



October 25, 2020 - FESTIVAL OF THE REFORMATION

As We Gather

At the time of the Reformation, people like Martin Luther took a strong stand on three basic tenets of theology: namely, that it is by grace alone that we are saved, it is from Scripture alone that the church receives its doctrine, and it is by faith alone in God's grace, not by our good works, that we are justified before God. Grace alone, Scripture alone, and faith alone became watch words of the Reformation. They remain and will always be glorious truths for Christ's Church to uphold in every generation.

Welcome

Hymn: LSB 656 "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" (Please stand for vs. 3)

- 1. A mighty fortress is our God, A trusty shield and weapon; He helps us free from every need That hath us now o'er-taken. The old evil foe Now means deadly woe; Deep guile and great might Are his dread arms in fight; On earth is not his equal.**
- 2. Though devils all the world should fill, All eager to devour us, We tremble not, we fear no ill; They shall not over-power us, This world's prince may still Scowl fierce as he will. He can harm us none, He's judged, the deed is done; One little word can fell him.**
- 3. The Word they still shall let remain Nor any thanks have for it; He by our side upon the plain with His good gifts and Spirit. And take they our life, Goods, fame, child, and wife, Though these all be gone, Our victory has been won; The Kingdom ours remaineth.**

Invocation:

Pastor: It is by grace alone that God calls us by His name.

People: **It is by grace alone that we are able to worship Him.**

Pastor: It is in celebration of God's amazing grace that we worship today, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **In the name in which we were baptized, we offer our sacrifice of praise. Amen.**

We Confess Our Sins and Hear God's Word of Grace

Pastor: It is by grace alone that we are saved. How glad we are that this is true! For today we come in confession, realizing that we are indeed totally unworthy of God's forgiveness and love. Yet we confess our sin honestly to God, because we know of His grace. Confident that we will hear His gracious word of forgiveness, we now repent and make confession of our sin.

(Moment of silence for personal confession and reflection.)

All: **Holy and gracious God, we admit and confess that we are altogether sinful and impure. We have not loved You nor our fellow human beings, as we ought. We have neglected Your Word and its promises. Our faith has been lacking in zeal. Our works of love have been shallow and sometimes non-existent. Truly, we have sinned in thought, word, and action. We humbly ask Your forgiveness, for Jesus' sake.**

Pastor: God has heard our confession. For His mercy's sake, on account of the merits of Jesus Christ, I as a called and ordained servant of God, announce to you the forgiveness of all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Rejoice now in His grace, empowered to serve the Lord and sing His praise. Amen.

Hymn: of Praise: LSB 578 "Thy Strong Word"

1. **Thy strong word did cleave the darkness; At Thy speaking it was done, For created light we thank Thee, While Thine ordered seasons run. Alleluia, Alleluia! Praise to Thee who light doth send! Alleluia, Alleluia! Alleluia without end!**
2. **Thy strong Word bespeaks us righteous; Bright with Thine own holiness, Glorious now, we press toward glory, And our lives our hopes confess. Alleluia, Alleluia! Praise to Thee who light doth send! Alleluia, Alleluia! Alleluia without end!**
3. **From the cross Thy wisdom shining Breaketh forth in conquering might; From the cross forever beameth, All Thy bright redeeming light. Alleluia, Alleluia! Praise to Thee who light doth send! Alleluia, Alleluia! Alleluia without end!**
4. **Give us lips to sing Thy glory, Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim, Throats that shout the hope that fills us, Mouths to speak Thy holy name. Alleluia, Alleluia! May the light which Thou dost send Fill our songs with Alleluias, Alleluias without end!**

Prayer of the Day:

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray:

O Lord, in every generation through prophet and preacher, You have called and gathered Your people through Your Word. Raise up faithful voices in our own time who will speak Your Word of truth so that many may come to the knowledge of Your Son, be declared righteous and just through faith in Him, and live in the peace of Christ until He comes again in His glory; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Scripture Readings

Pastor: As we turn to God's Word for this day, we remember how important the Scriptures were for the reformers. On Scripture alone they took their stand against the powerful but misguided institutions of church and state; Scripture was given to the common people to read; and Scripture was the basis for their hymns. As we hear the readings today, let us not take for granted this precious Word of God. We begin by reading responsively Psalm 46 which is one of the passages that inspired Luther to write our opening hymn, A Mighty Fortress is Our God.

Psalm 46

Pastor: God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in time of trouble.

People: Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth give way, and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, the mountains quake with their surging.

Pastor: There is a river the streams whereof make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells.

People: God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at the break of day.

Pastor: Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall; he lifts His voice, the earth melts.

People: The Lord almighty is with us; the God Jacob is our fortress.

Pastor: Come and see the works of the Lord, the desolations He has brought on the earth.

People: He breaks the bow and shatters the spear, He burns the shields with fire.

Pastor: Be still and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations. I will be exalted in the earth.

People: **The Lord Almighty is with us; the God Jacob is our fortress.**

Old Testament Lesson: Jeremiah 31:31-34 (Through Jeremiah God promises the people a new covenant.)

³¹ “The days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah. ³² It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to ^a them, ^b” declares the LORD. ³³ “This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel, after that time,” declares the LORD. “I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people ³⁴ No longer will they teach their neighbor, or say to one another, ‘Know the LORD,’ because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest,” declares the LORD. “For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.”

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle Reading: Romans 3:19-28 (Paul reminds that we are justified by only grace through faith in Christ.)

¹⁹ Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God. ²⁰ Therefore no one will be declared righteous in God’s sight by the works of the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of our sin. ²¹ But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. ²² This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. ²⁵ God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished— ²⁶ he did it to demonstrate his righteousness at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus. ²⁷ Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded. Because of what law? The law that requires works? No, because of the law that requires faith. ²⁸ For we maintain that a person is justified by faith apart from the works of the law.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading: John 8:31-36 (Jesus declares that In His teaching we find the truth which will set us free.)

³¹ To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. ³² Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” ³³ They answered him, “We are Abraham’s descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?” ³⁴ Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. ³⁵ Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. ³⁶ So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Hymn: LSB 702 “My Faith Looks Up To Thee”

1. My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior Divine. Now hear me while I pray; Take all my guilt away; O let me from this day Be wholly Thine.

2. **May Thy rich grace impart Strength to my fainting heart; My zeal inspire! As Thou hast died for me, Oh, may my love to Thee Pure, warm, and changeless be, A living fire!**
3. **While life's dark maze I tread And griefs around me spread, Be Thou my guide; Bid darkness turn to day, Wipe sorrow's tears away, Nor let me ever stray From Thee aside.**
4. **When ends life's transient dream, When death's cold, sullen stream Shall o'er me roll, Blest Savior, then, in love, Fear and distrust remove; O bear me safe above, A ransomed soul!**

Sermon: Matthew 23:1-5 "A time For Renewal Of True Religion"

Confession of Faith (We profess our faith using Martin Luther's explanation to the Second Article of the Apostles Creed.)

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, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death and the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own, and live under Him in His Kingdom, and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, even as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

Prayers of the Church

Pastor: Only in faith, O God, do we come to You in prayer, for we pray believing—believing that You will answer our prayers, believing that Your will is best for us, believing that You desire us to pray. Today we thank You for the reformers, for people who have taken a stand for Your truth and have had the boldness to proclaim Your truth to the world. For those like Martin Luther, who risked even death, but trusted in You as their mighty fortress we thank You, O God. Help us to take a bold stand for You in our often evil world.

People: We pray in faith, O Lord.

Pastor: For the gift of Your grace, O Lord, for freely given forgiveness, based on Your great love, love shown to us In Jesus Christ, we thank You. Since we are not only saved by Your grace, but live each day by Your grace, today we ask for special measure of Your grace upon each of us and upon this congregation.

People: We pray in faith, O Lord.

Pastor: We give thanks to You, O Lord, for the Holy Scriptures. They are truly a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. They reveal to us Your holy standard by which we stand condemned, but show more Your love and mercy by which we stand justified. May Your Word continue to strengthen our faith and guide our living.

People: We pray in faith, O Lord.

(Any special petitions will be included at this time.)

Pastor: And we pray all this in the name of Jesus, our Lord, who also taught us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

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.

Hymn: LSB 704 "Renew Me, O Eternal Light"

1. **Renew me, O eternal Light, And let my heart and soul be bright, Illumined with the light of grace That issues from Your holy face.**

2. **Remove the power of sin from me, And cleanse all my impurity that I may have the strength and will Temptations of the flesh to still.**
3. **Create in me a new heart, Lord, That gladly I obey Your Word, Let what You will be my desire, And with new life my soul inspire.**
4. **Grant that I only You may love And seek those things which are above Till I behold You face to face, O Light eternal, through Your grace.**

Closing Prayer

Pastor: Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out Your Holy Spirit upon Your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect them in all temptations, defend them against all enemies of Your Word, and bestow on the Church, Your glorious peace through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

Benediction

Pastor: Remembering God's grace to us, having heard His Word in the Holy Scriptures, having our faith anchored in Christ Jesus, we go forth with God's blessing. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

People: Amen.

Hymn: LSB 744 "Amazing Grace"

1. **Amazing Grace how sweet the sound That saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but now am found, Was blind but now I see!**
2. **Through many dangers, toils, and snares I have already come; His grace has brought me safe thus far, His grace will lead me home.**
3. **When we've been there ten thousand years, Bright shining as the sun, We've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.**



ANNOUNCEMENTS for Week of October 25, 2020

Grace Lutheran Church 1120 S. Park Ave. Aurora, MO
Church: 417-678-3603 Pastor Ken Lampe Cell: 417-366-3597
pastor@gracelutheranaurora.com

PRAY FOR: Michael & Amy Garoutte and Homebound Families
Immanuel, Joplin - Rev. Gregory Mech

Prayers of Condolence

Chris Meadows – (Son of a Friend of Sue Doss – peace and comfort to the family on his passing)
 Bill Oldfield – (Peace and comfort for Sherry Oldfield at death of her husband)

- Cody Priest – (Nephew of Dennis Doss – health and healing from a broken leg)
- Don Blalack – (Brother-in-law of Gladys Bauer – health and healing)
- Pastor Cliff Loman – (Health and healing from blood clots)
- Michael Lampe – (Pastor's son – health and healing)
- Vincent Lindstrom – (Joan Wolf's Dad – health and healing)
- Mary Cantrell – (Sister of Edith Chambers – health and healing)
- Tonya Janes – (Friend of Jennifer Lampe – health and healing from cancer)
- Bob Painter – (Friend of David Lampe - Health and healing from surgery)
- Brenda Winkle - (Friend of Heidi Costello - health and healing)
- Samantha Kennedy - (Friend of Cheryl Lile – health and healing)
- Corey Gregory - (Friend of Leah Henbest—health and healing)

Rick Knutson – (Friend of Grace - health and healing)
 Milton Johnson – (Friend of David Lampe – health and healing)
 Cindy Yang – (Friend of Kathy Holle - health and healing from cancer)
 Kamryn Rockett – (Granddaughter of Jeeper Meyer - health and healing after a car accident)
 Courtney Lynne Thurmon – (Daughter of Cindy Springer – peace and healing from cancer)
 Helen Springer - (health and healing)

THIS WEEK

Sunday	October 25th	Service ONLY – 10:00 am
Wednesday	October 28th	Pastor on Vacation Bible Study – 7:00 pm
Thursday	October 29th	Pastor on Vacation
Saturday	October 31st	Halloween Fall back 1 Hour
Sunday	November 1st	Service ONLY – 10:00 am

Birthdays this week: None
Anniversaries: None



TIME CHANGE REMINDER: Set your clocks back 1 hour next Saturday Evening.

Pastor is on vacation this week. Contact an Elder if you have pastoral needs.

THANK YOU – to all who helped in cleanup around the church last week!

Plus One will be collecting socks and underwear for the Blue Barrel Project for the month of "Socktober". Please consider contributing and supporting our school. Check the church website for more information.

Grace Delegate for District Convention: Grace can send a Delegate and Alternate to the Missouri District convention in Columbia, MO, on June 13-15, 2021. If you have an interest, see Pastor or an Elder before November 22nd.

Grace Nominations for District positions: Grace can nominate a layperson for Board of Directors, Council on Mission and Ministry, and Committee on Nominations. If you have an interest, see Pastor or an Elder before November 22nd.

PASTOR: Pastor will continue to have time at the church. But the best way to contact him is by his cell phone which you can do at any time (417-366-3597). If he does not answer, please leave a message and he will return your call.

Men's long sleeve button-up dress shirts are being collected by Sue Doss for the Dress A Girl program. This is a campaign under Hope 4 Women International – a non-denominational independent Christian organization that has been making dresses since 2006. The chapter working here locally is Dress A Girl Southwest Missouri. You can learn more at the Dress A Girl Southwest

Missouri Facebook page. If you have any shirts, please get them to Sue. They do not have to be new but they do need to be in good condition and clean.



<https://www.gracelutheranaurora.com/worship.php#sermons>

<http://sermon.net/for-the-listener/mobile-apps/>

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<http://www.gracelutheranaurora.com/>



<https://www.facebook.com/GLC.Aurora>



Plus One initiative for helping the school is:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1QH0uZtEhHfxX8Y60E6KWhjkhL1s0LkQOeM_KrbiKxkM/edit?usp=sharing

Thank you for your support!

October

GREETERS

25 - Bernie & Shari Smith

USHERS

25 – Charlie Chambers

November

GREETERS

01– Sue & Dennis Doss

08– Charlie & Edee Chambers

15– Bill & Joanne Michel

22– Dale & Diane Smith

29– Bernie & Shari Smith

USHERS

01-Bill Michel

08-David Lampe

15-Dennis Doss

22-Don Wolf

29–Charlie Chambers