

# Celebrating the Reformation with Thanksgiving to God

November 1, 2025



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 ${f CLC}$  Trinity is a member congregation of the Church of the Lutheran



#### November 1, 2025

Reformation Pentecost 22

Serving Us Today
Organist: Jarrod Lentz

Pre-service Meditation: Psalm 46

#### **Pre-Service Prayer**

Blessed Lord, you breathed into writers the very words to be written in Scripture for our learning. Grant that we may now read, mark, learn and inwardly digest Your words so that by the patience and comfort of Your Holy Word we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which You have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

#### **Order of Worship**

When the congregation is asked to stand, please do so only if you are able.

You may remain seated if standing is difficult.

#### Welcome to Worship

#### **Opening Prayer**

**Hymn**: 467(1-3,6) — Built on the Rock the Church doth Stand

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation (spoken): Amen

**P:** One thing I ask from the Lord. This is what I seek:

C: That I live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,

P: To gaze on the beauty of the Lord,

C: And to seek Him in His temple. Psalm 27:4

P: I rejoiced with those who said to me,

C: "Let us go into the house of the Lord." Psalm 122:1

**P:** Yes, one day in Your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

C: I would rather wait at the doorway of the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked. Psalm 84:10

**P:** For the Lord is a sun and shield.

C: God gives grace and glory.  $^{\text{Psalm 84:11}}$ 

P: How blessed are those who live in Your house.

C: They are always praising You.  $^{\mbox{\scriptsize Psalm 84:4}}$ 

P: From the rising of the sun to its setting,

C: The name of the Lord is to be praised. Psalm 113:3

#### **Building a Confession upon God's Word**



**The Black Cross** — Jesus died on the cross to pay the penalty of sin in our place. The blood of Jesus Christ, God's Son, cleanses us from all sin. We preach Christ crucified.

#### **Confession of Our Sins**

Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undown. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.



**The Red Heart** — Gods great love for sinners sent His Son Jesus to redeem us all (Cf. John 3:16). We love because He first loved us.

#### **Absolution of Sins**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.



White Rose— We are cleansed from all of our sins. God are pure and righteous in God's sight. Though your sins be as scarlet they shall be as white as snow, though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

#### **Scripture Reading:** Romans 3:19-28

Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin. But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law

**Hymn**: 371(1-2, 5,7) — Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness



**Blue Background**— Blue, a color of royalty and of the sky, reminds us that our Savior who ascended into Heaven is going to return in the same way (cf. Acts) to judge all people and then take the believers to Heaven to live with Him face-to-face.

#### Scripture Reading: Revelation 7:13-17

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?" I said to him, "Sir, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.

#### Hymn: Jerusalem the Golden (vv. 1-3) — see bulletin back page



**Gold Ring**— Like a band of gold valuable and without beginning or end, the rich joy of Heaven will be for eternity—without end and of great value. What is a man profited if He gain the whole world. So we will always be with the Lord.

#### Scripture Reading: Revelation 21:5-8, 22-27; 22:1-5

And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." And he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son. But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the detestable, as for murderers, the sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars, their portion will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death." . . . And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb. By its light will the nations walk, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it, and its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. They will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. But nothing unclean will ever enter it, nor anyone who does what is detestable or false, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life. Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. No longer will there be anything accursed, but the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him. They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And night will be no more. They will need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.



Confession of Faith: The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His 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.

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.

Hymn: Jerusalem the Golden (v. 4) — see bulletin back page

The Sermon

Text: Psalm 119:105

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

"Thank God for the Bright Light of Truth!"

#### Congregation:

God's Word is our great heritage,
And shall be ours forever;
To spread its light from age to age
Shall be our chief endeavor.
Through life it guides our way;
In death it is our stay.
Lord, grant, while worlds endure,
We keep its teachings pure,
Throughout all generations. Amen. (TLH 283)

Hymn: Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word



#### **Prayer & The Lord's Prayer**

P: The Lord be with you.

C (spoken): And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C (spoken): We lift them up to the Lord.

**P**: It is right and beneficial that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father almighty and everlasting God . . . Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of Heaven we magnify Your glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying:

C (sings): Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heav'n and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest. Blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

P: Words of Institution...The peace of the Lord be with you always!

C (sings): Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy upon us. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy upon us. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

#### Distribution

Christ teaches us in His Word that He desires unity of faith and confession among those who commune together at the Lord's Table. For this reason, we ask that only those who have confessed their unity with us through communicant membership in our congregation or in a sister congregation of the Church of

the Lutheran Confession (CLC) come to the Lord's Supper this morning. This scriptural practice we call "close communion" is not a judgment on your faith, but is an expression of our own. Visitors who may wish to learn more about communing with us in the future are invited to speak to the pastor at your convenience. We would also like to share this blessing with you.

#### **Thanksgiving**

C (sings, p.10 WS Supplement):

Thank the Lord; sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and bear Christ's holy name. Thank the Lord; sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done. Send us with Your promises, Lord; Lead Your people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Thank the Lord; sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

**Benediction** (Pastor)

**C** (spoken): **Amen**.

**Benediction** (Pastor)

**C** (spoken): **Amen**.

**Hymn:** 774 — A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

#### Silent Prayer

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Publishers.



#### Welcome to worship at Trinity!

**Guest and Visitors**, we invite you to sign our guest book. We look forward to having you worship with us again! Please speak to the members and pastor if you wish to learn more about the Gospel ministry at Trinity.



**Thank-offerings** may be left in the offering plate in the back of the church, mailed to the church, or made electronically via the link on our website home page.

#### **Next Week's Schedule**

(If the Lord wills we shall do this or that)

Saturday (November 8)

9:15 a.m. Bible Class

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

11:30 a.m. Church Council

Greeter: Jeanne Helke

#### **News & Notes**

**Trinity's Calls:** Retired pastor Paul Tiefel has returned our call to serve as vacancy pastor. He has sent the following:

October 25, 2025

Dear Members of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church,

In Christ Jesus Who as the Head of the Christian Church supplies pastors to serve His people.

I am returning the call you extended to me to serve as your vacancy pastor. To think of serving in your midst was very appealing, but I unfortunately cannot be away from Eau Claire for weeks at a time due to personal and family needs. I realize that returning a call within one week is unusual. I do want to assure you that I gave it prayerful consideration and talked it over with a number of pastors, including Pastor Drew Naumann. When I was convinced that additional time would not change things on my end, I took your advice to let you know as soon as possible.

I will continue to remember you and your congregation in my prayers that the Savior might soon send you a preacher of His Gospel.

In His name,

Pastor Paul Tiefel

Pastor Aaron Ude has returned our call to serve as full-time pastor at Trinity.

**Voters Meeting**: The voters will meet following the worship service this morning. Agenda: 1) vacancy pastor call, 2) full-time pastor call, 3) membership transfer for Drew Naumann.

**Bible Classes:** Our Saturday Bible Class continues to study "Words with Big Meanings." **We continue to work on scheduling a midweek Bible Study**—if you are available to be part of such a study, let Pastor Eichstadt know so that we are able to schedule it in the best possible way.



Missionary Todd Ohlmann / October 23, 2025

#### Denied Entry into India

Board of Missions chairman, Joel Krafft and Missionary
Ohlmann traveled to India last week. Missionary Ohlmann
wrote in his blog. . . .

Our travels were right on schedule, and we met each other just before the immigration line formed. We shared a quick greeting and got in line, eager to get through immigration, grab our luggage, clear customs, and get to our hotel for a good night's sleep before a busy schedule of a pastoral conference, meetings, and district visits kicked off the next day.

As many of you know, I have been waiting for nearly six years to return to India after my visa was revoked and I was denied entry in January of 2020. A few months ago, I applied for and was granted a new 5-year visa. I can't even tell you how excited I was, thinking that the door was open for me to visit India again!

Unfortunately, I was denied entry again. It's a long story (if you want to hear the fun details, give me a call), but when I handed over my passport and visa to the immigration officer, he scanned them and began studying his computer screen. He then asked me what my purpose was in visiting and why I was denied entry in 2020. I told him that I came to visit friends, and I wasn't given a reason in 2020. He then went to the office of the Chief Immigration Officer, who

then came to the window and asked me to come with him. In his office, there were lots of questions, a search through my carry-on luggage, and a demand that I unlock and hand over my phone or be arrested, telling me that Indian immigration laws grant him permission to inspect all my personal items. A couple of hours later, both Joel and I were informed that we were denied entry into India and that we were being deported immediately. No definitive answers were given as to the reason. Joel had actually cleared immigration but decided to wait outside the immigration officer's office to see what was happening with me. When they realized he was traveling with me, they denied him entry as well. As Joel put it, with a grin on his face, "My only crime was being associated with Todd Ohlmann"

Because Joel was booked on a round-trip itinerary, the airline was able to quickly change his flights back to the U.S. for later that evening. I was required to return to the last airport I had flown through, and since I had arrived on a one-way Sri Lankan Airlines flight from Kathmandu with a layover in Colombo, Sri Lanka, I had to return to the last airport I had traveled through. Unfortunately, there aren't many direct flights back to the U.S. from Sri Lanka. I waited through the night at the Chennai, India, airport until I was escorted to my 10:00 am flight to Colombo, only to wait another 10+hours there for a flight to Abu Dhabi with a 4+ hour layover before a flight to Chicago and then home to St. Louis. I arrived home yesterday (Oct. 22) afternoon, exhausted but very thankful to be home.

The reality is that I may never have the chance to visit India again, and this weighs heavily on me. To be honest, the thought of not being able to see, work alongside, and spend time with my dear Christian brothers and sisters, as well as fellow kingdom workers whom I have known and grown close to over the past 28 years since my first trip to India, breaks my heart.

All of this is rather disappointing, discouraging, frustrating, and sad. And yet, I can rejoice, knowing that while Satan thinks he may have prevailed, God's will is always good, gracious, and merciful! While I don't understand or know the reason why this door has been closed to me, I trust the One who closed it! God's plans are perfect, and His ways are always love. And because of the great love He demonstrated on the cross, we can be confident that this, too, will work out for the good of those whom He has called into faith in Jesus Christ according to His good pleasure!

I've been in contact with the pastors and leaders of the CLCI and BELC as they met for the conference this week. While they, too, are disappointed that Joel and I were not able to attend, they gathered around the firm foundation of God's saving word that serves as the basis for the fellowship they are sharing this week. Pray for them and thank the Lord for their zeal and courage in continuing to spread the Good News of our Savior, Jesus, even though they face increasing persecution for their Christian witness.

# News from around the Church of the Lutheran Confession

Calls: Mrs. Dawn Mayhew has asked for a peaceful release from her call as teacher at Redeemer Ev. Lutheran School, Cheyenne, WY, effective at the end of the 2025-26 school year. / Pastor David Pfeiffer of Holy Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, West Columbia, SC, has returned the call to Living Hope Lutheran Church, Appleton, WI / Pastor Michael Gurath of Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church, Phoenix, AZ, is considering the call to Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church, Middleton, WI. / Professor Mark Weis has returned the parttime call to Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church, Red Wing, MN. / Pastor Matthew Ude of Faith Lutheran Church, Markesan, WI, has is considering the call to Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI.

**2026 CLC Mission Helper Trip:** The CLC Mission Helper Program is making preparations for another Mission Trip to Africa for the summer of 2026. The main focus of this trip will be presenting the

Gospel, through a series of child evangelism lessons, to member and non-member children in village congregations. Possible areas of evangelism include the CLC–Tanzania, CLC–Kenya, CLC–Zambia, and CLC-Uganda. CLC members are welcome and encouraged to apply. For more information and to apply, visit <a href="https://www.mht.lutheranmissions.org">www.mht.lutheranmissions.org</a>.

Nominations for ILC Professor and President of Immanuel Lutheran College are to be received by email or letter no later than midnight November 22, 2025 (letters postmarked November 12, 2025) to: Mr. James Burkhardt; 217 Windy Lane; Rockwall, TX 75087; email: jeb6217@yahoo.com.



#### **November Cleaners**

Sanctuary: Bettinger / North Entry: Clark
Basement: Helke



### Jerusalem the Golden

