

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

701 S. College Avenue, Newark, Delaware 19713

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Growing in faith. Growing in community. Welcoming all in Jesus' name.

SUNDAY OF THE REFORMATION

Sunday, October 27, 2024

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

Catch the excitement! Witness the joy! Shape the vision!

ST. PAUL'S VISION STATEMENT (adopted 02/25/2018)

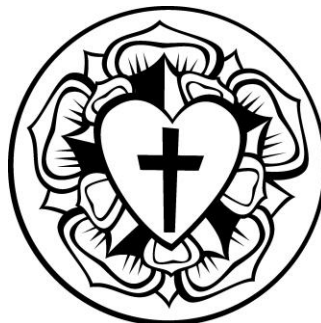
- To worship as a diverse community of all ages
- To engage in faith formation as a community grounded in God's word
- To maintain with depth and integrity the work of feeding the hungry and housing the homeless
- To nurture a strong foundation of generosity, giving, and caring for creation
- To provide a music ministry that encompasses congregation and surrounding communities

Worship at Home and Away

When we cannot be together in person, we can still hear the word of God and hold each other in prayer. Therefore, we offer the 10 AM service through simultaneous live streaming to St. Paul's Facebook page. The service is then posted to the website, www.stpaulsnewarkde.org and can be found in the upper right hand corner of the home page, along with a digital copy of this worship folder, as well as a copy of the sermon.

Large print worship folders and hearing assistance devices are available in the narthex. Ask an usher for assistance.

A Prayground is available for young children in the rear of the sanctuary.



✠ GATHERING ✠

*Worship begins with God who takes the initiative and calls us into being.
We gather at the Holy Spirit's invitation and assemble as the community of faith
on the first day of the week, the day of Christ's resurrection.*

*Upon entering the sanctuary, the people pray silently or engage in quiet meditation
allowing the music to focus their attention on God and God's kingdom.*

The sanctuary doors will be closed as worship begins with the prelude.

PRELUDE

“Credo”

arr. Wayne Wold

WIR GLAUBEN ALL

God the Creator (*Chant and Chorale*)

God the Savior (*Aria*)

God the Spirit (*Rondo*)

Susan Peo, Trumpet

WELCOME

Please stand, as you are able.

DIALOG

Adapted from Ephesians 1:3-8

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us
in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.

**God chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world
to be holy and blameless before him in love.**

According to the good pleasure of God's will, we were destined
for adoption as God's children through Jesus Christ.

**We praise God for the glorious grace
freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.**

In Christ we have redemption through the blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses,
according to the riches of his grace lavished on us with all wisdom and insight.

ENTRANCE HYMN

A Mighty Fortress
ELW 504 (harmony)

Verse 3: “Totentanz” by Karl Osterland, followed by an interlude with brass
Meditation on the text: “*Though hordes of devils...One little word subdues him.*”



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
ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
vour us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,



has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



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

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

Romans 3:23-24
2 Timothy 1:9

We serve a holy God who desires a holy people.
We, too, desire to be a holy people who fully reflect God's glory.
The reality, however, is that:

all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

We fall far short of the glory of God, for we all have sinned, and sin daily,
and will sin in the future. And we cannot cure ourselves from our sin.
But there is also good news: All are justified freely by God's grace
through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

Grace is a gift. It does not depend on anything we do to make us worthy.
We are gifted with grace because God chooses to give it to us
through birthing faith in us.

Salvation comes from God.

It is God who initiates it. God who gives it. It is only by grace that we are saved.

Does God not expect us to live right, then?

Yes, God does. But as a response to God's grace,
freely given, and not in order to earn it.

Let's declare that to each other in these words:

God saved us and called us to a holy life—
not because of anything we have done
but because of God's own purpose and grace.

This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Glory to God from the
Liturgy for the Family of God

Peter S. Klempe

Glo-ry be to God on high! Peace on the earth to all is giv'n!

Join us as we glo-ri-fy, Send-ing our prais-es to the heav'ns!

to Verses



1. You, Lord God, ___ our heav'n-ly King, O God the Fa-ther, might-y One;
2. You sit at the right hand of God; Oh, hear our hum-ble prayer to - day:
3. You, O Lord, are the Ho - ly One, and you a - lone are Lord of heav'n,



1. Je - sus Christ, to you we sing, O Lord, ___ on - ly be - got - ten Son. (Ref.)
2. Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us— Je - sus, take ___ our sins a - way. (Ref.)
3. Reign-ing with the Ho - ly Spir - it and the Fa - ther. A - men. (Ref.)

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

The grace given us in Christ Jesus, the power of God who calls us with a holy calling, and the help of the Holy Spirit living in us be with you all.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Gracious Father, we pray for your holy catholic church. Fill it with all truth and peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in anything it is amiss, reform it; where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in need, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

✠ WORD ✠

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 31:31-34

A reading from Jeremiah:

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was married to them, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will

put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Romans 3:19-28

A reading from Romans:

⁹Now 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.

²⁰For “no human being will be justified in the sight of God” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by God’s grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. This was to show God’s righteousness, because in divine forbearance God had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that God is righteous and that God justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

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

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand, as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! from the
Liturgy for the Family of God

Peter S. Klemp



blessed! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Your Word brings righteousness. With
 all your works, we praise you! Ex-alt your Name forever! Al-le-
 lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Sing al-le-lu-ia!

HOLY GOSPEL

John 8:31-36

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.”

³³They 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’?”

³⁴Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶“So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Be seated.

CHILDREN’S CHAT

JP and Friends

HYMN OF THE DAY

“The Reformation Solas”

Aaron Michael Jensen

*The organ introduces the hymn to be sung
 throughout today’s message.
 The hymn is found on page 8.*

THE FIVE SOLAS OF THE REFORMATION


Pastor Greg Johnson

The Reformation Solas

Aaron Michael Jensen


$\text{♩} = 144$

Voice



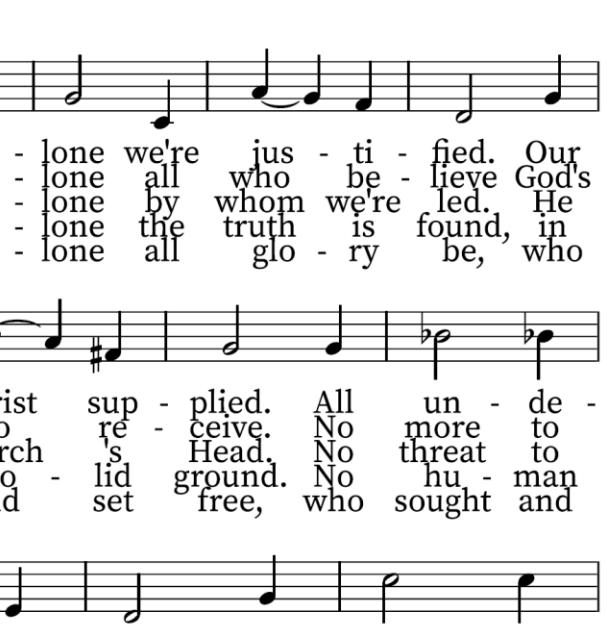
1. By grace a - lone we're jus - ti - fied. Our
2. Through faith a - lone all who be - lieve God's
3. It's Christ a - lone by whom we're led. He
4. In Scrip - ture a - lone the truth is found, in
5. To God a - lone all glo - ry be, who

6



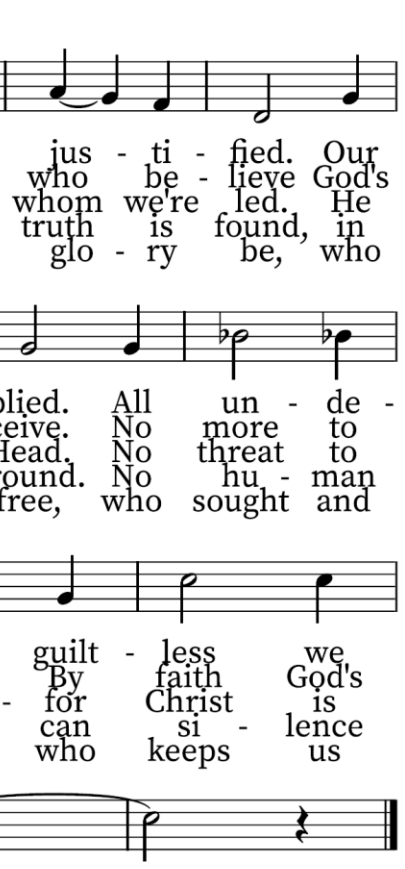
right - eous robes by Christ sup - plied. All un - de -
free for - give - ness do re - ceive. No more to -
rules the world, the church's Head. No threat to
this world's sand, our so - lid ground. No hu - man
ran - somed, res - cued, and set free, who sought and

11



served, all by his love guilt - less we
add, no more to do. By faith God's
fear - not man or grave - for Christ is
thought, no hell - ish lie, can si - lence
found, who washed and fed, who keeps us

15



stand with God a - - bove.
gift is giv - en you.
king and Christ will save.
Scrip - ture's gos - pel cry.
in the year's a - - head.

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**SOLA GRATIA
THROUGH GRACE ALONE**

DIALOG

Adapted from Ephesians 2:8 -10

For by grace we have been saved through faith, and this is not our own doing.
It is the gift of God — not the result of works, so that no one may boast.
For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works,
which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

REFLECTION

HYMN OF THE DAY

The Reformation Solas, Verse 1

Found on p. 8

SOLA FIDE THROUGH FAITH ALONE

DIALOG

Adapted from Philippians 3:8b-12

For his sake we have suffered the loss of all things and regard them as rubbish, in order that we may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of our own that comes from the law,
but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith.

We want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow we may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that we have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but we press on to make it our own, because Christ Jesus has made us his own.

REFLECTION

HYMN OF THE DAY

The Reformation Solas, Verse 2

Found on p. 8

SOLA CHRISTUS IN CHRIST ALONE

DIALOG

Adapted from 1 Timothy 2:5-6

For there is one God;
there is also one mediator between God and humankind,
Christ Jesus, himself human, who gave himself a ransom for all —
this was attested at the right time.

REFLECTION

HYMN OF THE DAY

The Reformation Solas, Verse 3

Found on p. 8

SOLO SCRIPTURA ACCORDING TO SCRIPTURE ALONE

DIALOG

Adapted from 2 Timothy 3:15-17

Continue in what you have learned and firmly believed,
knowing from whom you learned it.

**From childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you
for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.**

All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction,
and for training in righteousness,
**so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient,
equipped for every good work.**

REFLECTION

HYMN OF THE DAY

The Reformation Solas, Verse 4

Found on p. 8

SOLI DEO GLORIA FOR THE GLORY OF GOD ALONE

DIALOG

Adapted from 1 Corinthians 10:31-33,
1 Peter 4:11, and Revelation 7:12

So, whether we eat or drink, or whatever we do, do everything for the glory of God.
Give no offense to Jews or to Greeks or to the church of God,
**just as we try to please everyone in everything we do, not seeking our own
advantage, but that of many, so that they may be saved.**

Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God; whoever serves must
do so with the strength that God supplies, so that God may be glorified in all things
through Jesus Christ.

**Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might
be to our God forever and ever!**

REFLECTION

Please stand, as you are able.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Challenged by God's Word in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and the whole creation.

A brief silence.

Lord of all, we give thanks for the whole church throughout the world. Open wide the paths toward unity between denominations so that all followers of Christ may join in shared worship and mission. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Renewing God, as the dying leaves display their beauty, we are reminded that nature's cycle of life includes and requires both life and death. Instill in your people a mission of preservation and appreciation for trees, animals, and waterways threatened by climate collapse. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Gracious God, in the spirit of reformation we pray for all who cry out for relief from systemic oppression. May the hearts of those who occupy seats of power be reformed so that peace becomes the center of our life together. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Comforting God, be with all who are sick, suffering, or grieving in our own community and beyond, especially Judy, Stan, Janice, Claude, Nancy, Jane, Paul, Chuck, Earnie, Silas, Pat, Margaret, Sheri, Jay, Kara Beth, Rob, Christopher, Marie, Susan, Michael, JoEllen, Elizabeth, Melissa, Ginny, Gary, Isabella, Heyward, Olive and Jim. Surround them with the promise of your love, comfort, and grace that never ends. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Divine Guide, continue to challenge this community and our partners in ministry, especially the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in Wilmington and Lutheran housing projects throughout Delaware, to be ever reforming in our ministries and outreach efforts. Inspire creative ideas among us so that the communal, grace-filled word of God remains at the heart of our ministry. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Almighty God, in Christ's resurrection you ensure that though life be wrenched away, death cannot win the day. We give thanks for Ethel and all the saints who now rest in your eternal presence. May the truth of your saving grace through faith sustain our hope for life in you. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

The presiding minister concludes the prayers.

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in the saving grace you freely give, both now and forever.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

*The assembly exchanges Christ's peace
in word and gesture, saying, **Peace be with you.***

*Be seated. At this time, please sign the Fellowship Pad (the black folder) found at the end of your pew and pass it to your neighbor and back again. We ask **visitors** to provide us with contact information so we can thank you for enriching our worship experience. We ask **members** to update any changes to their information so our records can be maintained.*

✠ MEAL ✠

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

GATHERING OF GIFTS

In response to God's love in Jesus Christ, we offer our gifts for service and mission.

OFFERTORY

“Who Can Separate Us?”

Larry Shackley

Sanctuary Choir

Please stand, as you are able.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Let us pray.

God of life, you give us these gifts of the earth, these resources of our life and our labor. Take them, offered in great thanksgiving, and use them to set a table that will heal the whole creation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Light. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ; 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 all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*Sanctus (Holy) from the
Liturgy for the Family of God*

Peter S. Klemp

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, our God of pow'r and might, Sing
ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Heav'n and earth are full of your maj - es -
ty! Ho - san - na in the high - est! Blest is he who
comes in the Name of the Lord! Sing loud, Ho - san - na! Ho - san - na in the
high - est! Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

ELW Option L

O God before time, O God at the end, we delight in the splendor of your universe. Daily we laud your continuing creation, and we give thanks for all the homelands of your Reformation people.

We glorify you, now and forever.

O God of the covenant, O God of the church, we hear you speaking to centuries of your people. We come as your children to this table, and we give thanks for your presence among Lutheran congregations around the world.

We praise you, now and forever.

You gave us Mary and Magdalene, Peter and Paul, Luther and Melancthon, Henry Muhlenberg, and Elizabeth Fedde—let us call out more names—Katharina Luther the homemaker, Cranach the artist, Bach the musician, Nicolai the hymnwriter, Nommensen the missionary, Kierkegaard the philosopher, Bonhoeffer the martyr, Hammarskjöld the statesman, countless other servants of the Reformation.

We bless you, now and forever.

You came as Jesus, our wisdom, our guide, embodying forgiveness, granting us grace, setting us free, dying for sin, and alive for the life of the world.

We worship you, now and forever.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his death, we cry out:

Amen.

Celebrating his resurrection, we shout:

Amen.

Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead:

Amen.

Come, Holy Spirit, and make here the body of Christ. Breathe onto this food, that it bring us your life. Empower your Reformation people throughout the world to preach and teach, baptize and feed, pray and sing, comfort and heal. By your Spirit, preserve what is faithful; reform what we treasure; create in us what is vital and new.

We honor you, now and forever.

O God before time, O God at the end, Father, Son, and Spirit, we laud you, Covenant Lord, our Redeemer, the Strength of truth. Glory and praise, blessing and worship, honor and power and might be to you, our God, forever and ever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Taught by our Savior's command and formed by the word of God, we pray:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

We rejoice in the grace of God poured upon our lives;
lovingkindness has come to us because of Jesus Christ.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*Agnus Dei (Lamb of God) from the
Liturgy for the Family of God*

Peter S. Klemp

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a-way the sin of the world; grant us peace. Grant us peace.

Be seated.

HOLY COMMUNION

In Christ's body and blood given to us, God forgives us and nourishes us for mission.

All are welcome at the Lord's Table. Children not yet communing are welcome to come forward for a blessing, indicated by crossed arms. If you would like to receive communion in your pew, please notify an usher.

Non-alcoholic grape juice and gluten-free communion wafers are available upon request.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Thy Strong Word
ELW 511 (Verses 1-4)

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907-1976
Music: EBENEZER, Thomas J. Williams, 1869-1944
Text © 1969 Concordia Publishing House

1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; at thy
2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, dark as
3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous; bright with
4 From the cross thy wis - dom shin - ing break - eth



speaking it was done. For created light we
night and deep as death, broke the light of thy sal-
thine own ho-li-ness, glo-rious now, we press toward
forth in con-quer-ing might; from the cross for-ev-er



thank thee, while thine or-dered sea-sons run.
va-tion, breathed thine own life-breath-ing breath.
glo-ry, and our lives our hopes con-fess.
beam-eth all thy bright re-deem-ing light.



Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Praise to thee who light dost send!



Al-le-lu-ia! 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!

The Church's One Foundation

ELW 654 (harmony)



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 this 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 - sund - er, 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,
Oh, 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.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839–1900
Music: AURELIA, Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–1876

BLESSING AND PRAYER

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

Let us pray.

Holy and compassionate God, in bread and wine you give us gifts that form us to be humble and courageous. May your words come to life in our serving and in our witness, that we might speak a living voice of healing and justice to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer.

Amen.

✠ SENDING ✠

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BENEDICTION

God, creator of all things, speaking reformation into being;
Jesus Christ, savior of the world, raising the dead;
Holy Spirit, living voice, calling and enlightening the church:
Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

Lift High the Cross
ELW 660

REFRAINS:
Sung in unison

VERSES:
Sung in harmony

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till
all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G-clef. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the song, with lyrics 'Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till'. The second staff contains the melody for the second line, with lyrics 'all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.' The notes are simple, using quarter and eighth notes with stems.

1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,
 2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied
 3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
 4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Refrain

our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
 bear on their brows the seal of him who died.
 as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.
 praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956
 Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947
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DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
 Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word”

Anna Laura Page

ERHALT UNS, HERR

from

A Reformation Suite

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Assisting Minister:	Kaye Tyson
Lector:	Kaye Tyson
Bread Provider:	Anu Samantha Gonumakulapalli
Altar Guild:	Janet Mease
Flower Guild:	Janet Mease

REFORMATION DAY

During the sixteenth century, some German Lutheran churches celebrated an annual thanksgiving day for the Reformation. In 1667 the festival was set for October 31 or the Sunday prior, since by then it was popularly believed that on this date in 1517 Martin Luther posted the Ninety-Five Theses on the Wittenberg church door, in anticipation of people coming to worship on November 1, All Saints Day, to view saints' relics. Scholars now question whether this actually occurred, and so we need to take care how we deal with this beloved legend. (The posting may have been a mailing to his bishop.) The point of this festival is the continuing need for perpetual reformation of all churches, rather than any Lutheran self-congratulation.

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The flowers in the chancel are given to the glory and praise of God in honor of Heather Weaver's ninety-eighth birthday by Heidi Burch.

ST. PAUL'S WEEKLY EPISTLE

IMPORTANT NEWS FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 20, 2024

REFORMATION SUNDAY

This day invites the daughters and sons of the Reformation to celebrate the perennial source of reform in the church: the word of God and the gifts of forgiveness and new life. Indeed, when the church welcomes a new member in holy baptism or gathers around the table of holy communion, the Holy Spirit's reforming labor continues among us. This is a day to acknowledge that our souls are captive to the word of God, that we share the life of Christ with other Christians through holy baptism, and that we are urged by the Holy Spirit to pray for the ongoing renewal of the church in our day.

FALL BACK NEXT SATURDAY

Before you go to bed on Saturday, November 2, you will want to set your clocks back by one hour. Enjoy the extra hour of sleep before we celebrate All Saints Sunday with our pastoral candidate preaching and presiding over Holy Communion. Worship will be immediately followed by a congregational meeting.

ADULT FORUM

Join Director of Music and Worship, Mike Bareham, next Sunday, November 3, as he discusses the first Lutheran hymnal of 1524. He will give us history of the "Achtliederbuch." He will also lead us in singing some of the hymns that have survived for 500 years and made their way into the ELW. Meet him in the Sanctuary at 8:30 AM.

BOOKS AND BANTER

St. Paul's avid readers meet on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 1 PM in the Youth Room. Please join us for conversation and fellowship. Have a favorite book to recommend?

Upcoming Book:

December 11** "The Lincoln Highway" by Amor Towles (** *Second Tuesday*)

BREWING THEOLOGY

Fun-loving adults, age twenty-one and over, are invited to join in conversation and laughs while enjoying a beverage next Wednesday, October 30, at the Delaware Saengerbund. Join us at 7 PM at 49 Salem Church Road in Newark for fun and fellowship.

HOLY HIKE

Outdoor adventurers of any age are invited to hike Sunday, November 17, after worship. Snow Goose Trail at White Clay Creek is a 3.1 mile wooded trail with some small hills, located at 199 Polly Drummond Hill Road in Newark. You can park at Pike Creek Bible Church lot. Questions? Contact hike leader Rudy Schock at 814-574-8243 or rschock324@gmail.com.

OWLS UPCOMING EVENTS

Celebrate the holidays with the OWLS at the Candlelight Dinner Theatre in Wilmington on Wednesday, December 4. They will attend the 1 PM performance of Irving Berlin's "Holiday Inn" and enjoy lunch and beverages prior to the show. The cost to reserve a ticket is \$56.00. Payment is needed by this Wednesday, October 30. Contact Roy Palo at 302-456-9757 (home) or 302-561-0728 (cell) or email him at Palonpaa@aol.com.

LCM FUNDRAISER

Lutheran Campus Ministry will hold their annual fundraiser on Saturday, November 2, at the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, located at 1530 Foulk Road in Wilmington, starting at 1:30 PM. They hope you will join them for free food and other festivities including raffle baskets, auction items, student testimonies, and the signature stylings of our bishop, The Reverend William Gohl.



October 9, 2024

I am pleased to announce that we are ready to introduce the candidate that the Call Committee and Congregational Council have recommended as our next pastor.

Members of the congregation are warmly invited to attend a fellowship opportunity with the candidate on Saturday, November 2, from 4:30-6:30 PM in Fellowship Hall. Lite fare will be served during the meet and greet.

Then on Sunday, November 3, the candidate will preach and preside at our 10 AM Service of Holy Communion. **After worship, all voting members are invited to attend a congregational meeting to vote on whether to extend a call.**

Please join me in thanking God for the faithful service of our Call Committee, and please continue in prayer as we move forward in this process.

In Christ,
Anne Sullivan, Council President

HELP NEEDED WITH FOOTBALL PARKING

Our School Board has been permitted by Church Council to manage parking in our lots for the UD Football game on Saturday, November 9. We are short staffed this year because we don't have parents available to assist, so we are looking for a few folks from the congregation who have a few hours on a Saturday to help out. Start time for the game is 1:00 PM. We would need three to four hours of your time. If you're available and interested, please contact Bill Saylor at bsaylor2@verizon.net or 302-834-4074 for further details. Thank you!!

REMEMBERING OUR HOMEBOUND SENIORS

The Membership Ministry Team invites you to participate in brightening someone's day by helping us celebrate our homebound seniors at Thanksgiving time. We are seeking folks who would like to visit a senior during the week of Sunday, November 10, and bring them a thanksgiving card, a plant, and a lap robe or prayer shawl. At this time we need seventeen thanksgiving cards and seventeen small, fall plants. We have plenty of robes and shawls. To volunteer, please contact Linda Grund at lgrund923@gmail.com or 302-738-5491.

HERE AND BEYOND

Now that the annual campaign has blasted off, we have another way for you to make your pledge. You can print it at home! The link below will take you to an online version of the pledge card which you can print and return via the mail, or put in the offering plate or gold box at church.

Please prayerfully and carefully consider your pledge for "HERE" in 2025 - and "BEYOND", in the form of an Endowment gift. Then return it in the next few weeks. Why the urgency? We'd like to be able to tell our new pastor that we've reached our goal prior to their arrival - a "Welcome!" gift for them - and us - to celebrate the start of their pastorate.



https://stpaulsnewarkde.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/Pledge-Card-Sept_2024-1-1.pdf

CARVE OUT TIME FOR THE YOUTHERANS

Youth in Grades 6 – 12 are invited to join the Young Lutherans of the Northern Delmarva Conference this Sunday, October 27, from 5:00-6:30 PM here at St. Paul's. They will be carving pumpkins just in time for Halloween. If your child(ren) plans to attend, please let Pastor Zachary Wright (pastorzach.blcne@gmail.com) know so that he has enough pumpkins for everyone to dig in the fun!

COMING WELCA ATTRACTION

On Saturday, November 16, the Women of the ELCA will join the Quilters for a fun morning of quilting, from 9 AM through lunch at 12 PM. There will also be opportunities for quill art with Barb Rhodes and making wreath of life prayer beads with Mary Beth Bergstrom. Please RSVP to Kaye Tyson (kaye.tyson@comcast.net) or Mary Beth Bergstrom (mbbergstrom@verizon.net) so they know how many to expect for fun, fellowship and lunch, which will be provided by WELCA.



**Lutheran Campus Ministry
Tree of Life Fall Fundraiser**

Join us for an afternoon of giving and fun! Enjoy hearty hors-d'oeuvres and a live auction led by our bishop, the Rev. Bill Gohl. Don't miss the silent auction and raffle basket prizes..

When? Saturday, November 2, 2024
Time? Doors open at 1:30 PM
Where? Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
1530 Foulk Road, Wilmington, DE

For any questions, please call 302-368-3078.

You are invited to bring a personal care item to donate for FISH (Fellowship in Serving the Hungry)

CONNECTIONS WITH CREATION

Happy Eco-Reformation Sunday! For all that God our creator has given us and strives to preserve and protect, explore how you can join our church's work of ongoing renewal in caring for creation at LutheransRestoringCreation.org. This attention and service embodies what Martin Luther, in his Small Catechism, confessed: "I believe that God has created me together with all that exists. . . God daily and abundantly provides . . . all the necessities and nourishment for this body and life. God protects me against all danger and shields and preserves me from all evil . . . For all of this I owe it to God to thank and praise, serve and obey [God]" (*ELW*, p. 1162).

COMMENTS FROM THE CLOUD OF WITNESSES

Every renewal of the church essentially consists in an increase of fidelity to her own calling. Undoubtedly this explains the dynamism of the movement toward unity. Christ summons the church, as she goes her pilgrim way, to that continual reformation of which she always has need, insofar as she is a human institution here on earth. Consequently, if, in various times and circumstances, there have been deficiencies in moral conduct or in church discipline, or even in the way that church teaching has been formulated—to be carefully distinguished from the deposit of faith itself—these should be set right at the opportune moment and in the proper way.

—*Decree on Ecumenism, Second Vatican Council, Vatican Council II, The Basic Sixteen Documents, Revised Translation in Inclusive Language*, ed. Austin Flannery, OP [Northport, NY: Costello Publishing Company, 1996], 507-508

THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION

“We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free?’” (John 8:33). The children of Abraham experienced slavery in Egypt, and the suffering of a people unable to live freely. Though these descendants are far removed from those days of slavery in Egypt, they are still under the rule of an empire not their own. Are they so captive to generations of suffering that they don’t dare trust that they could finally be free? Are we like them? When Jesus talks about being a slave to sin, can we hear him describing not just our personal failings, but those systems of injustice that continue to bind our communities, those unhealthy patterns that are passed down through the generations unaware?

ALL SAINTS DAY—NEXT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3

The custom of commemorating on a single day all the saints of the church, especially the many unknown martyrs, originated in the fourth century. By the eighth century, the festival commemorating all saints had been moved in England and Ireland to November 1 in order to Christianize the Celtic harvest festival of Samhain, which marked the beginning of winter and communal attention to the dead. In current Christian use, the day is dedicated to thanksgiving for all the unnamed who have died in the Lord. In many assemblies, including ours, the names of those who have died over the previous twelve months are read aloud, a practice originally associated with All Souls Day on November 2. The conflation of the two emphases fits with the Protestant belief that the all the Christian dead are saints and none needs release from purgatory.



Sunday, November 3

ALL SAINTS DAY

God has made into saints all who have been baptized into Christ, and we honor especially those who have died in the faith by referring to them as saints of God. Our assembly joins with countless other Christians to praise God for the life of all the saints.

8:30 AM Adult Forum—First Lutheran Hymnal of 1524

10:00 AM Service of Holy Communion—Live Streamed

11:00 AM Congregational Meeting & Coffee Social

Sunday, November 10

TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

This Sunday we hear about two widows, both of whom in their time and place exemplified the poor and helpless in society. Come to worship to identify with them and to share in God's meal of mercy.

8:30 AM Adult Forum—Reformation in British North America

10:00 AM Service of Holy Communion—Live Streamed

11:00 AM Coffee Social

Sunday, November 17

TWENTY SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Near the close of the church year, the readings remind us of both the end of the world and the end of our lives. Come to worship to receive God's comfort for whenever we face destruction and death.

8:30 AM Adult Forum—Reformation in British North America

10:00 AM Service of Holy Communion—Live Streamed

11:00 AM Coffee Social

Sunday, November 24

CHRIST THE KING

This Sunday we close our liturgical year with a celebration of Christ as our king. Come to worship, and encounter Christ reigning from his cross with mercy for us all.

8:30 AM Adult Forum—African American Churches

10:00 AM Service of Holy Communion—Live Streamed

11:00 AM Coffee Social

St. Paul's Lutheran Church Welcomes All in Jesus' Name

Phone/Fax: 302-368-0064 Website: www.stpaulsnewarkde.org

Together in Jesus Christ we are freed by grace to live faithfully, witness boldly, and serve joyfully.

The Reverend Barbara Melosh

Interim Pastor

302-354-5512 (cell)

bmelosh@gmu.edu

Jerilynn Hinrichs

Office Administrator

302-368-0064 ext. 101

splcstaff@gmail.com

Church Council

Anne Sullivan, *President*

Barb Rhodes, *Vice President*

Heidi Burch, *Secretary*

Mary Collins, *Treasurer*

Kristine Cassar, Winnie Hull, Greg Johnson,

Susie Olson, Emily Pierce

St. Paul's Online Prayer Ministry

Send prayer requests to:

prayonstpauls@gmail.com

or contact Pastor Barbara Melosh

Michael Bareham

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Nalini Janaki

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Early Education Director

St. Paul's Lutheran School

302-368-0064 ext. 118

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Weekly Epistle/E-mail Blast

Articles due by Wednesday morning at 10 AM. Late submissions will be shared the following week. Please send articles to the church office at splcstaff@gmail.com.

**WISH TO SUPPORT THE MINISTRIES
OF ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH?
THEN SCAN THIS QR CODE**

