

St. Paul Lutheran Church, LCMS
503 S. State Street, Caro, MI 48723
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Rev. Richard Boshoven, Interim Pastor

REFORMATION (Observed)

October 26, 2025, 8:30 AM | October 29, 2025, 7:00 PM
Divine Service Setting 1 Abbreviated



AS WE GATHER

In our fallen humanity, we resist the reality that God is our mighty fortress, “our refuge and strength” (Psalm 46:1). We allow our fears to cause us to freeze when nations rage, mountains are moved, and waters roar and foam. We become afraid when life is not playing out the way we had planned. Our fears do not change the fact that “the LORD of hosts is with us.” Our God baptizes us in the river of life and promises us a place where “there is a river whose streams make glad the city of God.” This paradise and God’s ever presence are ours because of Jesus.



FOR THOSE DESIRING HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust in His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He

forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked first to speak with the Pastor. For further study, see Matthew 5:23ff; 10:32ff; 18:15-35; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.)

PRESERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME

HYMN OF INVOCATION

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" LSB 657

INVOCATION *(Please stand, spoken responses)*

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

EXHORTATION

1 John 1:8–9

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

CONFESSION OF SINS

Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

ABSOLUTION

[John 20:19–23]

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. 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.

Amen.

INTROIT

Psalm 34:1–2, 11, 22; antiphon: Psalm 119:46

I will speak of Your testimonies before kings, O Lord,
and shall not be put to shame.

I will bless the LORD at all times;

His praise shall continually be in my mouth.

My soul makes its boast in the LORD;
let the humble hear and be glad.

Come, O children, listen to me;

I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

The LORD redeems the life of His servants;
none of those who take refuge in Him will be condemned.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and will be forever. Amen.

I will speak of Your testimonies before kings, O Lord,
and shall not be put to shame.

KYRIE *(Sing responses)*

Mark 10:47

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us
pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Luke 2:14; John 1:29

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father:

We worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God:

You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.

For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord,

You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,

in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY: Reformation (Year C)

(Sing response)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people. Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and deliver us in times of temptation, defend us against all enemies, and grant to Your Church Your saving peace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

(Please be seated)

FIRST READING: Revelation 14:6-7

⁶Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people. ⁷And he said with a loud voice, "Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come, and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water."

This is the Word of the Lord. *(Spoken responses)*

Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE: Romans 3:19-28

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

²¹But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: ²³for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. ²⁶It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HANDBELL CHOIR

"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

HOLY GOSPEL: John 8:31-36 *(Please stand, sing responses)*

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

³¹So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." ³³They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?"

³⁴Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. ³⁶So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His

Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead

and the life ✝ of the world to come.

Amen.

(Please be seated)

CHILDREN'S SONG OF THE MONTH:

"I'm In the Lord's Army"

I may never march in the infantry, ride in the cavalry,
shoot the artillery.

I may never fly o'er the enemy, but I'm in the Lord's army.

I'm in the Lord's army, I'm in the Lord's army.

I may never march in the infantry, ride in the cavalry,
shoot the artillery.

I may never fly o'er the enemy, but I'm in the Lord's army.

CHILDREN'S OBJECT LESSON

SERMON

OFFERING *(Please fill out the fellowship pad in the pew.)*

OFFERTORY *(Please stand)*

Psalm 116:12–13, 17–19

What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?

I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.

I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.

**I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,
in the courts of the Lord’s house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

PREFACE *(Sing responses)*

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

It is truly good, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow’r and might:

Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.

Hosanna. Hosanna.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

LORD’S PRAYER

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI *(Sing response)*

John 20:19

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

AGNUS DEI

John 1:29

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT *(Please be seated)*

DISTRIBUTION HYMN: “Forgive Us, Lord, for Shallow Thankfulness” LSB 788

DISTRIBUTION HYMN: “Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness” LSB 563

THANK THE LORD *(Please stand, sing)* *[Psalm 105:1–3, 42–43]; [1 Chronicles 16:8–10]*

Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev’ryone what He has done.
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

Amen.

BENEDICTION *(Sing response)*

Numbers 6:24–26

Amen.

HYMN TO DEPART:

“Fight the Good Fight” LSB 664

LEAVING

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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