



**St. John Lutheran Church and School**  
The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod  
Reverend Jeff Caithamer  
revcaithamer - at - stjoh-lcms.org  
School Principal: Tim Gabbert

**Divine Service IV**  
*\*stand as you are able*

**OPENING HYMN 904** *Blessed Jesus, at Your Word*

- 1 Blessed Jesus, at Your Word We are gathered all to hear You.  
Let our hears and souls be stirred Now to seek and love and fear You,  
By Your teachings, sweet and holy, Drawn from earth to love You solely.
- 2 All our knowledge, sense, and sight Lie in deepest darkness shrouded  
Till Your Spirit breaks our night With the beams of truth unclouded.  
You alone to God can win us; You must work all good within us.
- 3 Gracious Savior, good and kind, Light of Light, from God proceeding,  
Open now our heart and mind; Help us by Your Spirit's pleading.  
Hear the cry Your Church now raises; Hear and bless our prayers and praises.
- △4 Father, Son, and Spirit, Lord, Praise to You and adoration!  
Grant that we may trust Your Word, Confident of our salvation,  
While we here below must wander, Till we sing Your praises yonder.

\*INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

**P** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** **who made heaven and earth.**

**P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**C** **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

**P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

**C** **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

**P** Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

**P** 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.

**C** Amen.

\*SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT

KYRIE: **Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS - *Glory to God in the Highest*

1 To God on high be glory And peace to all the earth;  
Good will from God in heaven Proclaimed at Jeus' birth! We praise and bless  
You, Father; Yourholy name, we sing -  
Our thanks for your great glory, Lord God, our heav'nly King.

2 To You, O solebegotten, The Father's Son, we pray;  
O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away.  
Have mercy on us, Jesus; Receive our heart felt cry,  
Where You in Pow'r are seated At God's right hand on high.

3 For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord.  
Forever and forever, Be worshiped and adored;  
You with the Holy Spirit Alone are Lord Most High,  
In God the Father's glory. "A-men!" our glad reply

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray.

*(The Collect of the Day is spoken.)*

**C** **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Revelation 14:6-7

<sup>6</sup> Then 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. <sup>7</sup> And 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."

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE READING: Romans 3:19-28

<sup>19</sup> Now 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. <sup>20</sup> For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

<sup>21</sup> But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— <sup>22</sup> the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: <sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup> and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup> whom 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. <sup>26</sup> It 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.

<sup>27</sup> Then 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. <sup>28</sup> For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

\*ALLELUIA and VERSE

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

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter. (31-36)

**C Glory to You, O Lord.**

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

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

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

**\*APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.

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.

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.

**HYMN OF THE DAY 656** *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

1 A mighty fortress is our God, A trusty shield and weapon;  
He helps us free from ev'ry 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 With might of ours can naught be done, Soon were our loss effected;  
But for us fights the valiant One, Whom God Himself elected.  
Ask Ye, Who is this? Jesus Christ it is, of Sabaoth Lord,  
And there's none other God; He holds the field forever.
- 3 Though devils all the world should fill, All eager to devour us,  
We tremble not, we fear no ill; They shall not over-pow'r 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 world can fell him.
- 4 The Word they still shall let remain Nor any thanks have for it;  
He's 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 vict'ry has been won;  
The Kingdom ours remaineth.

SERMON “*Sola Fide: Faith Alone*” John 8:31-36

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

\*PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

\*THE LORD'S PRAYER

\*COLLECT

\*BENEDICAMUS and BENEDICTION

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

**C** **Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN 645** *Built on the Rock*

- 1 Built on the Rock the Church shall stand Even when steeples are falling.  
Crumbled have spires in ev'ry land; Bells still are chiming and calling,  
Calling the young and old to rest, But above all the souls distressed,  
Longing for rest everlasting.
- 2 Surely in temples made with hands God, the Most High, is not dwelling;  
High above earth His temple stands, All earthly temples excelling.  
Yet He who dwells in heav'n above Chooses to live with us in love,  
Making our bodies His temple.
- 3 We are God's house of living stones, Built for His own habitation.  
He through baptismal grace us owns Heirs of His wondrous salvation.  
Were we but two His name to tell, Yet He would deign with us to dwell  
With all His grace and His favor.
- 4 Here stands the font before our eyes, Telling how God has received us.  
The al-tar recalls Christ's sacrifice And what His Supper here gives us.  
Here sound the Scriptures that proclaim Christ yesterday, today, the same,  
And evermore, our Redeemer.
- 5 Grant, then, O God, Your will be done, That, when the church bells are ringing,  
Many in saving faith may come Where Christ His message is bringing:  
"I know My own; My own know Me. You, not the world, My face shall see.  
My peace I leave with you. Amen."

**Preaching:** Rev. Jeff Caithamer

**Organist:** Keith Williams

**Videographer:** Lou Ann

**OUR CONGREGATIONAL FAMILY** – The altar flowers are given by Byron & Lydia in honor of the Reformation. We remember the following people in our prayers: *for peace and comfort:* Kathy and family at the death of father Joe; *upcoming surgery:* Judy; *for healing and recovery:* Martin-son of Letty, Aidan, Whitney-wife of Ellie Arp's

grandson, Paul, Barbara-friend of the congregation, Ashlyn-infant relative of Joyce, Jan, John, Tom, Opal, Hendricks-grandson of Dan & Joanie, Jacob-great grandson of Bob & Joan, Maria, Brett-cousin of the Kindts', Merv, Jessica-granddaughter of Bob & Joan, Joan-mother of Bill, Judy-mother of Rochelle, Rebecca-daughter of Marvin & Esther, Roy-father of Anne, Dan-brother of Bonnie, Todd; *for successful treatments*: Kendra (school parent), Luke, Cari (school parent), Earl, Jayne, Linda, Joan, Jeanette, Nancy; *for those in the military*: Roberto, Adam, Joshua, Nick, Taylor, Andy, Brandon, Ben, Allyson, Zachary; *for our homebound*: Lavina, Geneice.

For requests for the prayer chain or to be added to the chain:

<http://stjohnmedia.org/church/PrayerList.html>

**Church Directory** - We recently had a Lifetouch photography event. If you elected to have your complimentary 8x10 sent back to our congregation for pick up, the photographs are now located in the church overflow area. If your portrait is not in the current shipment, it means it will be coming in a future shipment.

**Trustees** are looking to form a committee that will hold informal meetings over the phone or zoom to help plan the landscaping of the church property. Please contact Rick  
Thank you.

### **OUR WEEK AHEAD**

<b>Today</b>	<i>Reformation Day Obs.:</i> 8:00 Holy Communion; 9:30 Adult Bible Class, Sunday School; 10:45 Holy Communion; 1:00 New Member Class
<b>Monday</b>	<i>Deadline to bring in school supplies for LWML collection</i>
<b>Tuesday</b>	10:00 Adult Bible Class; 6:00 Parish Ed; 7:00 Youth Board
<b>Wednesday</b>	8:20 Chapel; 5:45 Midweek, Lifelight; 6:00 Handbells; 7:15 Holy Communion
<b>Thursday</b>	9:00 Lifelight; 6:30 Lifelight
<b>Friday</b>	<i>Day School closed</i>
<b>Sunday</b>	<i>All Saints Day:</i> 8:00 Holy Communion; 9:30 Adult Bible Class, Sunday School; 10:45 Holy Communion; 1:00 New Member Class

**Beef House Fundraiser** – Get ready for the holiday season or just family dinner. Order forms for Beef House rolls, Strawberry Jam and Apple Butter are available on the narthex table. Orders are due in the school office by tomorrow. Delivery will be on Monday November 9.

**Box Tops Cubs vs. Cards** – Inning 9: Cubs-82, Cards-30. Final Score: Cubs-408, Cards-353. Thanks to all who brought in Box Tops.

**Alleluia Ringers** are actively recruiting new members. We are rehearsing in a safe, socially distanced manner in the overflow on Wednesday from 6:15-6:45 pm. No experience or music reading required - if you can lift your arms and count, you can ring.

**College Bulletin Board** – The Evangelism Board is seeking names and pictures of our college students. We would also like to remember them in our prayers on Sunday morning. Please send their name, major, school and picture to Faith. Thank you for your help with this project.

**Sign Up for Church Services:** Please contact the church office 359-1123 between the hours of 10am and 4pm, Monday through Friday, to sign up for Sunday's services. Or you can email pmartin — at — [stjohn-lcms.org](mailto:stjohn-lcms.org) You can also sign up anytime by emailing Pastor. Thank you to those who sign up ahead of time for church services. It does make the task of preparing for the Lord's Supper easier and in allowing enough space for everyone in the sanctuary. We do know that circumstances

**LWML** is collecting School Supplies for Lutheran World Relief. Please place the LWR School Kit items in the bag in the box in the coatroom. Please return school supplies before October 19, 2020 (packing date). The following items in each LWR School Kit: 4- 70-sheet notebooks of wide or college ruled paper approximately 8" X 10½"; no loose-leaf paper, 1- 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other, 1- pencil sharpener, 1- blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well), 5- unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers; secure together with a rubber band, 5- black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink); secure together with a rubber band, 1- box of 16 or 24 crayons, 1- 2½" eraser. Do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed. All items should be new and in good condition. do not always allow for everyone to sign up ahead of time, so we will still welcome those who may come otherwise unannounced.

**Email Addresses** – Pastor Caithamer has compiled a list of members’ email addresses to communicate with the congregation. If you are not receiving these email communications, please call the church office with your email address so we can add you to the list.

**Journeys To Confessional Lutheranism** - Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week we’ll be hearing about the journeys to confessional Lutheranism from former Atheists, Mormons, Roman Catholics, Evangelicals, Calvinists and liberal Lutherans. You can listen on-demand at [issuesetc.org](http://issuesetc.org), the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

**Life Quote** - “I pray that the love of Christ emboldens you to rejoice in the Word and to speak it without fear of consequence ... may future generations speak of us like we do of David, Josiah, Luther, and our forefathers. May our children say of you and me, ‘Our forefathers stood their ground on Christ alone, on His Word of truth alone.’ The truth has set you free. Enjoy your own personal reformation. Then let your freedom in Christ be contagious. Let your life continue to shout: Thank Jesus Christ my Savior! I’m free at last ... and so are you! Amen.” *Rev. Peter Sulzle, St. John Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota*

**LEARN BY HEART**  
***THE FAMILY ALTAR***

The families of St. John are encouraged to learn these words from the Small Catechism by heart this week:

The Creed

The Third Article - 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?* 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.

Bible Passage: “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”  
Matthew 28:19-20

Hymn 656 *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* (st. 4)

Psalm 104:1-12

Bible Readings for the Week:

The Bronze Serpent – Numbers 21:4-9

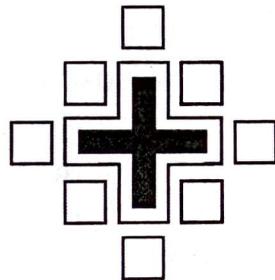
Balaam’s Donkey – Numbers 22:1, 4b-5, 12-38; (survey 23-24);

24:10-13, 25

Joshua Is Ordained to Take Moses' Place – Numbers 27:12-23

# Reformation Day (Observed)

October 25, 2020



**INTROIT**      *Ps. 34:1–2, 11, 22; antiphon: Ps. 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, lis- | ten 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 be- | ginning,\***

**is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

I will speak of your testimonies before kings, | [O Lord,]\*  
and shall not be | put to shame.

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

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.

**GRADUAL**      *Ps. 48:1a, 12–14a*

Great is the LORD and greatly | to be praised\*  
in the city | of our God!

Walk about Zion, go around her, number her | towers,\*  
consider well her ramparts, go through her | citadels,

that you may tell the next gener- | ation\*  
that this is God, our God forever and | ever.

## DAILY READINGS

**October 25:** Deut. 27:1–26; Matt. 17:14–27; **26:** Deut. 28:1–22; Matt. 18:1–20; **27:** Deut. 29:1–29; Matt. 18:21–35; **28:** Deut. 30:1–20; Matt. 19:1–15; **29:** Deut. 31:1–29; Matt. 19:16–30; **30:** Deut. 31:30–32; 27; Matt. 20:1–16; **31:** Deut. 32:28–52; Matt. 20:17–34.

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## **First Reading: Revelation 14:6–7**

<sup>6</sup>Then 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. <sup>7</sup>And 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.”

## **Epistle: Romans 3:19–28**

<sup>19</sup>Now 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. <sup>20</sup>For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

<sup>21</sup>But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—<sup>22</sup>the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: <sup>23</sup>for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup>and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption

that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup>whom 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. <sup>26</sup>It 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.

<sup>27</sup>Then 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. <sup>28</sup>For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

## **Holy Gospel: John 8:31–36**

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

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