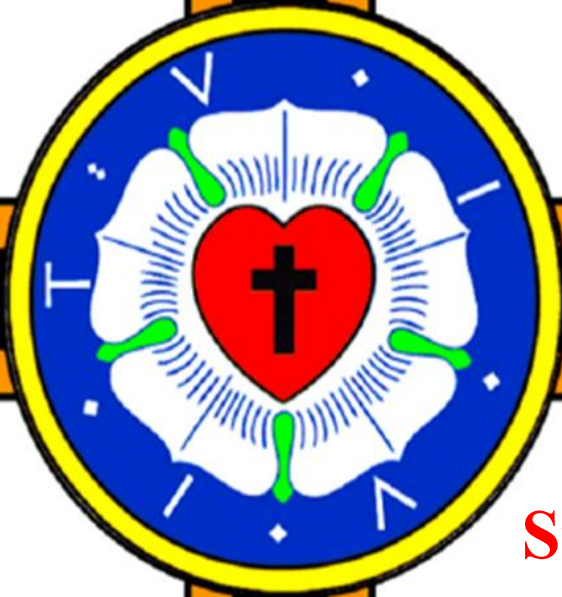
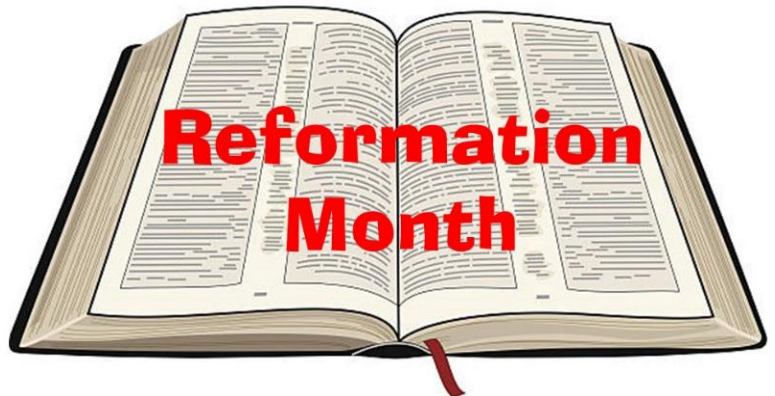


W elcome to

W orship

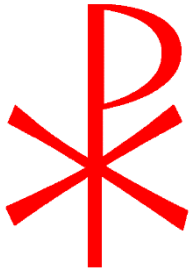


**St. Luke's Evangelical
Lutheran Church**



**Reformation
Month**

October 8, 2023



Disciples and Ministers: *All the People*
Pastor:
NWOS Bishop: *Daniel Beaudoin*
ELCA Presiding Bishop: *Elizabeth Eaton*
Companion Church: *Mwanawotta, Tanzania*
Web Page: <http://www.stlukesnb.org>
eMail: StLukesNB@gmail.com
[Pastor Rob's phone: 419-913-7506](tel:419-913-7506)

*Whether this is your first time with us or you have been here your whole life, **WELCOME** to the place where we stand together before God as equals. If you are new here and seeking a church home, please contact the church office at 419-257-3253 and leave a message.*

Assisting in Worship

Organist: *Janet Goldner*
Worship Leader: *JoLynn Stewart*
Scripture Reader and Prayer Leader: *Pam Van Mooy*
Acolyte: *Olivia Matthes*
Ushers: *Jill Guy, Zach Stewart*
Videographer: *Beth Williams*

To the Glory of God

October Candles: *Ruth McKee*
October Bulletins: *Nancy & Jim Wymer*
October Newsletter: *Nancy & Jim Wymer*

Choir rehearsals are Sundays @ 9:30 a.m. You may join us anytime. Everyone age 16 and older is invited to join us. Come and lift your voice in praise to God.

North Baltimore Food Pantry October requested donations include: peanut butter, jams, jellies, and preserves. Thank you for your continued support.



Order of Worship

Sunday, October 8, 2023

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

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE WITH SILENT MEDITATIVE PRAYER

Use your breath as a form of prayer as you listen to the music. When you breathe in, pray, "Gracious God." When you exhale, pray, "open my heart."

AN OFFERING OF CONFESSION

Leader: Blessed be God, the one who forms us, ✠ Jesus who bears the cross, and the Spirit who makes our joy complete. Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

Silent confession.

Leader: Steadfast and faithful God,

ALL: you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Leader: Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us. In ✠ Christ, you are already and always forgiven. **ALL: Amen.**

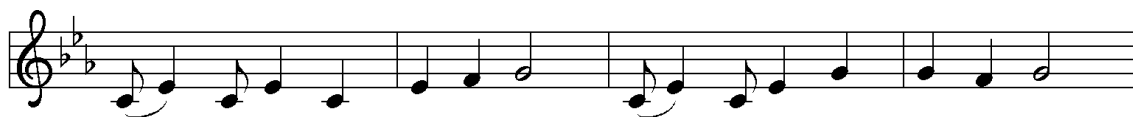
***GATHERING HYMN #793**

BE THOU MY VISION

***CONFESSIONAL RESPONSE**

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

***KYRIE HYMN #151**



1, 3	Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.	Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
2	Chris - te e - le - i - son.	Chris - te e - le - i - son.
1, 3	Lord, have mer - cy.	Lord, have mer - cy.
2	Christ, have mer - cy.	Christ, have mer - cy.



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.	Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
Chris - te e - le - i - son.	Chris - te e - le - i - son.
Lord, have mer - cy.	Lord, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy.	Christ, have mer - cy.

***THIS IS THE FEAST**

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,
 al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb
 who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and
strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 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.

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

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: Let us pray:

ALL: Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

GOD SPEAKS TO US

PROPHETIC READING

ISAIAH 5:1-7

Reader: Listen while I sing you this song, a song of my friend and his vineyard: My friend had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. ² He dug the soil and cleared it of stones; he planted the finest vines. He built a tower to guard them, dug a pit for treading the grapes. He waited for the grapes to ripen, but every grape was sour.

³ So now my friend says, “You people who live in Jerusalem and Judah, judge between my vineyard and me. ⁴ Is there anything I failed to do for it? Then why did it produce sour grapes and not the good grapes I expected?”

⁵ “Here is what I am going to do to my vineyard: I will take away the hedge around it, break down the wall that protects it, and let wild animals eat it and trample it down. ⁶ I will let it be overgrown with weeds. I will not trim the vines or hoe the ground; instead, I will let briars and thorns cover it. I will even forbid the clouds to let rain fall on it.”

⁷ Israel is the vineyard of the LORD Almighty; the people of Judah are the vines he planted. He expected them to do what was good, but instead they committed murder. He expected them to do what was right, but their victims cried out for justice.

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

PSALM READING

(responsively)

PSALM 80:7-15

Reader: Bring us back, Almighty God! Show us your mercy, and we will be saved!

ALL: You brought a grapevine out of Egypt; you drove out other nations and planted it in their land.

Reader: You cleared a place for it to grow; its roots went deep, and it spread out over the whole land.

ALL: It covered the hills with its shade; its branches overshadowed the giant cedars.

Reader: It extended its branches to the Mediterranean Sea and as far as the Euphrates River.

ALL: Why did you break down the fences around it? Now anyone passing by can steal its grapes; wild hogs trample it down, and wild animals feed on it.

Reader: Turn to us, Almighty God! Look down from heaven at us; come and save your people!

ALL: Come and save this grapevine that you planted, this young vine you made grow so strong!

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

DISCIPLESHIP READING

PHILIPPIANS 3:4B-14

Reader: If any of you think you can trust in external ceremonies, I have even more reason to feel that way. ⁵ I was circumcised when I was a week old. I am an Israelite by birth, of the tribe of Benjamin, a pure-blooded Hebrew. As far as keeping the Jewish Law is concerned, I was a Pharisee, ⁶ and I was so zealous that I persecuted the church. As far as a person can be righteous by obeying the commands of the Law, I was without fault. ⁷ But all those things that I might count as profit I now reckon as loss for Christ's sake. ⁸ Not only those things; I reckon everything as

complete loss for the sake of what is so much more valuable, the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have thrown everything away; I consider it all as mere garbage, so that I may gain Christ⁹ and be completely united with him. I no longer have a righteousness of my own, the kind that is gained by obeying the Law. I now have the righteousness that is given through faith in Christ, the righteousness that comes from God and is based on faith.¹⁰ All I want is to know Christ and to experience the power of his resurrection, to share in his sufferings and become like him in his death,¹¹ in the hope that I myself will be raised from death to life.

¹²I do not claim that I have already succeeded or have already become perfect. I keep striving to win the prize for which Christ Jesus has already won me to himself.¹³ Of course, my friends, I really do not think that I have already won it; the one thing I do, however, is to forget what is behind me and do my best to reach what is ahead.¹⁴ So I run straight toward the goal in order to win the prize, which is God's call through Christ Jesus to the life above.

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

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

setting 2 pg 124

ALL:

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Leader/
Cantor

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

ALL:

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*GOSPEL READING

MATTHEW 21:33-46

Jesus tells a parable to the religious leaders who are plotting his death, revealing that their plans will, ironically, bring about the fulfillment of scripture.

Leader: There is good news for us this day and it comes to us from the Gospel of Matthew chapter 21. **ALL: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Leader: “Listen to another parable,” Jesus said. “There was once a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a hole for the wine press, and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to tenants and left home on a trip. ³⁴When the time came to gather the grapes, he sent his slaves to the tenants to receive his share of the harvest. ³⁵The tenants grabbed his slaves, beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶Again the man sent other slaves, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them the same way. ³⁷Last of all he sent his son to them. ‘Surely they will respect my son,’ he said. ³⁸But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the owner's son. Come on, let's kill him, and we will get his property!’ ³⁹So they grabbed him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him.

⁴⁰“Now, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” Jesus asked.

⁴¹“He will certainly kill those evil men,” they answered, “and rent the vineyard out to other tenants, who will give him his share of the harvest at the right time.”

⁴²Jesus said to them, “Haven't you ever read what the Scriptures say?

‘The stone which the builders rejected as worthless
turned out to be the most important of all.

This was done by the Lord; what a wonderful sight it is!’

⁴³“And so I tell you,” added Jesus, “the Kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce the proper fruits.”

⁴⁵The chief priests and the Pharisees heard Jesus' parables and knew that he was talking about them, ⁴⁶so they tried to arrest him. But they were afraid of the crowds, who considered Jesus to be a prophet.

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

THE MESSAGE

*HYMN OF THE DAY #705

GOD OF GRACE AND GOD OF GLORY

*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

*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE INTRODUCTION

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

*PRAYER SONG HYMN #751

O LORD, HEAR MY PRAYER



O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call, an - swer me.



O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: come and lis - ten to me.

*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Prayer Leader: God of grace, **ALL: hear our prayer.**

We pray for Kolton, Ron, Jim, Cheryl, John, Fred, Shirley, Larry, Bob, Caroline, Marilyn, Bertha, Jim, Barb, Emelyn, Isabella, Mary Ann, Kevin, Shirley, A.J., Mavery, Caroline, Ethan, Brent, Richard, Deanna, Laura, Michael, Cindy, John, Gary, Paul, Sue, Teresa, Doug, Betty, David, LuAnn, Colene, Eva, Braxton, Eric, Lisa, Chris, Arlene, Logan, Don, Ashley, Beth, Holly, Tessa, Riker, Kelly, Al, Pat, Dan, and Cooper.

*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**



*PRAYER SONG HYMN #751

O LORD, HEAR MY PRAYER



O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call, an - swer me.



O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: come and lis - ten to me.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

ALL: and also with you

Please share God's peace using the "peace sign."

INVITATION FOR OFFERINGS

Leader: In gratitude for all that we have received from God let us now bring our tithes and offerings for the work and mission of God's church.

OFFERTORY

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE #182

LET THE VINEYARDS BE FRUITFUL



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be



fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -



nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your



pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

*OFFERING PRAYER

Leader: Let us pray.

ALL: ALL: God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you. Please accept these our gifts that they may glorify your name. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen

GOD NOURISHES US

*THE TABLE PRAYER

Leader: God of all creation, all you have made is good.

ALL: Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

SETTING #2 HYMNAL PAGE 129

Leader: The Lord be with you. **ALL: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts. **ALL: We lift them to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **ALL: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Leader: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life.

ALL: We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life and the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love. And so, with all the universe and the hosts of heaven, we join in praise and sing...

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the
 high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Leader: In the night he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, gave it to his disciples, saying

ALL: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

Leader: Again, after supper, Jesus took a cup, gave thanks; and gave it for all to drink, saying

ALL: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me.

Leader: For as often as we eat this bread and drink this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

DISTRIBUTION

*HYMN AFTER COMMUNION #313

VERSE 1

O Lord, Now Let Your Servant



1 O Lord, now let your ser - vant de - part in heav'n-ly peace,



for I have seen the glo - ry of your re - deem - ing grace:



a light to lead the na - tions un - to your ho - ly hill.



the glo - ry of your peo - ple, your cho - sen Is - ra - el.

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Leader: Please join me prayer,

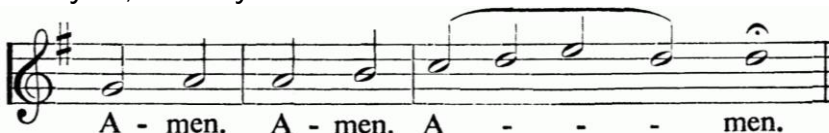
ALL: Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

GOD SENDS US

*BLESSING

Leader: The God of glory, ✠ Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever.

*THE AMEN



A - men. A - men. A - - - men.

***SENDING HYMN # 779**

AMAZING GRACE, HOW SWEET THE SOUND

***DISMISSAL**

Leader: Go in peace. God is at work in you. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE



ELCA “Hunger Appeal” Offering - Each week as we leave worship, we remember the poor by placing loose change offerings in the “hunger bowls” on the Information Table in the Narthex.

Please remember to stop by the Information Table and sign the greeting cards, reminding our members and friends that we are thinking about them.

TODAY’S WORSHIP COPYRIGHT PERMISSIONS

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- “*Be Thou My Vision*” TEXT: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860-1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880-1931 MUSIC: Irish Traditional
- “*Kyrie*” TEXT: Dinah Reindorf, b.c. 1927 MUSIC: 1987 Dinah Reindorf, admin. Augsburg Fortress.
- “*God of Grace and God of Glory*” TEXT: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878-1969 MUSIC: John Hughes, 1873-1932
- “*O Lord, Hear My Prayer*” Psalm 102:1-2; Taize Community, adapt. MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994 TEXT AND MUSIC © 1982, 1991 Les Presses de Taize, admin. GIA Publications, Inc.
- “*Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful*” TEXT: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923 Text ©1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress and music © 1993 Augsburg Fortress
- “*O Lord, Now Let Your Servant*” TEXT: Ernest E. Ryden, 1886-1981, alt., based on the Nunc dimittis MUSIC: Finnish folk tune; arr. hymnal version TEXT© 1925 Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress
- “*Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*” TEXT: John Newton, 1725-1807, alt., sts. 1-4; anonymous, st. 5 MUSIC: W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1854-1921, atl.

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Please help to keep our Prayer List up-to-date by notifying the church office of any changes, additions or deletions.

WE GIVE THANKS: for the Lay Leadership of this congregation. Thanks be to God!

MEMBERS: Kolton Williams, Ron Bean, Cheryl & John Kruse, Fred Husing, Shirley Heilman, Larry Slaughterbeck, Bob Kelley, Caroline Lieser, Marilyn Ziegler, Bertha & Jim Carter, Barb Williams.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS: Emelyn, Isabella, Mary Ann Webb, Keven Bickle, Shirley Hollowell, Cheryl, A.J., Mavery Breece, Caroline, Ethan, Brent Bradley, Richard Roberts, Deanna Griffith, Laura, Michael Sullivan, Cindy.

MILITARY: for all those who are in training and who are serving in the military & their families; the chaplains (*especially those in combat zones*); grieving families and friends of those who died while serving.

COMPANION CHURCH: Mwanawotta Lutheran Church, of the Dodoma Diocese, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania.

WIDER CHURCH PRAYERS: all ministries of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America), our presiding **Bishop Elizabeth Eaton**, all our bishops, pastors, and leaders of the congregations of the NWOS (Northwestern Ohio Synod), **Bishop Daniel Beaudoin**, and our 15 Central Conference congregations.

THE WORLD: for peace in our country and around the world. For the end of violence against one another. For world leaders to seek guidance from you.



Is God Calling You to Lead?

As we say “Good-Bye” to Pastor Rob, we must now focus on how WE can



move ahead in the life of St. Luke’s Church. While we have obtained a list of supply pastors from the Synod, we are seeking those in our own family congregation who are willing to step up and lead worship. We will continue with our list of scripture readers, prayer leaders, and those equipped to lead communion. We are now seeking those to lead the other parts for worship or just to deliver the sermon. Resources are available to help with sermons. Please contact the church office if you would be willing to assist in leading worship every

now and then.

The Next Step

The councils for both churches are meeting tomorrow evening with Sherry Krieger of the Synod and the Central Conference Call Facilitators, Paul Brooks and Pastor Christian Dittmar to move ahead with the call process.

Thank you to Brittany Vanaman, Lois Heilman, Pat Wheeler, Karen Krauss, and Jack Sterling of St. Luke’s and John Sharninghouse and Jerry McCullough of St. John’s for stepping up to serve on the Call Committee.

Let us all offer prayers of gratitude and prayers of guidance for these leaders.

October is Reformation Month

Let us not just reflect on the history of Protestantism on Reformation Day (October 31) but the entire Reformation Month. 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.

TRUST in the
LOVE of **God**
in the
midst of **CHAOS**

Sermon Notes

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

1.

2.

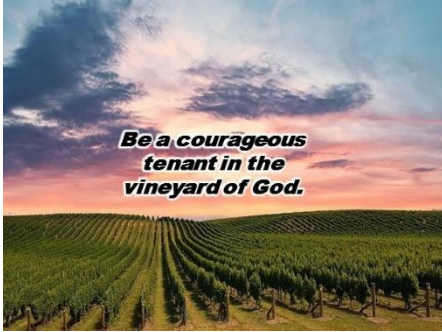
3.

Something I might do to put this sermon into practice.

Write a brief prayer relating to the sermon.

Jesus, Corner stone of Our Faith

God has showered humanity with gifts and blessings, but humanity continues to abuse those gifts. We have been entrusted with a creation to care for, and in our shortsightedness we abuse and pollute the earth, even bringing about the extinction of entire species. We abuse the gift of our bodies when we overindulge in food or alcohol or drugs. We have been given the ability to create so many wonderful things, and even this gift we abuse as we gather and keep as much as we can for ourselves.



ourselves.

This is nothing new. Even in the days of Isaiah it was clear the people turned away from God's gifts. God expected righteousness and justice. Instead the people responded with bloodshed and suffering, turning away from God.

Even if you can think of all the ways you have not turned from God and all the ways you have been faithful, it does no good. As Paul reminds us in the reading from Philippians, "Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ" (Phil. 3:7). Even all of Paul's good and faithful acts add up to nothing. For Paul, and for us, all that matters is Jesus.

As Christ himself reminds us, he is our rock, our cornerstone. Jesus is the foundation for our faith and the foundation for our lives. Even as we turn from Jesus, even as we reject Jesus, he returns to us with love and forgiveness. This is the grace of God, the love of God coming into our world and into our lives. To our joy we discover the open arms of Jesus on the cross, bringing life into this world even where there is death; bringing hope where there is despair; and bringing resurrection to all creation.

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StLukesNB@gmail.com

Church Office Hours M-F 9-1