preacher: Pastor Paul Prange

Accompanist: Stephen Radsek

Brass Ensemble: Jeff Neumann, Carol A. Neumann, Glen Rubach, and Dan Erikson

Acknowledgments

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The Service

Setting Four



Opening Hymn

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God | 864
Please stand to sing the final stanza.

Invocation

Matthew 18:20; 28:19-20

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

Confession and Absolution

1 John 1:8-9; 2:2; Matthew 28:19-20

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I deserve your punishment both now and forever. But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death. Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy *Kyrie*

Matthew 15:22; 17:15; Mark 10:47

In peace let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



A - men.

Glory Be to God *Gloria in Excelsis*

Luke 2:14; John 1:29



Glo - ry to God in the high - est and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al - might-y God and Fa-ther. We



wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your



glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high - est and peace to his



peo - ple on earth.

Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly



Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on



us; you are seat - ed at the right hand of the



Fa-ther: re - ceive our prayer, re - ceive our prayer.



Glo - ry to God in the high - est and peace to his peo - ple on



earth. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the



Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ,



with the Ho - ly Spir-it in the glo - ry of God the Fa-ther.



Glo - ry to God in the high - est and peace to his peo-ple on earth.



Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God.

The Word

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.



Prayer of the Day

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.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Joshua 4:1-9

¹When the whole nation had finished crossing the Jordan, the LORD said to Joshua, ²“Choose twelve men from among the people, one from each tribe, ³and tell them to take up twelve stones from the middle of the Jordan, from right where the priests are standing, and carry them over with you and put them down at the place where you stay tonight.”

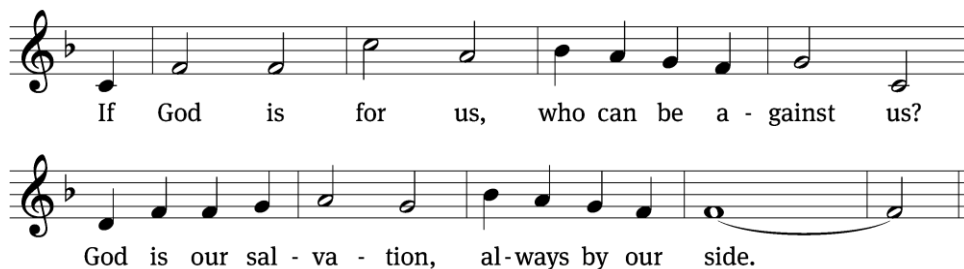
⁴So Joshua called together the twelve men he had appointed from the Israelites, one from each tribe, ⁵and said to them, “Go over before the ark of the LORD your God into the middle of the Jordan. Each of you is to take up a stone on his shoulder, according to the number of the tribes of the Israelites, ⁶to serve as a sign among you. In the future, when your children ask you, ‘What do these stones mean?’ ⁷tell them that the flow of the Jordan was cut off before the ark of the covenant of the LORD. When it crossed the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. These stones are to be a memorial to the people of Israel forever.”

⁸So the Israelites did as Joshua commanded them. They took twelve stones from the middle of the Jordan, according to the number of the tribes of the Israelites, as the LORD had told Joshua; and they carried them over with them to their camp, where they put them down. ⁹Joshua set up the twelve stones that had been in the middle of the Jordan at the spot where the priests who carried the ark of the covenant had stood. And they are there to this day.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Refrain



If God is for us, who can be a - gainst us?

God is our sal - va - tion, al - ways by our side.

Verses



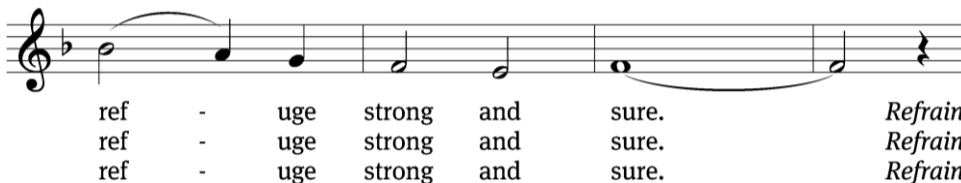
1 God is our ref - uge and our strength, an
 2 A riv - er flows whose streams make glad the
 3 Be - hold the won - drous deeds of God, who

ev - er pres - ent aid, and there - fore, though the
 cit - y of our God, the ho - ly dwell - ing
 caus - es wars to cease, the weap - ons of the

earth be moved, we will not be a - fraid; though
 of the LORD, the place of God's a - bode. Since
 strong de - stroyed, God brings a - bid - ing peace. "Be

hills in - to the seas be cast, though foam - ing wa - ters roar,
 God is in the midst of it, our safe - ty is se - cure;
 still and know that I am God, ex - alt - ed ev - er - more;"

the LORD of hosts is by our side, a
 the LORD of hosts is by our side, a
 the LORD of hosts is by our side, a



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Second Reading

Revelation 3:7-13

⁷“To the angel of the church in Philadelphia write:

These are the words of him who is holy and true, who holds the key of David. What he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open. ⁸I know your deeds. See, I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut. I know that you have little strength, yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name. ⁹I will make those who are of the synagogue of Satan, who claim to be Jews though they are not, but are liars—I will make them come and fall down at your feet and acknowledge that I have loved you. ¹⁰Since you have kept my command to endure patiently, I will also keep you from the hour of trial that is going to come on the whole world to test the inhabitants of the earth.

¹¹I am coming soon. Hold on to what you have, so that no one will take your crown. ¹²The one who is victorious I will make a pillar in the temple of my God. Never again will they leave it. I will write on them the name of my God and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem, which is coming down out of heaven from my God; and I will also write on them my new name. ¹³Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem (10:30)

Jesus Loves Me

Sung by the Preschool and Kindergarten

Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so.
 Little ones to him belong; they are weak, but he is strong.

Refrain: Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
 Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me! He who died heaven’s gates to open wide.
 He will wash away my sin, let his little child come in. *Refrain*

Stand

Gospel Acclamation (8:00 and Monday)

John 8:31-32

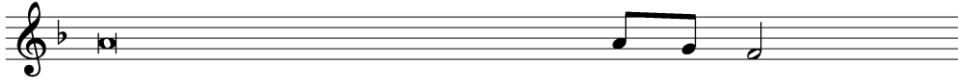


Refrain

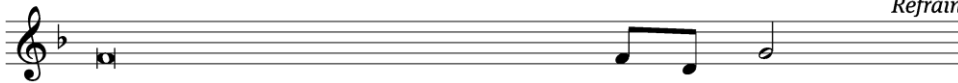


Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Tone



If you hold to my teaching, you are really my dis - ci - ples.



Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.

Gospel

John 8:31-36

³¹To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. ³²Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

³³They answered him, “We are Abraham’s descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?”

³⁴Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. ³⁵Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. ³⁶So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Hymn of the Day

In Trembling Hands, Lord God, We Hold



1 In trem - bling hands, Lord God, we hold Our
 2 "In trem - bling hands"— for how could we Re -
 3 "In trem - bling hands"— with joy - ous awe, Like
 4 "In trem - bling hands"— and yet we cling With
 5 "In trem - bling hands"— the trea - sure won We



her - it - age, your gift of grace, Your
 tain your gift by our own pow'r? The
 Lu - ther, we be - hold your Son: For
 grip of steel, which you must give, To
 on - ly hold through Scrip - ture, Lord. Then



gos - pel, bring - ing wealth un - told: All
 pearl of price - less worth would be Soon
 us he kept your ho - ly law, In
 Christ, our all, our ev - 'ry - thing, To
 keep us all, till life is done, As



bles - ings here, in heav'n a place.
 lost— at - tend us ev - 'ry hour!
 dy - ing full sal - va - tion won.
 Christ, the life in whom we live.
 peo - ple trem - bling at your Word.

6 "In trembling hands"—if it be so,
 How can our hearts remain unstirred
 While millions still in tatters go
 Nor yet of wealth in Christ have heard?

7 In trembling hands, Lord God, we hold
 Our heritage; now give us hands
 That gladly share your heav'nly gold
 With needy souls in many lands!

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Sermon

Joshua 4:1-9

Many Memorials

Stand

Nicene Creed *Credo*

Matthew 16:15; Luke 12:8; 2 Corinthians 4:13

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Be seated

Prayer of the Church

Psalms 46:7, 11

Lord Almighty, you have given us your new covenant in the blood of Christ, and have made yourself known to us through him.

Lord of hosts, be with us! God of Jacob, be our refuge!

Through Jesus Christ you have given us righteousness as a gift. Work in our hearts and lives, that we live by faith in you.

Lord of hosts, be with us! God of Jacob, be our refuge!

Preserve your teaching among us, that we may continue in your Word, know the truth, and live free in you.

Lord of hosts, be with us! God of Jacob, be our refuge!

With your law, correct and guide those who are slaves to sin, and with your gospel, set them free with the message of forgiveness and redemption in Christ Jesus.

Lord of hosts, be with us! God of Jacob, be our refuge!

God, you are our refuge and strength. Be a very present help of your people in all trouble, that they may not fear even in the worst situations, but be still and know that you are God.

Lord of hosts, be with us! God of Jacob, be our refuge!

Lord of hosts, you are in the midst of your city, your church, and with your Word as a stream of living water you refresh us and make us glad. Remain with us, that we may not be moved, but be steadfast in your Word with Christ as our sure foundation as long as we live; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Offering

2 Corinthians 9:7

Offerings given in thanks to the Lord are brought to the Lord's altar. We ask all worshipers to fill out a "Welcome to Worship" card (found in the hymnal racks) and place it in the offering plates at the sanctuary doors following the service.

The Sacrament

Stand



Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136:1

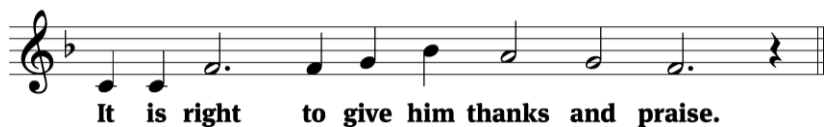
The Lord be with you.



Lift up your hearts.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



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 through the preaching of your servants, the blessed Reformers, caused the light of the Gospel to shine forth, for the salvation of people everywhere, to the glory of your holy name. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy *Sanctus*

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er, God of might.
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -
na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -
na in the high - est, ho-san - na in the high - est!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Matthew 26:26

Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.

By his incarnation, he became one with us.
By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will.
By his innocent death, he overcame hell.
By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.

Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer *Pater Noster*

Matthew 6:9-13

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.

Words of Institution *Verba*

Matthew 26:26-28; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

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."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

Lamb of God *Agnus Dei*

John 1:29

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us your peace.

A - men. A - men.

Be seated

Holy Communion Distribution

St. John's Lutheran Church practices Close Communion. We ask that only members of St. John's, or members of a church in fellowship with St. John's, come forward for Communion. Our pastoral staff would be happy to set up a time to discuss this, and any teaching of Scripture, with you.

Distribution Hymns (Sunday)

Lord, Keep us Steadfast in Your Word | 862

Preserve Your Word, O Savior | 874

Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice | 557

Stand

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Jesus Christ, Lord Almighty, you are our Refuge and Fortress. Set your people free with the Word of your gospel, that we may hold on to your teaching and truly be your disciples; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Blessing *Aaronic Benediction*

Numbers 6:24-26

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.
Amen.

Be seated

God's Word is our great her - i - tage and shall be ours for -

ev - er; to spread its light from age to age shall be our

chief en - deav - or. Thro' life it guides our way, in death it

is our stay. Lord, grant, while worlds en - dure, we keep its

teach - ings pure through - out all gen - er - a - tions.

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Tune: Friedrich O. Reuter, 1863–1924

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