

ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

*- CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION -
LAKEWOOD, COLORADO*



***FESTIVAL OF THE REFORMATION
NOVEMBER 1, 2020***

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*My hope is built on nothing less than
Jesus' blood and righteousness;
No merit of my own I claim,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.
On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.*

ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC)

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Thomas Schuetze, pastor (303-428-5524)

Ed Chiappetti, president – Mike Sprengeler, SS Superintendent

A Special Welcome to our worship guests. It's the prayer of St. Paul Congregation that your faith is strengthened today by the preaching of our Lord's pure Word and by the psalms and hymns and spiritual songs that our Scripture-based liturgy offers every week. We invite you to sign our guest book. If you would like more information about our church please speak to the pastor or members at your convenience.

For Pre-Service Meditation: Psalm 46 (pew bible, page 504)

Liturgical Notes: The colors up from have been changed to red for the Festival of Reformation. Red symbolizes the working of the Holy Spirit in hearts through the preaching of God's Word, as on the Day of Pentecost. The Holy Spirit showed His presence then in tongues of fire which came to rest on the apostles (Acts 2:3). Red, being the color of blood, may also remind us of the dedication of such servants of God as Martin Luther who were willing to suffer and even shed their blood, if need be, for the sake of the Gospel message of salvation by grace through faith alone in Jesus Christ.



**A MIGHTY
FORTRESS
IS OUR GOD**

*Large print bulletins are available on the shelf by
the tract rack or by request from an usher.*

*You may contribute an offering for God's kingdom work by
putting it in the collection plate located by the back pew.
There will be no offering collection during the service.*

REFORMATION SUNDAY ORDER OF WORSHIP

Opening Prayer

Hymn 523

O Word of God Incarnate

Welcome

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

Call to Worship

P Oh come, let us sing to the LORD!:

C Let us shout joyfully to the Rock of our salvation.

P Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving:

C Let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms.

P Oh come, let us worship and bow down:

C Let us kneel before the LORD our Maker.

P For He is our God:

C And we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray . . .

C Amen.

First Lesson

Daniel 6:3-12,16-23

Second Lesson

Galatians 5:1-6

Confession of Faith

Excerpts from *The Formula Concord*, Article 3

The Righteousness of Faith Before God

Luther's Explanation of the Second Article of the Apostles' Creed

P – It is unanimously confessed in our churches, in accordance with God's Word and the meaning of the Augsburg Confession, that we poor sinners are justified before God and saved alone through faith in Christ. Christ alone is our Righteousness. God forgives our sins out of pure grace, without any work, merit, or worthiness of ours. He presents and credits to us the righteousness of Christ's

obedience. Though many weaknesses and defects cling to true believers until they die, still we must not on that account doubt either our righteousness, which has been credited to us through faith, or the salvation of our souls. We may regard it as certain that for Christ's sake, according to the promise and immovable Word of the Holy Gospel, we have a gracious God. Faith alone is the means and instrument through which we lay hold of Christ and that righteousness that benefits us before God. This faith is God's gift, by which we truly learn to know Christ, our Redeemer, in the Word of the Gospel. We believe that the repentance that comes before justification and the good works that follow it, do not belong to the article of justification before God. After a person has been justified through faith, then a true living faith works by love. Good works always follow justifying faith and are surely found with it—if it is true and living faith. Faith is never alone, but always has love and hope with it.

All – I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary is my Lord. He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sin, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and His innocent suffering and death. He did this that I should be His very own, live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in eternal righteousness, innocence, and joy; just as He is risen from death, lives and reigns in eternity. This is most certainly true.

Hymn 656

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

The Sermon

Text: Matthew 10:16-23

***DEAR HEIRS OF THE LUTHERAN REFORMATION,
STAND FIRM UPON JESUS' WORD!***

As you abide steadfast in the Lord's Word . . .

1. Expect persecution!
2. Count on the Spirit's help!
3. Be confident of ultimate victory!

Hymn 660

Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus

Prayer

Lord's Prayer

COMMUNION LITURGY

The Preface

Tune: *The Church's One Foundation*

- P The Lord is with His people; now may He be with you.
C **The Lord is with His servants; may He be with you, too.**
P Your thankful hearts now raise Him.
C **To God we lift them high. Tis' right to thank and praise Him
Who to His world draws nigh.**

The Great Thanksgiving (Pastor) – It is truly right and salutary that at all times and in every place we should offer thanks and praise to You, heavenly Father, for You sent Your only-begotten Son to those who dwelt in darkness, that in the face of Jesus Christ all people might behold the fullness of Your glory. Enlightened by His presence, we join the praises offered by Your faithful people always and everywhere:

The Sanctus

Tune: *Hark the Voice of Jesus Crying*

**Heav'nly hosts proclaim Your glory, Holy, holy, holy Lord.
All the earth repeats the story, God of hosts by all adored.
Blest is He who comes, victorious, In the name of God the King!
Our hosannas, glad and glorious, To the Lord of all we sing!**

The Exhortation / Confession of Sins / Words of Absolution

P – Dear friends in Christ, it is your desire to receive the Sacrament of the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ for the assurance of the forgiveness of your sins, the strengthening of your faith in Him as your Savior, and the grace to serve Him with a God-pleasing life. In order that these blessings may be yours, it is necessary that you bear in mind the Word of God recorded by St. John in his First Epistle: “If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

I ask you therefore before God who searches the heart: Do you confess the sins which you have committed in desire, thought, word, and deed? Do you heartily repent of them, believe in Jesus Christ for forgiveness, and sincerely intend, with the help of God the Holy Spirit, to amend your sinful life? Then answer: “Yes.”

As God has given to you the Keys of the Kingdom of Heaven, and as you have called me to administer the same, even so, in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Words of Institution

The Agnus Dei

Tune: Hark the Voice of Jesus Crying

**Lamb of God, our mighty Savior, All our sins You take away.
Lamb of God, by Your great favor, Lord, have mercy now, we pray.
Lamb of God, our prayers attending, Never let Your mercies cease,
But, Your Holy Spirit sending, Grant us all Your gift of peace!**

Distribution of the Sacrament

The Nunc Dimittis

Tune: Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

**Lord, let Your servant go in peace, Your Word has been fulfilled:
My eyes have seen the Light increase Which for the world You willed,
For Israel's Light, the promised One, Now shines for all to see.
To God, the Father, Spirit, Son, Be praise eternally!**

Post Communion Prayer

The Benediction

I Thessalonians 5:23-24

P Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C **The One who calls us is faithful, and He will do this. Amen.**

Closing Hymn: 582

God's Word Is Our Great Heritage

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TODAY'S SCRIPTURES

First Lesson – Daniel 6:3-12,16-23

3 Now Daniel so distinguished himself among the administrators and the satraps by his exceptional qualities that the king planned to set him over the whole kingdom. 4 At this, the administrators and the satraps tried to find grounds for charges against Daniel in his conduct of government affairs, but they were unable to do so. They could find no corruption in him, because he was trustworthy and neither corrupt nor negligent. 5 Finally these men said, "We will never find any basis for charges against this man Daniel unless it has something to do with the law of his God." 6 So the administrators and the satraps went as a group to the king and said: "O King Darius, live forever! 7 The royal administrators, prefects, satraps, advisers and governors have all agreed that the king should issue an edict and enforce the decree that anyone who prays to any god or man during the next thirty days, except to you, O king, shall be thrown into the lions' den. 8 Now, O king, issue the decree and put it in writing so that it cannot be altered—in accordance with the laws of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be repealed." 9 So King Darius put the decree in writing. 10 Now when Daniel learned that the decree had been published, he went home to his upstairs room where the windows opened toward Jerusalem. Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God, just as he had done before. 11 Then these men went as a group and found Daniel praying and asking God for help. 12 So they went to the king and spoke to him about his royal decree: "Did you not publish a decree that during the next thirty days anyone who prays to any god or man except to you, O king, would be thrown into the lions' den?" The king answered, "The decree stands—in accordance with the laws of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be repealed." 16 So the king gave the order, and they brought Daniel and threw him into the lions' den. The king said to Daniel, "May your God, whom you serve continually, rescue you!" 17 A stone was brought and placed over the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet ring and with the rings of his nobles, so that Daniel's situation might not be changed. 18 Then the king returned to his palace and spent the night without eating and without any entertainment being brought to him. And he could not sleep. 19 At the first light of dawn, the king got up and hurried to the lions' den. 20 When he came near the den, he called to Daniel in an anguished voice, "Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to rescue you from the lions?" 21 Daniel answered, "O king, live forever! 22 My God sent his angel, and he shut the mouths of the lions. They have not hurt me, because I was found innocent in his sight. Nor have I ever done any wrong before you, O king." 23 The king was overjoyed and gave orders to lift Daniel out of the den. And when Daniel was lifted from the den, no wound was found on him, because he had trusted in his God.

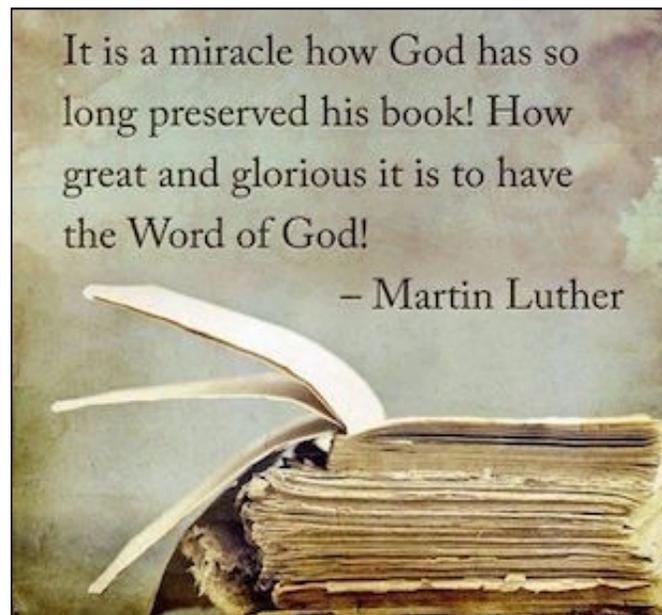
Second Lesson – Galatians 5:1-6

1 It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery. 2 Mark my words! I, Paul, tell you that if you let yourselves be circumcised, Christ will be of no value to you at all. 3 Again I declare to every man who lets

himself be circumcised that he is obligated to obey the whole law. 4 You who are trying to be justified by law have been alienated from Christ; you have fallen away from grace. 5 But by faith we eagerly await through the Spirit the righteousness for which we hope. 6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any value. The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.

Sermon Text – Matthew 10:16-23

16 I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves. 17 “Be on your guard against men; they will hand you over to the local councils and flog you in their synagogues. 18 On my account you will be brought before governors and kings as witnesses to them and to the Gentiles. 19 But when they arrest you, do not worry about what to say or how to say it. At that time you will be given what to say, 20 for it will not be you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. 21 “Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child; children will rebel against their parents and have them put to death. 22 All men will hate you because of me, but he who stands firm to the end will be saved. 23 When you are persecuted in one place, flee to another. I tell you the truth, you will not finish going through the cities of Israel before the Son of Man comes.



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today (11/1)	9:30 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	10:45 am	Sunday School (Reformation Lesson)
	10:45 am	Bible Class downstairs
	3:30 pm	Front Range Reformation Festival Service (<i>see announcement below</i>)
Sun (11/8)	8:30 am	Elders' Meeting
	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:45 am	Sunday School (Job, OT 58)
	10:45 am	Bible Class
	1-4 pm	Pastor Chad Seybt Farewell (<i>see announcement below</i>)

SERVING US AT GOD'S HOUSE DURING NOVEMBER

- Ushers: Wayne Ruegge, Joshua Ruegge
- Elder: Ed Chiappetti
- Communion Assistant: Mike Sprengeler

A FRONT RANGE REFORMATION FESTIVAL SERVICE will be conducted today at 3:30 pm, hosted by Redeemer Lutheran, Cheyenne. The service will be followed by a fellowship meal. Everyone is invited.

NEXT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, IS CHAD SEYBT'S LAST SUNDAY serving as pastor of Redeemer, as he has accepted a call to Wisconsin. Redeemer member Allison Collins is hosting an open house farewell for him & his family at her home from 1 to 4 pm. St. Paul's congregation is invited to attend! Allison's address is: 1130 Morningside Dr., Cheyenne, WY 82001.

A THANKSGIVING DAY WORSHIP SERVICE will be conducted at St. Paul on Thursday, November 26. The time of service is 9:30 am.

OUR THANKS to all who gave of their time and energy during our recent Fall clean-up day here at the church. A large number of projects and chores were completed to maintain and beautify our church property and grounds. The fruits of your labor help to present St. Paul in a good image in our community, part of letting our Christian light shine in the world. Thank you again!

LADIES' REQUEST: The ladies are again planning to prepare gift baskets for our St. Paul shut-ins this Christmas. If you have a basket you would like to donate (minimum 12-inches in diameter) for holding the gift items, please bring to church by the end of November. Thanks.

CALL NEWS: Recently colloquized pastor Johnathan Schnose has accepted the call to serve as resident vacancy pastor to Bethel Lutheran Church, Morris, MN. <> Aaron Ude, pastor of Good Shepherd Lutheran, Rapid City, SD, has been called by Redeemer, Cheyenne. <> Ted Quade, teacher at Messiah Lutheran School, Hales Corners, WI, has announced his retirement effective at the end of the 2020-2021 school year. <> Bethany Gurgel has returned the call to serve as ILC's part-time on-campus female mentor.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR HOME DEVOTIONS
NOVEMBER 2-7

Mon Daniel 6:10-12,16-23 Daniel was safe in God's hands, but Darius was caught between a rock and a hard place (14). Daniel's safety was up to God (16-20), right where Luther's and our safety reside also. The Roman Pope resembles Darius in allowing himself to be idolized and worshiped more than any human merits. [Now, let's figure out how Luther resembles Daniel.]

Tues Matthew 10:16-23 When Satan's wolves come into our yard, we might hole up and recoil defensively (as snakes do) or sit tight in our olive tree as *harmless* pigeons might do. Jesus and Luther faced their wolves, and wolves are circling again around many of our overseas brethren, forcing some of them to pack up and move to safer territory. Not to worry, dear friends, for Jesus will find you wherever you hole up or wherever you fly to safety.

Wed Galatians 5:1-6 What *liberty* is meant? Liberty from slavery under Satan, freedom from self-idolatry and release from the false notion that humans can earn salvation credits by decent, law-abiding behavior. In Paul's day it was the false doctrine that salvation depended on being painfully Jewish. Jesus put an end to that enslavement and set us free to serve God and our neighbor because we love them, from Greatest to least (6).

Thurs Psalm 46 presents cause and effect: because *God is our refuge and strength, a very present* (not distant) *help in trouble, therefore we will not fear* even if planet Earth convulses in earthquake and volcanic eruptions (1-3). Our refuge is where God feels at home on Earth (4-5), where His children gather (actually/virtually) in worship (7). The control panel is still in God's hands; He can counter man's warring madness (8-9), and perhaps He is using the pandemic to humble humanity (10). Now return to square one (11).

Fri Luke 21:14-15 Jesus' advice may seem counter-intuitive, but it's the best policy; Luther didn't know in advance what tricky questions and deceptive techniques he would face, but Jesus knew (14) and had responses on tap that would be indisputable and almost fool-proof (15). Luther trusted Jesus' good judgment on this, and so should we in similar circumstances.

Sat Acts 18:18-23 Although Paul's comings and goings seem haphazard, Jesus was at the control panel, so He guided Paul to lay over at Ephesus in order to lead Bible believers to Jesus as Messiah (18-21). After some zigzagging (22), why did Paul revisit the congregations in Asia Minor? Because Jesus knew that those novice Christians needed strengthening—which demonstrates that in-reach is just as important as out-reach. That's the protocol Jesus is still entrusting to our pastors and teachers. He who has an ear to hear

REFORMATION SUNDAY QUOTABLE QUOTES

- ◆ The soul of all reformations is the reformation of the soul. A man is not reformed until his heart is reformed, no matter how beautifully he may otherwise act and appear. –R. C. H. Lenski
- ◆ Reforms are generally most unpopular where most needed. However manifold the occasions of the Reformation, the Word, under God, was its cause. –C. P. Krauth.
- ◆ Luther's Ninety-five Theses were the world's Declaration of Independence. –Dr. Young
- ◆ When Luther opened his Ninety-five Theses with the words "Our Lord and Master Jesus Christ says, 'Repent,'" he struck the keynote of the Reformation. –A. L. Graebner
- ◆ The Reformation was a stroke whose crash filled earth with wonder, hell with consternation, and heaven with joy. –C. P. Krauth
- ◆ One day, while reading the Bible, Martin Luther's eye caught the words "*The just shall live by faith,*" and out of that sentence, as from a little seed, the Reformation sprang. It fell into his mind as an acorn drops into the soil, beneath which it bursts its shell and, rising a tender shoot, grows up into an oak that flourishes in the sunshine of a thousand summers and defies the storms of a thousand winters. By God's blessing on these few words, Luther broke loose from the trammels of popery, a free man whom the truth makes free. With these, as with a wedge, Heaven lending him strength and courage to drive it home, he split up and shivered into fragments the strong and hoary system of Romish superstition. "The just shall live by his faith!" Shall he? Then, if eternal life is by faith and not by works, man is not saved by doing penance ... and Luther swept that away. Nor by the merits of saints ... and he swept that away. Nor by indulgences or fasts or vigils, by voluntary poverty and sackcloth, by pilgrimages and by the prayers of the Church of Rome ... and he swept it all away. Thus working, as they say, with a will, with stout heart and strong arm, Martin Luther cleared away the rubbish which had been gathering for long ages above the true foundation of a sinner's acceptance with a righteous God; and on, and deeper on, he worked until he reached and laid bare the rock. That Rock was Christ; and there a jubilant world read these words, written by the finger of God in letters large and legible: "*No one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ.*" –Guthrie

UNDERSTANDING OUR FAITH – MARTIN LUTHER

As we come to the celebration of the Reformation, we hear much of Martin Luther. Martin Luther was God's "tool" in the Reformation of the Church. There had been many men before him who had dared to take on the establishment of the papacy. Some attacked the pope. Some attacked the wealth and politics of the Catholic Church. Some took on the life style of the papacy and the church. While many attacked the false doctrine and practice of Rome, the concern about the doctrine of Rome was Luther's concentration. Thus, while the others prepared the way, it was Luther through whom the Lord chose to bring about the Reformation of the church.

The Reformation which we celebrate had three principles: SCRIPTURE ALONE, GRACE ALONE, FAITH ALONE. When Luther posted The 95 Theses on the Castle Church door it wasn't his intention to leave the Roman Catholic Church. He was calling for discussion of *doctrine*. It was Luther's desire to bring the church back to the proclamation of the apostolic doctrine of which Jesus Christ, not the papacy, is the foundation and the chief cornerstone.

Today the church that was spawned by the Reformation and which took the Lutheran name is in a very disturbing slide. The majority of Lutherans have or are forsaking the three principles mentioned above as well as the Lutheran Confessions recorded in the Book of Concord of 1580. We must state clearly and emphatically that a church is not Lutheran because it says it is. The fact is that if what is taught is not SCRIPTURE it is not Lutheran. Compromise of the truth of Scripture was abhorrent to Luther. He would have a difficult time recognizing the Lutheran Church of today.

Some have mistakenly suggested that Lutherans worship Luther. Nothing is further from the truth. Luther as a self-described "maggot sack" is unworthy of worship. To worship him or any other man would be idolatry. Yet we do show Luther respect because of his steadfastness to the Truth as well as for the legacy he has left us. We thank God for having raised up a man like Luther at a critical time in the life of the church. To respect our fathers and follow their faith is Scriptural. The Bible says: "*Remember those who rule over you, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct*" (Hebrews 13:7). Our faith is not in the fathers. But neither can we ignore the fathers whose personal struggle led them into Scripture from which they set forth the truths of God. Their teaching is to be measured and judged in the light of Scripture. When we find it to be in agreement with Scripture we dare not reject them. Jesus said to His disciples: "*He who rejects you rejects Me, and he who rejects Me rejects Him who sent Me*" (Luke 10:16). We thank our gracious God in Christ Jesus for the Truth of the Word which embodies the message of salvation by grace through faith in Christ Jesus. We thank God for the strength He gave Luther to see the Truth and stand up for it against great odds. We thank God for Luther. Today the danger is not that Lutherans will worship Luther. The greater danger is that Lutherans will forsake the doctrines of Scripture for which he and others were willing to die!

-Daniel Fleischer, 10/10/99