SPIRIT of CHRIST
Lutheran Church

Welcome to worship at Spirit of Christ!

We are a member congregation of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod. We gather here as the living body of Jesus Christ to be nourished and empowered by the Holy Spirit in what we call the "Means of Grace" — God's gifts of Word and Sacrament. Through these Means of Grace, we receive the promise of the Gospel: that in the Spirit of Christ, God forgives us, remakes us, and reigns in us. May the Lord bless your worship today!

October 25, 2026 *Reformation Sunday*

As We Gather

Today in worship we celebrate the Protestant Reformation, and the call of Martin Luther for the church to return to the central truths of its faith. This call began with the nailing of the 95 Theses to the door of the church in Wittenberg. Luther emphasized that God's grace alone, making us righteous through faith alone, with the church's teachings shaped by the witness of Holy Scripture alone, are at the heart of the church's life. We celebrate that God makes us righteous through Christ alone, and it is Christ who serves us today.

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God *LSB 657*

1 A mighty fortress is our God,
A sword and shield victorious;
He breaks the cruel oppressor's rod
And wins salvation glorious.
The old satanic foe
Has sworn to work us woe.
With craft and dreadful might
He arms himself to fight.
On earth he has no equal.

2 No strength of ours can match his might.
We would be lost, rejected.
But now a champion comes to fight,
Whom God Himself elected.
You ask who this may be?
The Lord of hosts is He,
Christ Jesus, mighty Lord,
God's only Son, adored.
He holds the field victorious.

3 Though hordes of devils fill the land
All threat'ning to devour us,
We tremble not, unmoved we stand;
They cannot overpow'r us.
Let this world's tyrant rage;
In battle we'll engage.
His might is doomed to fail;
God's judgment must prevail!
One little word subdues him.

4 God's Word forever shall abide,
No thanks to foes, who fear it;
For God Himself fights by our side
With weapons of the Spirit.
Were they to take our house,
Goods, honor, child, or spouse,
Though life be wrenched away,
They cannot win the day.
The Kingdom's ours forever!

Invocation

P In the name of the Father, of the ✢ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Confession and Absolution

P Brothers and sisters in Christ, we have come together to affirm the truths confessed during the Reformation. We are here to worship God because of his infinite grace in creating us, in saving us through the sacrifice and resurrection of our Lord, and in working faith in our hearts so that we might receive his own righteousness. Indeed, without the promise of forgiveness, we would never admit to our failings but would, in our fallen nature, constantly flee from God. But with the gracious promise of full and free forgiveness, let us consider our sins and call on God for mercy.

We take time in silence to confess our personal and communal sin before God, confident that we will receive forgiveness

P The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. [*Psalm 103:8]*

C He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. [*Psalm 103:10]*

P Gracious God,

C we confess that we have failed to rely completely on your grace for Jesus' sake. We have presented ourselves as deserving of your love; we have expected your blessings. We have sinned against you in our thoughts, words, and deeds. "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." [*Romans 3:23]* **Forgive us, re-form us to trust only in your grace and mercy, and move us again to seek your will, letting our "light shine before others, so that they may see [our] good**

works and give glory to [our] Father who is in heaven." [*Matthew 5:16]*

P "God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ---by grace you have been saved." [*Ephesians 2:4-5]* "In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace."[*Ephesians 1:7]* As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by his authority I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✢ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Sharing of the Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

P We share Christ's peace with one another.

The people greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22-24; Eph. 4:1-3).

Sit

Nursery care for small children is offered from this point in the service through Holy Communion. Children may meet their caregivers in the back of the sanctuary.

First Reading *Psalm 46*

1 God is our refuge and strength,
an ever-present help in trouble.
2 Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way
and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,
3 though its waters roar and foam

and the mountains quake with their surging.
4 There is a river whose streams make glad the city of
God, the holy place where the Most High dwells.
5 God is within her, she will not fall;
God will help her at break of day.
6 Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall;
he lifts his voice, the earth melts.
7 The LORD Almighty is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.
8 Come and see what the LORD has done,
the desolations he has brought on the earth.
9 He makes wars cease
to the ends of the earth.
He breaks the bow and shatters the spear;
he burns the shields with fire.
10 He says, "Be still, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth."
11 The LORD Almighty is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Second Reading *Romans 3:19-28*

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.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse *LSB 205*

C Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ,
The Son of God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Holy Gospel *Matthew 11:12-19*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

12 **"**From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven has been subjected to violence, and violent people have been raiding it. 13 For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John. 14 And if you are

willing to accept it, he is the Elijah who was to come.
15 Whoever has ears, let them hear.16 To what can I
compare this generation? They are like children sitting in
the marketplaces and calling out to others:17 ‘We played
the pipe for you, and you did not dance;
we sang a dirge, and you did not mourn.’18 For John
came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a
demon.’ 19 The Son of Man came eating and drinking,
and they say, ‘Here is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend
of tax collectors and sinners.’ But wisdom is proved right
by her deeds.”

P This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Faith and Truth and Life Bestowing *LSB 584*

1 Faith and truth and life bestowing,
Open now the Scriptures, Lord,
Seed to life eternal sowing,
Scattered on the wind abroad.
Let not hearts, Your Word receiving,
Like a barren field be found,
Choked with thorns and unbelieving,
Shallow earth or stony ground.

2 May the Spirit’s pow’r unceasing
Bring to life the hidden grain,
Daily in our hearts increasing,
Bearing fruit that shall remain.
So in Scripture, song, and story,
Savior, may Your voice be heard.
Till our eyes behold Your glory
Give us ears to hear Your Word.

Homily

Stand

Apostles' Creed

P I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. What does this mean?

C I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that he has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them. He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life. He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this he does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey him. This is most certainly true.

P And in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead. What does this mean?

C I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from all eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from 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, just as he is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

P I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.
What does this mean?

C I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian Church he daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers. On the Last Day he will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.

Prayers of the Church

P Justified by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and all people in need.
Silence for reflection.

P For the Church throughout the world: where it is weak or corrupt, reform it; where it is strong and right, strengthen it. Embolden the church to witness to every nation, tribe, language, and people. Lord, in your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

P For all those whose lives are affected by war---military personnel and their families, civilians, and

enemy combatants: that the peace of God which surpasses understanding may overcome all hatred, heartache, violence, and despair. Lord, in your mercy,
C hear our prayer.
P For all who are stricken with illness, especially [names]: that they may be restored to health and wholeness. For the chronically or terminally ill: that they find comfort and hope in the promise of our eternal inheritance in Christ. Lord, in your mercy,
C hear our prayer.
P For all who travel: that they may arrive safely at their destinations. Lord, in your mercy,
C hear our prayer.
P For parents: that they raise their children to love and fear God. For children: that by the riches of God's grace, they grow in wisdom and stature and favor with God and man. Lord, in your mercy,
C hear our prayer.
P For those who are estranged from life in the Church: that by the work of the Holy Spirit they may return and enjoy with us the joy and freedom of sins forgiven. Lord, in your mercy,
C hear our prayer.
P In thanksgiving for those who have died in Christ: that we may follow their example of living by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. Lord, in your mercy,
C hear our prayer.
P For this congregation: that we use our reformation heritage not as a cause of undo pride, but humbly as an opportunity for baptismal living---daily dying to sin and being raised to live anew in Christ. Lord, in your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

P All of our prayers, spoken and unspoken, we entrust to you, O Lord. Hear them for the sake of him who by his death and resurrection set us free from captivity to sin, death, and the devil, and who calls us to live in communion with you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Stand

Preparation for the Lord's Supper

P I will go to the altar of God,

C to God my exceeding joy.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

I Men II Women

P Beloved in the Lord, it is our intention to receive the Holy Supper of our Lord Jesus Christ, in which he strengthens our faith by giving us his body to eat and his blood to drink.

II Therefore, it is proper that we diligently examine ourselves, as St. Paul urges us to do,

I for this holy Sacrament has been instituted for the special comfort of those who are troubled because of their sin and who humbly confess their sins, fear God's wrath, and hunger and thirst for righteousness.

II But when we examine our hearts and consciences, we find nothing in us but sin and death, from which we are incapable of delivering ourselves.

P Therefore, our Lord Jesus Christ has had mercy on us. For our benefit he became man so that he might fulfill for us the whole will and law of God and, to deliver us, took upon himself our sin and the punishment we deserve. So that we may more confidently believe this and be

strengthened in the faith and in holy living, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, broke it, and gave it to his disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you.”

Ⅰ **It is as if he said, “I became man, and all that I do and suffer is for your good. As a pledge of this, I give you my body to eat.”**

P In the same way also he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.”

Ⅱ **Again, it is as if he said, “I have had mercy on you by taking into myself all your iniquities.**

Ⅰ **I give myself into death, shedding my blood to obtain grace and forgiveness of sins, and to comfort and establish the new testament, which gives forgiveness and everlasting salvation.**

Ⅱ **As a pledge of this, I give you my blood to drink.”**

P Therefore, whoever eats this bread and drinks this cup, confidently believing this Word and promise of Christ, dwells in Christ and Christ in him and has eternal life.

Ⅱ **We should also do this in remembrance of him, showing his death—that he was delivered for our offenses and raised for our justification.**

Ⅰ **Giving him our most heartfelt thanks, we take up our cross and follow him and, according to his commandment, love one another as he has loved us.**

P For we are all one bread and one body, even as we are all partakers of this one bread and drink from the one cup.

Ⅱ **For just as the one cup is filled with wine of many**

grapes and one bread made from countless grains, so also we, being many, are one body in Christ.
I Because of him, we love one another, not only in word, but in deed and in truth.
P May the almighty and merciful God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by his Holy Spirit, accomplish this in us.
C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord/ The Lord's Prayer

Distribution

We believe that as we partake of the bread and wine in Holy Communion, Jesus the Messiah is feeding us with his own true body and blood. In eating his body and drinking his blood we receive the promise that our sins are forgiven, and that we will therefore live eternally with God. We also believe that this eating and drinking is a confession of our faith. If you have been baptized into the Christian faith and if you share our understanding of Christ's Real Presence in this meal, you are welcome to receive Christ's body and blood for your benefit. If you do not confess the understanding of the Christian Faith as expressed by the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, you may still come to the altar to receive a blessing. Please fold your hands to indicate that you will not be receiving the sacrament.

Wonderful, Merciful Savior *Bell Choir*

By Grace I'm Saved *LSB 566*

1 By grace I'm saved, grace free and boundless;
My soul, believe and doubt it not.
Why stagger at this word of promise?

Has Scripture ever falsehood taught?
No! Then this word must true remain:
By grace you too will life obtain.

2 By grace! None dare lay claim to merit;
Our works and conduct have no worth.
God in His love sent our Redeemer,
Christ Jesus, to this sinful earth;
His death did for our sins atone,
And we are saved by grace alone.

3 By grace God's Son, our only Savior,
Came down to earth to bear our sin.
Was it because of your own merit
That Jesus died your soul to win?
No, it was grace, and grace alone,
That brought Him from His heav'nly throne.

4 By grace! This ground of faith is certain;
As long as God is true, it stands.
What saints have penned by inspiration,
What in His Word our God commands,
Our faith in what our God has done
Depends on grace—grace through His Son.

5 By grace to timid hearts that tremble,
In tribulation's furnace tried,
By grace, in spite of fear and trouble,
The Father's heart is open wide.
Where could I help and strength secure
If grace were not my anchor sure?

6 By grace! On this I'll rest when dying;
In Jesus' promise I rejoice;
For though I know my heart's condition,
I also know my Savior's voice.

My heart is glad, all grief has flown
Since I am saved by grace alone.

Not What These Hands Have Done *LSB 567*

1 Not what these hands have done
Can save this guilty soul;
Not what this toiling flesh has borne
Can make my spirit whole.

2 Not what I feel or do
Can give me peace with God;
Not all my prayers and sighs and tears
Can bear my awful load.

3 Thy work alone, O Christ,
Can ease this weight of sin;
Thy blood alone, O Lamb of God,
Can give me peace within.

4 Thy love to me, O God,
Not mine, O Lord, to Thee,
Can rid me of this dark unrest
And set my spirit free.

5 Thy grace alone, O God,
To me can pardon speak;
Thy pow'r alone, O Son of God,
Can this sore bondage break.

6 I bless the Christ of God,
I rest on love divine,
And with unfalt'ring lip and heart
I call this Savior mine.

Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing *LSB 528*

1 Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing
My great Redeemer's praise,

The glories of my God and King,
The triumphs of His grace!

2 My gracious Master and my God,
Assist me to proclaim,
To spread through all the earth abroad,
The honors of Thy name.

3 Jesus! The name that charms our fears,
That bids our sorrows cease;
'Tis music in the sinner's ears,
'Tis life and health and peace.

4 He breaks the pow'r of canceled sin;
He sets the pris'ner free.
His blood can make the foulest clean;
His blood avails for me.

5 Look unto Him, ye nations; own
Your God, ye fallen race.
Look and be saved through faith alone,
Be justified by grace.

6 See all your sins on Jesus laid;
The Lamb of God was slain.
His soul was once an off'ring made
For ev'ry soul of man.

7 To God all glory, praise, and love
Be now and ever giv'n
By saints below and saints above,
The Church in earth and heav'n.

What a Friend We Have in Jesus *LSB 770*

1 What a friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!

What a privilege to carry
Ev'rything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit;
Oh, what needless pain we bear—
All because we do not carry
Ev'rything to God in prayer!

2 Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged—
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness—
Take it to the Lord in prayer.2

3 Are we weak and heavy laden,
Cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge—
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In His arms He'll take and shield thee;
Thou wilt find a solace there.

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious with you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✢ give you peace.

C Amen.

Thy Strong Word *LSB 578*

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 dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia without end!

2 Lo, on those who dwelt in darkness,
Dark as night and deep as death,
Broke the light of Thy salvation,
Breathed Thine own life-breathing breath.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia without end!

3 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 dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia without end!

4 From the cross Thy wisdom shining
Breaketh forth in conqu'ring might;
From the cross forever beameth
All Thy bright redeeming light.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia without end!

5 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!

6 **God the Father, light-creator,**
To Thee laud and honor be.
To Thee, Light of Light begotten,
Praise be sung eternally.
Holy Spirit, light-revealer,
Glory, glory be to Thee.
Mortals, angels, now and ever
Praise the holy Trinity!

Announcements

Sending

P Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Special music played by Eddie Kothrade

Serving in worship today

October 25, 2026

Pastor

Jason Neel

Elders:
Chuck Johnson
Wayne Chambard

Reader:
Wayne Chambard

Usher:
Jan Fuerst

Acolyte:
Abby Weinhold
Gemma Pierce

Organist:
Karine Platt

Nursery:
Gabrielle & Allison Fey

In our prayers

Celebrating Birthdays: Eric Skogerboe 10/25, Jeff Williams 10/25, Mindy Haselhorst 10/26, Nora Weinhold 10/27, Paula Bryan 10/27, Mike Matheson 10/28, Alissa Voegele 10/29, Ally Brynteson 10/29, and Kyra Bellrichard 10/29.
Celebrating Baptism: Grayson Olson 10/26, Jeremy Prince 10/29, and Bill Doig 10/29.
Celebrating Anniversaries: Harvey & Marlys Lindeman 10/25.

This Week at a Glance

Today	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service

	10:30 a.m.	Education Hour
	6:00 p.m.	Isaiah Bible Study
Monday	7:00 p.m.	Book Club
Tuesday	10:00 a.m.	Ladies Bible Study
	7:00 p.m.	Stewardship Meeting
Wednesday	10:00 a.m.	Isaiah Bible Study
	6:00 p.m.	Confirmation
	6:00 p.m.	Bells
Thursday	7:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study
	7:00 p.m.	Choir
Saturday	7:00 a.m.	Small Group Bible Study
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Bible study
	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	10:30 a.m.	Education Hour
	6:00 p.m.	Isaiah Bible Study

Notes of Information

S.A.G.E.S: Will be having a Bible Study on Friday November 6th at 11:00am. There is a copy of the new SAGACITY on the back table.

Stewardship: "*Treasure, too, you have entrusted, Gain through powers your grace conferred; Ours to use for home and kindred, and to spread the Gospel Word.***".** (Robert Lansing Edwards)

Phil's Friends: Packages and cards of hope are available for you to send to someone who has cancer. Please go to Phil'sfriends.org to order your gift of love. Please spread this news to others, it is a mission of Women in Mission, LWML.

NACE: North Anoka County Emergency Food Shelf is currently in need of all canned goods. At this time they are only taking Fall/Winter clothing. Thank you for your

donations. For more information reach out to Toni Peterson at 763-434-5665.

Book Club: Spirit of Christ Book Club will meet in the fellowship hall at 7 p.m. Dates and books are:
October 26 - The Dutch House by Ann Patachett.
November 23 - The Forgotten Home Child by Genevieve Graham.
December 28 - No book club.
If you have any questions, please contact Joan Mager.

Carl's Movie Minutes:

Flywheel Ignition of the Soul: The very first Kendrick brothers' Christian film. This one is a Brazilian remake with sub-titles. The story of a cold hearted and unscrupulous used car salesmen whose cutthroat lifestyle begins to unravel. He experiences a number of wakeup calls and he embarks on a journey of reclamation. It opened 10/16, but only at Inver Grove AMC, likely a short run.

Average Weekly Offering	$6692.00
Average offering needed per week to fulfill work plan	$7422.59
Actual Weekly Costs	$7072.00

Readings for next week:
Revelation 7:9-17, 1 John 3:1-3, Matthew 5:1-12



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Our Mission: To live in love for God and one another, reaching out to all people, proclaiming and sharing the love of Christ.

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