Welcome to Worship

St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church



Reformation Sunday October 27, 2024



Disciples and Ministers: All the People

Pastor:

NWOS Bishop: Daniel Beaudoin

ELCA Presiding Bishop: *Elizabeth Eaton* Companion Church: *Mwanawotta, Tanzania*

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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: Bob Fett

Scripture Reader and Prayer Leader: Janet Goldner

Ushers: Jace McCartney, Guy McCartney

Videographer: Beth Williams

To the Glory of God

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

The Flowers are given by Peg, Bill, and Judy Roberts and Jane Leggiero in loving memory of Ingrid Cornelius Roberts, whose birthday is today, October 27.

Order of Morship

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 & 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, "Forgiving God." When you exhale, pray, "help me to forgive."

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

<u>Leader</u>: 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.

<u>Leader</u>: 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

<u>Leader</u>: 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.**





*PRAYER OF THE DAY

<u>Leader</u>: 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

<u>Reader</u>: 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." See, 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

<u>Reader</u>: 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

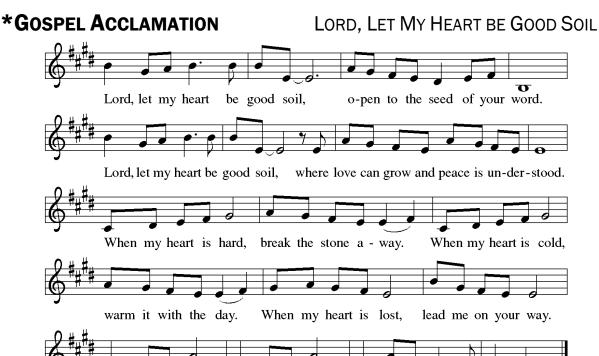
HEBREWS 7:23-28

<u>Reader</u>: 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.



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.

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

<u>Leader</u>: 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

<u>Leader</u>: 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

*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

<u>Prayer Leader</u>: 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

<u>Prayer Leader</u>: God of grace, **ALL**: hear our prayer.

We pray for JoLynn, Bryant, Emily, Carl, Jim, Rick, Kolton, Ron, Cheryl, John, Shirley, Larry, Bob, Caroline, Marilyn, Bertha, Barb, Dana, Riley, Kelli, Mr. Doherty, Kristen, Jennifer, Tony, Ron, Chase, Bob, Cheryl, A.J., Mavery, Caroline, Ethan, Brent, Richard, Deanna, Laura, Michael, Cindy, John, Gary, Paul, Sue, Betty, David, LuAnn, Colene, Eva, Eric, Lisa, Chris, Arlene, Bob, Don, Ashley, Pat, and Gordon.



***SHARING OF THE PEACE**

<u>Leader</u>: 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.

<u>Leader</u>: Let the peace of Christ reign among us.

GOD NOURISHES US

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

<u>Leader</u>: God's love binds us together. Grace comes to us through Christ Jesus. The Spirit moves among us giving us life.

ALL: All praise to God who is holy, almighty, and merciful.

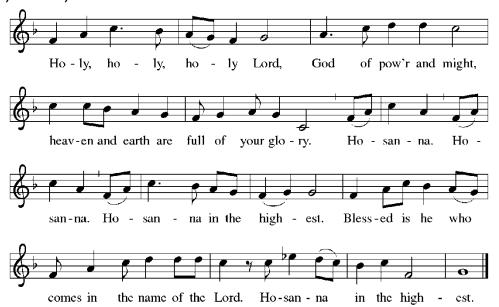
<u>Leader</u>: As children of God, in baptism, we were sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

ALL: With our hearts lifted high, we give God thanks and praise.

<u>Leader</u>: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, Holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, who in the multitude of your saints did surround us with so great a cloud of witnesses that we, rejoicing in their fellowship, may run with patience the race that is set before us and, together with them, may receive the crown of glory that does not fade away. Therefore, give thanks to the One who raises us to new life and sing to the God of everlasting love.

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

SETTING 3 HYMNAL PAGE 144



*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

<u>Leader</u>: Our Lord Jesus Christ, in the night when he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is my body, given to you. This do in remembrance of me." In the same way, he took the cup after supper, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them saying, "Drink of it all of you. This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do in remembrance of me." **ALL: Amen**

<u>Leader</u>: With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith;

ALL: We believe that Christ died for us.

We affirm that Christ was raised.

We proclaim that Christ will come again.

<u>Leader</u>: 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

*Invitation to Communion

<u>Leader</u>: Jesus invites all to this table. Come, here is your God.

DISTRIBUTION

*TABLE BLESSING

<u>Leader</u>: Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever. **ALL: Amen**

*HYMN AFTER COMMUNION #182

LET THE VINEYARDS BE FRUITFUL

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Leader: Please join with me in prayer,

ALL: Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GOD SENDS US

*BLESSING

<u>Leader</u>: 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 \maltese give you peace. In the name of the Father, the \maltese 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

As we leave worship each week, we remember the poor around the world by placing loose offerings in the "hunger bowls" on the Information Table in the Narthex. These gifts are then forwarded to the ELCA World Hunger Program.

North Baltimore Food Pantry October requested donations include: <u>bar or liquid soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste</u>. Without our help, some families in our community will go without. Please give generously.

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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 <u>still</u> about Jesus.



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 church always reforming. Thanks be to God!

MEMBERS: JoLynn Stewart, Bryant Matthes, Emily Meyerson, Carl Lieser, Jim Wymer, Rick Van Mooy, Kolton Williams, Ron Bean, Cheryl & John Kruse, Shirley Heilman,

Larry Slaughterbeck, Bob Kelley, Caroline Lieser, Marilyn Ziegler, Bertha Carter, Barb Williams.

<u>FAMILY AND FRIENDS</u>: Riley Guy, Kelli Sterling, Mr. Doherty (father of Caroline Lieser), Kristen, Jennifer Dochod, Tony Matthes, Ron Stewart, Chase, Bob, 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.

<u>COMPANION CHURCH</u>: Mwanawotta Lutheran Church, of the Dodoma Diocese, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania.

<u>WIDER CHURCH PRAYERS</u>: all ministries of the ELCA (<u>E</u>vangelical <u>L</u>utheran <u>C</u>hurch in <u>A</u>merica), our presiding <u>Bishop Elizabeth Eaton</u>, all our bishops, pastors, and leaders of the congregations of the <u>NWOS</u> (<u>Northwestern Ohio Synod</u>), <u>Bishop Daniel Beaudoin</u>, and our 15 Central Conference congregations.

<u>THE WORLD</u>: 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.



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.