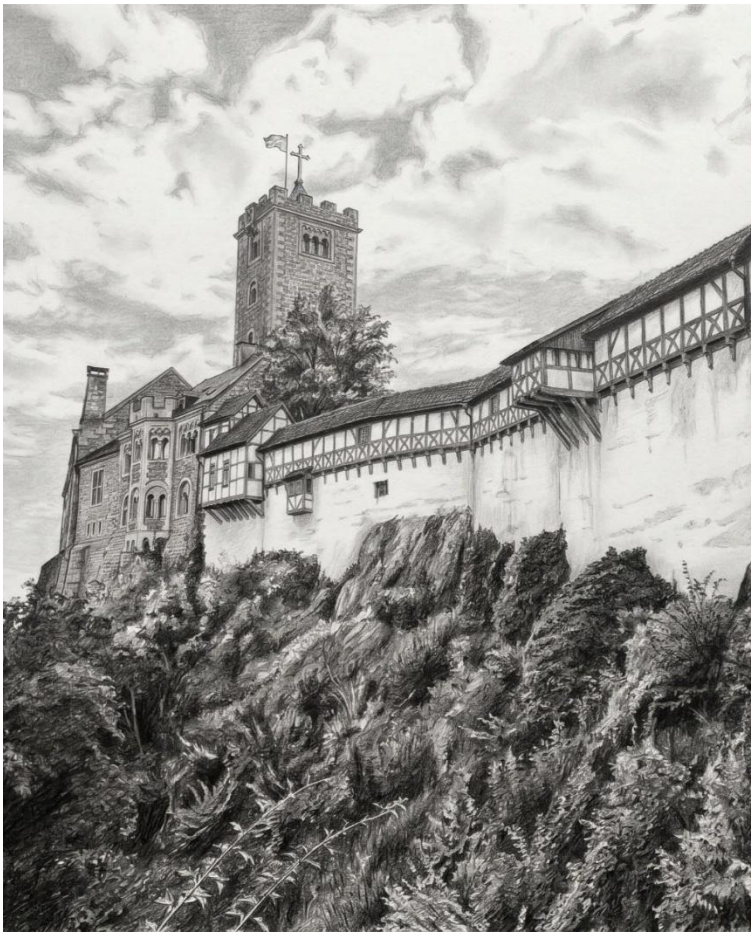

A mighty fortress is our God,
A trusty shield and weapon;
He helps us free from ev'ry need
That hath us now o'ertaken.
The old evil foe
Now means deadly woe;
Deep guile and great might
Are His dread arms in fight;
On earth is not His equal.

704 N. Wall Street / Spokane, WA 99205
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Vacancy Pastor: Wayne C. Eichstadt
Office: (509) 926-3317 / **Cell**: (507) 380-1068 / pastor@gethsemaneclc.org

President: Dennis Lux
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Trinity is a member congregation of the Church of the Lutheran Confession (www.clclutheran.org)

October 31, 2026

Reformation

Pentecost 24

Serving Us Today

Organist: Jarrod Lentz / **Greeter:** Randy Estes

We Enter God's House and Prepare for Worship

Pre-service Meditation: *Psalm 46* **(hymnal p.134)**

Pre-service Prayer:
Lord God, thank You for the treasure of Your Word and the salvation that it brings. Thank you for preserving the truth of Your Word as a heritage to each new generation. Enable me to hold onto that truth, declare it, defend it, and share it freely. Bless me and all my fellow-worshippers today. Amen.

Order of Worship (The *Lutheran Hymnal*, p. 15)

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: 377 (1,6-7, 10) – Salvation unto Us Has Come

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

Congregation (sings): **Amen**

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to 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.

C (sings): **Who made heaven and earth.**

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

C (sings): **And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Pastor & Congregation: **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.**

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

C (sings): **Amen**.

Responsive Reading: (*Psalm 46:1-2, 10-11)*

Pastor: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Cong: Therefore we will not fear though the earth give way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,

P: "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations,

C: I will be exalted in the earth!"

P: The Lord of hosts is with us;

C: the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Congregation Sings (TLH, p. 16ff)

Gloria Patri

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, forevermore. Amen.

The Kyrie

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Gloria in Excelsis

Pastor: Glory be to God on high:

Cong: **And on earth peace, good will toward men. We praise You, we bless You, we worship You, We glorify You, we give thanks to You, for Your 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, Who takes away the sin of the world, Have mercy upon us. You who takes away the sin of the world, Receive our prayer. You who sits at the right hand of God the Father, Have mercy upon us. For You only are holy; You only are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, Are most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

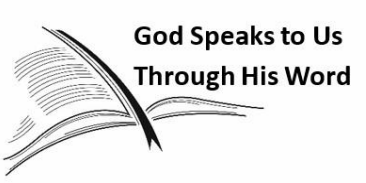
P: The Lord be with you.

C (sings): **And with Your spirit.**

P: Let us pray…

C (sings): **Amen.**

Scripture Lesson: *2 Kings 23:1-3*



There was a reformation under King Josiah after the Book of the Covenant (God's Word) had been found. The Word of God provided the motivation and the direction for the King and the people.

Then the king sent, and all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem were gathered to him. And the king went up to the house of the Lord, and with him all the men of Judah and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem and the priests and the prophets, all the people, both small and great. And he read in their hearing all the words of the Book of the Covenant that had been found in the house of the Lord. And the king stood by the pillar and made a covenant before the Lord, to walk after the Lord and to keep his commandments and his testimonies and his statutes with all his heart and all his soul, to perform the words of this covenant that were written in this book. And all the people joined in the covenant.

Scripture Lesson: Selections from *Romans*

(1:16-17; 3:9-12, 19-22, 28; 5:1-8*)*

These selections from Paul's letter to the Romans highlight that we are all sinners and justly condemned, that we are unable to help ourselves with works but that we are saved through Jesus' redeeming work by which God has declared us righteous in His sight.

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith.". . . What then? Are we Jews any better off? No, not at all. For we have already charged that all, both Jews and Greeks, are under sin, as it is written: "None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God. All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one." . . . 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 we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law. . . Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

P: Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and treasure it! Hallelujah!

C (sings): **Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

Scripture Lesson: *Hebrews 11:32-40*

C (sings): **Glory be to You, O Lord!**

The writer to the Hebrews lists Old Testament believers and what they did by faith (Hebrews 11:1ff). The list is quite lengthy and then he concludes with the words of this reading. Each believer of any age and time receives the forgiveness of sins by God's grace through faith in Jesus our Savior; and then goes through this life trusting the promises of the LORD our God.

And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets— who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received back their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword. They went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, mistreated—of whom the world was not worthy—wandering about in deserts and

mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though commended through their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

C (sings): **Praise be to You, O Christ!**

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: 463(1-4, 8) – For All the Saints Who from Their Labors Rest

The Sermon

Text: *John 3:14-21*

And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God."

"The Way God Loves Is our Reformation Heritage"

I. The saving grace of the gospel

II. The bright light of works

Congregation (sings):

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. (*The Lutheran Hymnal* 283)

Prayer

Thank-offerings may be left in the offering plate in the back of the church or mailed to the church.

Offering Prayer (Congregation Sings)

Bring to this sacred altar the gifts His goodness gave,
The golden sheaves of harvest, the souls Christ died to save
Your hearts lay down before Him when at His feet you fall,
And with your lives adore Him who gave His life for all.
(Worship Supplement: 793:3)

Hymn: 310- Thy Table I Approach

P: The Lord be with you.

Congregation (sings): **And with your spirit.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

Congregation (sings): **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

Congregation (sings): **It is meet and right so to do.**

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:

Congregation (sings):

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth;
Heav'n and earth are full of Your glory;
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He, blessed is He who cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

P: 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;

Congregation (sings):

For Thine is the kingdom and the power
And the glory forever and ever. Amen.

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

Congregation (sings): **Amen.**

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. Amen.

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 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

Congregation (sings):

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant Depart
in peace according to Your word, For mine
eyes have seen Your salvation:
Which You have prepared before the face of all
people. A Light to lighten the Gentiles
And the glory of Your people Israel.
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,
Forevermore. Amen.

Benediction (Pastor)

C (sings): **Amen! Amen! Amen!**

Hymn: 774 – A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Silent Prayer

Unless otherwise noted, Bible quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version. ESV® Text Edition: 2016.

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Welcome to Worship at Trinity! to all who have gathered for worship this morning. We especially welcome guests and visitors—please sign our guest book in the north entry. We look forward to having you worship with us again!

This Week's Schedule

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

Today

10:30 a.m. Worship Service with Communion
Fellow follows the service.

Next Sunday (November 7)

9:00 a.m. Bible Study
10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Greeter: Lori White

Donna Zarling continues to be in the hospital.

News & Notes

Everyone is invited to the fellowship area in the basement for light refreshments following the worship service this morning.

Surgery on Thursday: Pastor Eichstadt is scheduled to have hip replacement surgery on Thursday. Your prayers for surgical success and timely recovery are appreciated. Charles Maguire will be leading Bible Class and the Worship service next Saturday.

Bulletin Production Deadline: Bulletin production is being shifted from Pastor Eichstadt to Gethsemane's Administrative Assistant. If you have an announcement for the bulletin, please still tell/send to Pastor E., but the deadline for bulletin inclusion will be Thursday noon. If the deadline is missed, announcements can still be made orally and/or via email, but may not be able to be in the bulletin until the following week.

PAC-NW Revival: It has been several years since the congregations of the Pacific Coast Conference have had a "PAC-NW Youth/Family Camp." We are looking for its return in 2027—if there is enough interest. The planned dates are August 2-6 in Jedidiah Smith Redwoods State Park (CA). Pastor David Ude is coordinating the effort and gathering interest. You can text, email, call him for more information and/or to register your interest: (715)-450-2968 / David.m.ude@gmail.com.

November Cleaners

Sanctuary: Bettinger
North Entry: Lux
Basement: Helke

News from around the Church of the Lutheran Confession

Call News: **Call News** Pastor Neal Radichel of Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI, has ***returned*** the call to Holy Cross Ev. Lutheran Church, Phoenix, AZ./ Pastor Michael Wilke of Gethsemane Lutheran Church, Saginaw, MI has ***returned*** the call to Gift of God Lutheran Church, Mapleton, ND, and to St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Ponsford, MN/ Missionary Todd Ohlmann is ***considering*** the call to Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI.

No Mission Helper Trip 2027: The plan has been that the 2027 Mission Helpers would travel to Nepal. A few weeks ago, 24 Korean missionaries were detained and deported from Nepal for evangelizing on tourist visas. In response to this and several other arrests of the like, the Mission Helper trip was revised in order to take a very small group next summer, while keeping them in two separate groups of three to aid in avoiding unwanted attention. However, this week, ten more arrests were made, including five Americans and two Canadians. They had been in Nepal conducting health services under an organization called "Mercy Development," while also, it seems, engaging in evangelistic activities. It appears that with elections coming up next year in Nepal, political favor is being sought through the avenue of the deportation of foreign Christians. For that reason, leaders in the Himalayan Church of the Lutheran Confession – Nepal (HCLCN) have decided that the CLC should *not* send a Mission Helper Team to Nepal this coming summer, with the prayer that we can try again a future year. Please pray for all of our Nepali brethren in every way and also asking that the Lord will use the 2027 elections to re-open the doors to another Mission Helper Trip to Nepal in the future. Meanwhile, there are stateside opportunities to assist with summer traveling vacation bible schools. More information on this will be shared in coming months.

We Believe & Confess

It is taught among us that we cannot obtain forgiveness of sin and righteousness before God by our own merits, works, or satisfactions, but that we receive forgiveness of sin and become righteous before God by grace, for Christ's sake, through faith, when we believe that Christ suffered for us and that for His sake our sin is forgiven and righteousness and eternal life are given to us. For God will regard and reckon this faith as righteousness as Paul says in Romans 321-26 and 4:5.

Augsburg Confession, Article IV
Translator Theodore G. Tappert / ©1959 Fortress Press

Additional Reading in the Confessions: *The Augsburg Confession*, Article XX; *The Apology of the Augsburg Confession*, Article IV & XX; *The Smalcald Articles*, Part II #1 & III #3; *The Formula of Concord*, Articles III, IV

Someone asked Luther, "Do you feel that you have been forgiven?"
He answered, "No, but I'm sure as there's a God in Heaven.

"For feelings come and feelings go and feelings are deceiving.
My warrant is the Word of God, naught else is worth believing.

"Though all my soul should feel condemned for want of some sweet token,
There is one greater in my heart, whose Word cannot be broken

"I'll stand on His unchanging Word till soul and body sever;
For though all things shall pass away, His Word shall stand forever!"

--Selected