Reformation Sunday

Sunday, October 29, 2023

St. Paul's Lutheran Church 215 N. Warren St. Orwigsburg, PA 570-366-2316

www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org

GATHERING

PRELUDE "Built On a Rock" L. Larson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

We gather in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sins to the One who is faithful.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

God of mercy and forgiveness,

we confess that sin holds us in its grasp.

We have not protected your good creation.

We have failed to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you.

Turn us in a new direction.

Show us the path that leads to life.

Be our refuge and strength, through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.

Believe and trust in God. Take comfort in God's amazing grace. Know that for the sake of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

"A Mighty Fortress" [See back of bulletin]

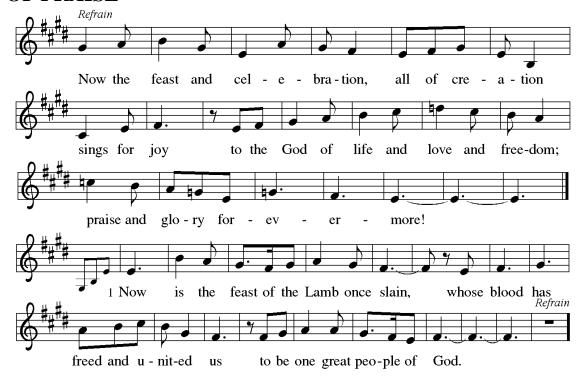
GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

KYRIE



HYMN OF PRAISE



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**.

Word

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 their husband, 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. (Jeremiah 31:31-34)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 46 (Read responsively)

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

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;

though its waters roar and foam,

though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help it when the morning dawns.

The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts.

The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Come, behold the works of the LORD; see what desolations he has brought on the earth.

He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire.

"Be still, and know that I am God!

I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth."

The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

A READING FROM ROMANS

¹⁹Now 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 his sight" by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

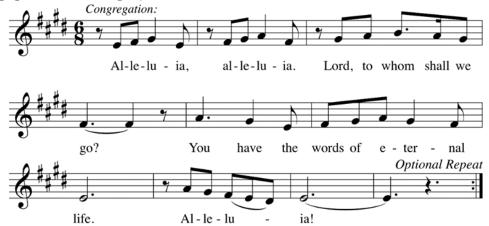
²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his 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. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he 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. (Romans 3:19-28)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹Jesus 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. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed." (John 8:31-36)

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

"God Loved the World" [See back of bulletin]

THE NICENE CREED (Read in unison)

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;

by the power of the Holy Spirit

he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.

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.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified,

He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Trusting in the transformative power of God's loving Spirit, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Almighty God, bring understanding and peace where there has been contention and strife. Make wars to cease and violence to end. Unite us in one body through the love of Christ. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Creator God, bring relief to areas harmed by wildfires, floods, storms, and human carelessness. Give us wisdom and perseverance to be good stewards of all that you have made. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful God, you are our refuge and strength, a very present help in times of trouble. Draw near to all who suffer in mind, body, or spirit. We especially pray for everyone on our prayer list. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious God, teach us to give you thanks for the life that you have given to us. Daily renew our faith and give us hope for tomorrow. Keep our eyes fixed on your heavenly prize. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Eternal God, free us from complacency, open us up to new possibilities, and give us a passion to lovingly serve all who are in need. Protect our young people from Satan's deceptions and snares. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Redeeming God, you made yourself known in the lives of all who have lived and died in faith. We give thanks for the witness of reformers like Martin Luther and for all whose example has brought us closer to you. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

(*The Pastor concludes*): Gracious God, into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your unending love and amazing grace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC (8 AM) "O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

H. Willan

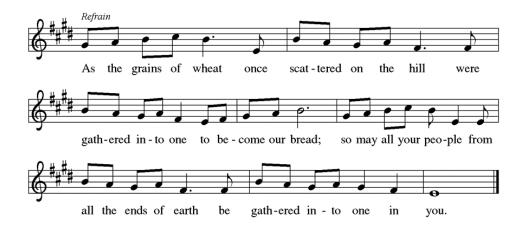
ANTHEM (10:30 AM)

"Our Help, Our Hope, Our Home"*

J. Martin

OFFERTORY HYMN

"As the Grains of Wheat"



OFFERTORY PRAYER

Gracious God, in your love you provide for all our needs. Multiply these gifts which we bring to you and increase our faith so that we are always ready to share every good gift with those in need; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

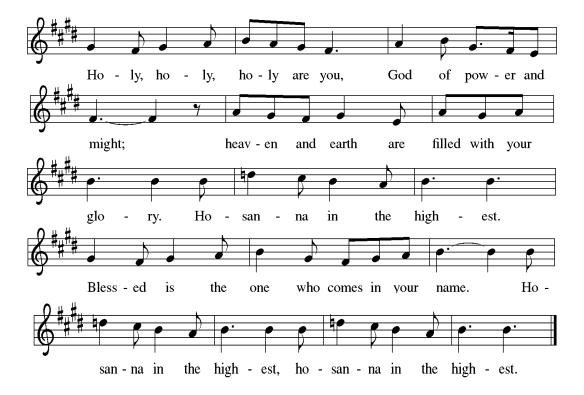
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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, therefore, his life given for us and his rising from the grave, we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, both now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

INSTRUCTIONS

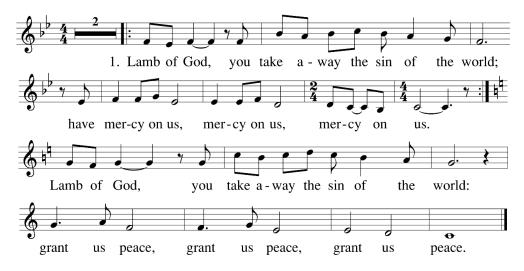
All who are baptized and seek forgiveness of their sins and the promise of eternal life in Jesus Christ are welcome to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion by intinction. Communicants may dip a wafer of bread (the Body of Christ) into a chalice of wine (the Blood of Christ) before consuming it. After you have received the Sacrament, you may choose to briefly stand at the chancel rail before returning to your seat.

INSTRUCTIONS (Continued)

If you or your child would like to receive a blessing rather than the Sacrament, please come forward and say, "A blessing," or cross your arms over your chest.

Those who are unable to come forward should indicate that they wish to receive the Sacrament and they will receive it as they sit in their pew.

AGNUS DEI



COMMUNION HYMN (10:30 AM) "Built On a Rock" [See back of bulletin]

TABLE BLESSING

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O God of abundant life, you have refreshed and renewed us through this simple meal. As we journey, daily give us your grace so that we might serve our neighbors with joy, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

"The Church's One Foundation" [See back of bulletin]

THE DISMISSAL

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

Altar flowers are presented in memory of Rachel Zehner by Sonny & Connie Teter.

Bulletins are presented in honor of Joel and Cristi Ritschel's Anniversary.

*This memorial anthem is presented in loving memory of Debbie Moyer by Mary Frances Peiffer and Susan R. Schenck (2023).

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Sunday, October 29	8:00 AM 9:15 AM 10:30 AM	REFORMATION SUNDAY Worship with Holy Communion Adult Forum Worship with Holy Communion
Monday, October 30	1:00 PM	Rainbow Friends
Wednesday, November 1	6:00 PM 7:00 PM	Bell Choir Chancel Choir
Friday, November 3	10:00 AM	STiC Walk in Auburn
Saturday, November 4	5:30 PM	"ALL SAINTS" Worship with Holy Communion
Sunday, November 5	8:00 AM 9:15 AM	"ALL SAINTS SUNDAY" Worship with Holy Communion Adult Forum
	10:30 AM	Worship with Holy Communion

SERVING THIS SUNDAY (10/29/23)

8:00 AM

GREETER: Krista Harding

LECTOR/COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Amy Dewald

10:30 AM

GREETER: Tina Butler; USHER: Joanne Emerich; LECTOR: Jeff Ritschel

COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Sue Schenck

ALTAR GUILD: Hope Clarke and Madelyn Knecht

COUNTERS: Connie Teter, Glenda Bright, and Barb Sterner

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY (11/5/23)

8:00 AM

GREETER: Krista Harding

LECTOR/COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Amy Dewald

10:30 AM

GREETER: Greg Sklar; USHER: Deb Bolinsky; LECTOR: Wendy Schuld

COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Becky Smoot

ALTAR GUILD: Crystal Brensinger and Cindy Ritschel COUNTERS: Gwen Wehr, Tom Wehr, and Glenda Bright

BLANKET DRIVE FOR LOCAL SPCA

St. Paul's Women of the ELCA are sponsoring a blanket drive to help the Ruth Steinert Memorial SPCA keep their cats and dogs more comfortable during the chilly winter months.

Please bring your bags of clean, used (<u>but not knitted or crocheted</u>) blankets to our choir room prior to rehearsals on Wednesdays and prior to our 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday mornings. Sue Schenck, Tina Butler, or Cindy Ritschel will receive and Sue will deliver our donations to the Ruth Steinert Memorial SPCA. Our blanket drive will end Wednesday, November 29, 2023, but if you find additional blankets, just tell Sue, and she will take them to the shelter. THANK YOU!

WELCA

WELCA has been asked to host the refreshment table following the Thanksgiving community service on Sunday, November 19. A sign-up sheet has been placed in the gathering room for church members to donate light refreshments.

"FALL" BACK ONE HOUR

Daylight Savings Time will end at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, November 5 this year. Please remember to set your clocks back one hour before you retire on Saturday, November 4.

FOOD PANTRY

The Orwigsburg Food Pantry has asked St. Paul's to consider donating milk for their distribution on Saturday, November 18th. We are looking for monetary donations to be used to purchase approximately 150 half-gallons of milk. Any money given should be clearly marked as "Food Pantry-Milk Donation." Any monies that are left after the purchase of the milk will be donated to the Food Pantry. Please direct your questions to Karen Travor.

CHILI & SOUP SALE

The Men of St. Paul's will host a Chili & Soup Sale on Saturday, November 4, beginning at 8:30 a.m. "on the square" in downtown Orwigsburg. Come for great chili, tasty soups, and homemade baked goods. Please mark your calendars!

HALLOWEEN PARADE AND TRICK-OR-TREAT

On Monday, October 31, the Evangelism Committee will hand out candy for Trick-or-Treat Night from 6 to 8 p.m. (with rain date Tuesday, November 1). Anyone wishing to participate should contact Elinda Lado at 570-573-0898 or the church office at 570-366-2316.

REMEMBRANCE TABLE

St. Paul's will again have a "Remembrance Table" honoring our loved ones who have passed away this year during our services on Saturday, Nov. 4 and Sunday, Nov. 5. Our congregation is also encouraged to bring pictures of family and friends who previously have found their eternal home.

Please bring your pictures to the church gathering room by Friday, November 3. We will use the table and windowsills in the nave to give thanks to God as we honor ALL our saints.

LOOKING FOR A CHURCH HOME?

Please worship with us again. Take a copy of our monthly newsletter. Check out our webpage. Visit us on Facebook. Watch our weekly video on YouTube. And get to know us better! We are a Lutheran congregation with a rich tradition, but we are not old-fashioned. Everyone is invited to worship and work together here -- to the glory of God. Contact us at our church office at 570-366-2316 Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

ALL SAINTS

All Saints will be observed during our worship on Saturday November 4, and Sunday, November 5, 2022. The following is a list of members and friends of our congregation who have passed on since our last All Saints services: Heather L. Frantz, David C. Yuengling, Angela J. Miller, Deborah E. Moyer, Robert L. Schuld, William D. Tihansky, Shirley Z. Dull, and David A. Witman. If you know anyone who should be added to this list, please contact Pastor Mike (570-366-2316).

SHARE YOUR INFORMATION

If you have names and addresses of members who can no longer join us for worship (e.g., homebound, college students, military personnel, recently moved), please call Connie Teter (at 570-366-0255) or contact any member of the Evangelism Committee. Cards of support and encouragement signed by church members can lift the spirits of those who cannot worship with us in person.

"SECOND SUNDAY" SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our next Second Sunday School class will take place on November 12th! Children ages 1-10 are welcome to come upstairs during the 10:30 AM service for Bible stories, fun, fellowship, and a snack. Students ages 11 to 18 are invited to join me between the services (9:15 - 10:15 a.m.) for a teen Sunday School group. Please contact Sarah Eger with questions or to volunteer. (570) 394-3522 (cell) swoodring86@hotmail.com.

570-366-2316 - Ext 11 Reverend Michael T. Petresky pastormike@stpauls-orwigsburg.org Justin McClure, Organist/Choir Director 570-573-4076 justin@stpauls-orwigsburg.org Amy Dewald, Office Support Staff office@stpauls-orwigsburg.org 570-366-2316 Carl Heintzelman, Sexton 484-408-5152 Karen Travor, Treasurer 610-507-2797 karen@stpauls-orwigsburg.org Wayne Lutsey, Financial Secretary 570-617-9617 cwlutsey@gmail.com Jessica Swick, Social Media Manager 936-648-6809 jessica@stpauls-orwigsburg.org

"A Mighty Fortress" **GATHERING HYMN** for - tress is a sword and shield vic -1 A might our God, У ours can match his might! We would be lost, restrength of the land all threat-'ning to 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rious; and ject ed. But now a cham-pion comes to whom we trem - ble not, un - moved we vour us, stand; they fear for God him - self fights by side with it; The wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. 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, we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail; bat - tle goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way, he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no 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!

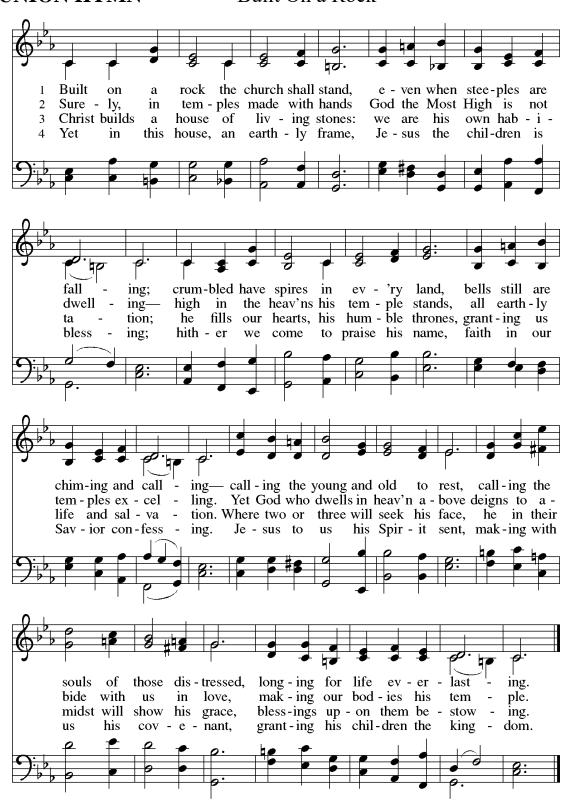


Due to escalating conflict in Gaza and Israel, a severe humanitarian crisis is rapidly unfolding. The ELCA and Lutheran Disaster Response has a history of providing support for our partners in this area. Your donations designated for "Middle East Crisis" will be used entirely (100%) to provide support to those whose lives have been impacted by disasters in the region.

Gifts may be given by check to St. Paul's Lutheran Church with the memo line "Middle East Crisis." Cash donations should also indicate that the donation is for the "Middle East Crisis."

COMMUNION HYMN

"Built On a Rock"



5 Through all the passing years, O Lord, grant that, when church bells are ringing, many may come to hear your Word, who here this promise is bringing: "I know my own, my own know me; you, not the world, my face shall see; my peace I leave with you. Amen."

SENDING HYMN

"The Church's One Foundation"

