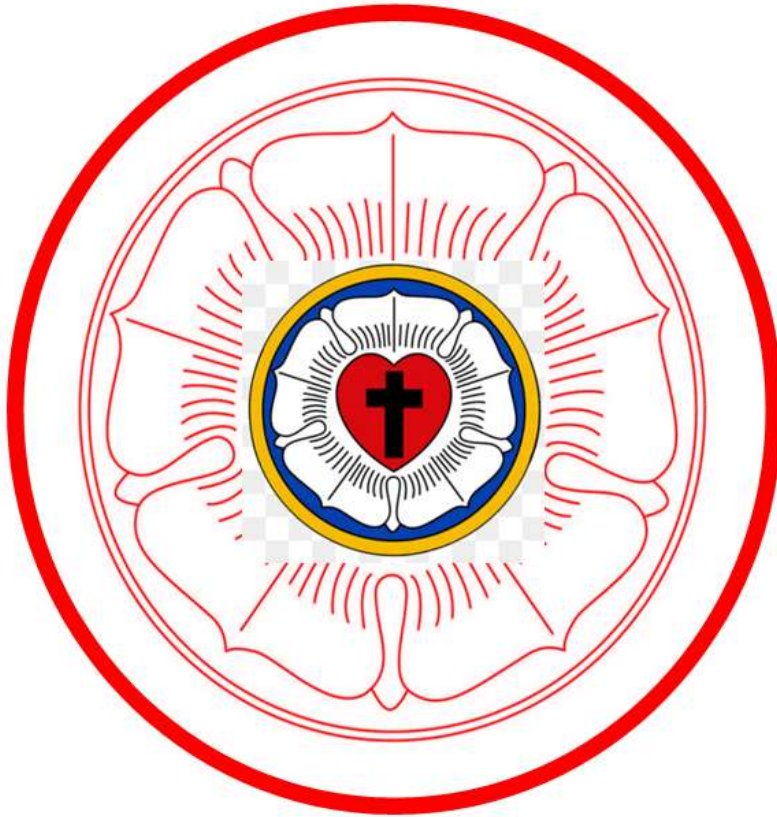


W elcome to W orship

St. John's E vangelical
Lutheran Church



Reformation Sunday
October 27, 2024

CHURCH: 419-293-3445

SJLCMcComb@gmail.com

PASTOR:

Reformation Sunday

October 27, 2024

Welcome: Thank you to those who join us for Worship. We hope you will be blessed as we pray and sing together, as we hear God's Word read and proclaimed. We gather as equals in the sight of God, who loves us, forgives us, and is WITH US. Peace be with you.

Serving at Worship Today:

READER: Linda Ross

ACCOMPANIST: Linda Ross

Your Servant Leaders:

Worship Leader: S.A.M. Bob Fett

COUNCIL PRESIDENT: Dave Sharninghouse, 419-293-2322 Hm.
419-429-2391 Cell

NWOS BISHOP: The Rev. Daniel Beaudoin

ELCA BISHOP: The Rev. Elizabeth Eaton

St. John's email address: SJLCMcComb@gmail.com

St. John's Facebook page: <https://facebook.com/SJLCMcComb>

Attendance Sunday: 15

Offering Last Sunday: \$465.00

Direct Deposit: \$90.00

Hurricane Relief: \$100.00

Food Pantry Items for October : We are requesting Shampoo, Bar Soap/Body wash for this month. Please leave it at the back of the Sanctuary. Thank you for giving.

FYI: Our Annual Meeting will be on Sunday, November 17th right after our service. Please stay, also we are in need of new Council Members.

Worship Assistants

Order of Worship

Reformation Sunday, October 27, 2024

God is glad you have joined us for worship today. At the symbol ✠ assembly members may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked upon us at baptism.

**please stand, sit, or kneel as you feel comfortable.*

Pandemic update: we will continue monitoring the CDC and following their guidelines.

GOD GATHERS US

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND PRAYER REQUESTS

PRELUDE WITH SILENT MEDITATIVE PRAYER

Use your breath as a form of prayer as you listen to the music. When you breathe in, pray, "Loving God." When you exhale, pray, "help me to love."

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Leader: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **ALL: Amen.**

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Please take a moment for personal reflection.

Leader: Gracious God,

ALL: have mercy on us. We confess that we have honored you with our lips, but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues. The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes. In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves. We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in time of need, and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Leader: God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven. **ALL: Amen.**

***GATHERING HYMN #504**

A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD

***GREETING**

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

***CANTICLE OF PRAISE**

THIS IS THE FEAST

Refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us
free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and
strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.
Refrain
This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and join in the
hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and
might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,
for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: Let us join our hearts and voices together in the Prayer of the Day:

ALL: Eternal light, shine in our hearts. Eternal wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance. Eternal compassion, have mercy on us. Turn us to seek your face, and enable us to reflect your goodness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

GOD SPEAKS TO US

FIRST READING

JEREMIAH 31:7-9

Reader: Thus says the LORD: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel." ⁸See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here.

⁹With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

Reader: Word of God, word of life. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

PSALM READING

(responsively)

Psalm 126

Reader: When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, then were we like those who dream.

ALL: Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy. Then they said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them."

Reader: The LORD has done great things for us, and we are glad indeed.

ALL: Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like the watercourses of the Negeb.

Reader: Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy.

ALL: Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

Reader: Word of God, word of life. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

HEBREWS 7:23-28

Reader: The former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office; ²⁴but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. ²⁵Consequently he is able for all time to save those who approach God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

²⁶For it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, blameless, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens.

²⁷Unlike the other high priests, he has no need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for those of the people; this he did once for all when he offered himself. ²⁸For the law appoints as high priests those who are subject to weakness, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever.

Reader: Word of God, word of life. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

LORD, LET MY HEART BE GOOD SOIL



Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.



Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.



When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,



warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.



Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

*GOSPEL READING

MARK 10:46-52

Bartimaeus comes to Jesus with faith, asking that he might see again. Recognizing Jesus' identity, Bartimaeus is the first person to call him "Son of David" in the Gospel of Mark.

Leader: There is good news for us today and it comes from the gospel according to Mark chapter 10. **ALL: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Leader: As Jesus and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. ⁴⁷When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁸Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁹Jesus stood still and said, "Call him here." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart; get up, he is calling you." ⁵⁰So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. ⁵¹Then Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man said to him, "My teacher, let me see again." ⁵²Jesus said to him, "Go; your faith has made you well." Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

Leader: The gospel of the Lord. **All: Praise to you, O Christ.**

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

THE MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY #787

ON EAGLE'S WINGS

*THE APOSTLES' CREED

ALL: 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

***INVITATION FOR OFFERINGS**

Leader: As we present our tithes and offerings today, we remember that everything we have comes from God. Let us give with gratitude for all we have received remembering the greatest gift of all, Christ Jesus.

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE #186**

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Leader: Let us pray together.

ALL: Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

***PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE INTRODUCTION**

Prayer Leader: Challenged by God's Word in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole creation, and a world of people in need.

***PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Prayer Leader: Eternal Counselor, guide the church along your paths of mercy. Direct it to be a refuge where all are genuinely welcomed and their gifts are celebrated. God of grace, **ALL: hear our prayer.**

Prayer Leader: Eternal Nurturer, preserve natural places for rest and rejuvenation. Guide the work of conservationists, park managers, urban planners, gardeners, and all caretakers of natural spaces. Attune us to the wonders we disregard or fail to notice. God of grace, **ALL: hear our prayer.**

Prayer Leader: Eternal Wisdom, strengthen the voices of those who cry out for change to unjust systems. Give lawmakers, judges, and all those who occupy seats of power listening and compassionate hearts. God of grace,
ALL: hear our prayer.

Prayer Leader: Eternal Compassion, train us to respond to the cries of those in any kind of need. Give encouragement and comfort to those who call out for relief from pain, grief, or oppression. Touch those who are ill and struggling and be with those who care for the sick and those fighting disease. We pray *especially for* John, Gary, Paul, Sue, Betty, David, LuAnn, Colene Eva, Eric, Lise, Chris, Arlene, Bob, Don, Ashley, Pat, Kelli, Gordon, JoLynn, Bryant, Rick, Emily, Carl, Jim, Kolton, Ron, Cheryl, John, Shirley, Larry, Bob, Caroline, Marilyn, Bertha, Barb, Dana, Riley, Mr. Doherty, Kristen, Jennifer, Tony, Ron, Chase, Bob, Cheryl, A.J., Mavery, Caroline, Ethan, Brent, Richard, Deanna, Laura, Michael, and Cindy. God of grace,
ALL: hear our prayer.

Prayer Leader: Eternal Servant, grant vision and wisdom to the church so that those who are in need are not ignored. May the command of Jesus to love our neighbor sharpen our focus for work in the kingdom. God of grace,
ALL: hear our prayer.

Prayer Leader: Eternal Hope, may the legacy of the saints inspire us every day. We hold fast to the promise that we will be together in your presence forever. Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in the saving grace you freely give, both now and forever. In the unity of the Holy Spirit, we pray the prayer Jesus taught us saying,

***THE PRAYER OUR LORD TAUGHT US**

**All: 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**

***SHARING OF THE PEACE**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you always.

ALL: and also with you.

Please feel free to shake hands as you share God's peace.

Leader: Let the peace of Christ reign among us.

GOD SENDS US

***BLESSING**

Leader: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father, the ✕ Son, and the Holy Spirit.

***THE AMEN**



***SENDING HYMN #632**

O GOD, OUR HELP IN AGES PAST

***DISMISSAL**

Leader: Go in peace. Love and serve the Lord. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

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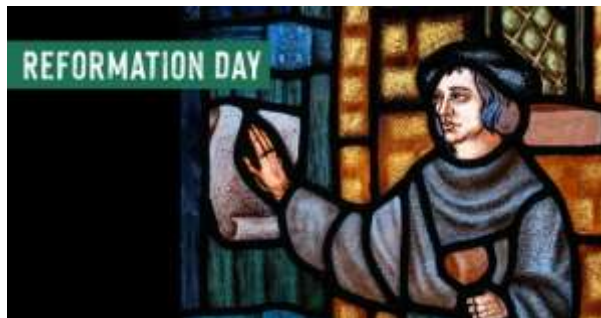
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## Reformation Sunday



On Halloween of 1517, a German monk named Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses to the door of Wittenberg Church. These 95 Theses expressed his concerns over corruption found in the Catholic church. One of his primary concerns was the church selling “indulgences” to people in order to release them from having to serve penitence for their sins. An act which he considered to be people trying to buy their way into heaven. This act opened up a debate with religious scholars of the time that eventually lead to the Protestant Reformation. Let us remember

that we are not just a reformed church, but a church that is constantly reforming while holding on to the love, grace and the mighty power of our God. **At the heart of the reform movement was the gospel, the good news that it is by grace through faith that we are justified and set free. The Reformation is still about Jesus.**



## **Calendar of Events:**

Sun. Nov. 3 - 8:00 A.M. Worship W/Holy Communion

Sun. Nov. 3 - 9:30 A.M. Sunday School

Tue. Nov. 12 – Lion’s Dinner

Wed. Nov. 13 – 5:30 P.M. Church Council

## **Readers for October & November**

Nov. 3 – David Sharninghouse

Nov. 10 – Lori McDaniel

Nov. 17 – Carol Cary

Nov. 24 – Linda Ross

**In Our Prayers:** John Sharninghouse, Gary Kern, Paul & Sue Maki, Betty Hornbeck, David Cary, LuAnn Beverly, Colene Shoop, Eva George, Eric & Lisa Kreh, Chris & Arlene Heiny, Bob, Don Edler, Ashley Edler, Pat Newell, & Kelli Sterling, Ann Cantrell & Gordon Myers. Pray also for the victims of natural disasters, our shut-ins, others absent from our worship this morning, all who grieve, and all others with special needs.

**American Legion Auxiliary:** Pancake & Sausage Breakfast, plus Scrambled Eggs, Sausage Gravy & Biscuits. November 10<sup>th</sup> (Sunday) 9am -1pm. **ALL VETERANS EAT FREE.** \$10.00 adults 12-61, \$8.00 seniors 62 +, \$7.00 children 5-11, FREE Children 4 and under. McComb American Legion 323 S. Todd St. McComb.

**Hometown Christmas:** Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup> from 4pm – 7pm We have agreed to bake 300 Sugar Cookies for the children to decorate again this year. They need to be to Judy at the Library before Saturday, Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>. We have the cookies already.

**FYI:** Our church will be donating \$200.00 to Hurricane Disaster Response. If you would like to help, there is an insert in today’s bulletin for Lutheran Disaster Response for Hurricane Helene. **You can fill the form out** and send it yourself to the address on the form, **or you can add it to your check** and write on the memo line a note stating the amount, with the form, and we can send it in all together.

## How does Lutheran Disaster Response work?

Lutheran Disaster Response is the ELCA's ministry to provide short- and long-term recovery when disasters strike in the United States and around the world. Lutheran Disaster Response works closely with ELCA synods, global companion churches, Lutheran social ministry organizations — including Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service and Lutheran World Relief — and ecumenical partners to develop responses that address local needs. Lutheran Disaster Response awards grants to partners, giving them the flexibility to address the needs of impacted communities. It also provides technical assistance, training opportunities and accompaniment through the relief and recovery stages. Additionally, Lutheran Disaster Response works with communities in disaster preparedness, mitigation and resilience.

Lutheran Disaster Response abides by the principles of accompaniment, walking together in a solidarity that practices interdependence and mutuality. Every disaster is local, and local communities and organizations are best-equipped to address needs following a disaster.

## How much of my gift goes toward a response?

When a gift is designated to a specific disaster, 100% of it goes toward helping survivors and communities. For example, if you give \$50 to “U.S. Tornadoes,” all \$50 will go toward support for people impacted by tornadoes.

The general “Where Needed Most” fund helps Lutheran Disaster Response react immediately to disasters whenever and wherever they occur. It also allows Lutheran Disaster Response to address disasters that don't fall under any of the designations — such as the COVID-19 pandemic. The Better Business Bureau recommends that nonprofits spend less than 35% of their budget on overhead expenses; Lutheran Disaster Response is proud to report that less than 10% of its general fund is used for operations.

# Sermon Notes

Write 3 teachings or ideas you heard in today's sermon:

1.

2.

3.

Something I might do to put this sermon into practice.

Write a brief prayer relating to the sermon.

## Restored by Grace

The word for today is *restoration*. Both the Old Testament reading and the psalm speak of God's restoration of the people of Israel, gathering them from sorrowful exile into joyful community. The gospel tells the story of Jesus healing Bartimaeus, restoring his sight in response to his faith. Today



we do not have the same understanding of “clean” and “unclean” people; however, those who are sick still need restoration. There are people who are hospitalized for extended periods of time who need to be restored to the community. There are folks in nursing homes who long for the connections they once had to a worshiping community. There are people in prison who are cut off. There are even people who have been hurt or disappointed by the

church who need restoration.

This same Jesus, the letter to the Hebrews reminds us, is our great high priest who continually restores us to right relationship with God. This hope of restoration is echoed in the reading from Jeremiah. Here God promises to gather and restore the people of Israel from their exile.

This promise of restoration is acted out through worship. Much of what happens in worship is concerned with restoration. In the word, in the meal, in confession and forgiveness, we are restored to wholeness (and *holiness*) with God and with one another. In the sharing of the peace we act out the restoration and reconciliation we all need. In the Lord's Prayer we ask, “forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.” What is this if not a plea for restoration? This restoration is not through our own merit, but through the love of Christ and the faith we have been given.

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