

Faith Lutheran Church
St. John's Lutheran Church – Hamburg
REFORMATION SUNDAY
Sunday, October 27 and
Monday, October 28, 2024

Romans 3:20 – "For by works of the law no human being will be justified in His sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin." The Law of God is good — it's just that we sinners cannot save ourselves by the Law. Salvation is a free gift of God because that is the only way we could ever be saved. The Law shows us God's holiness and thus our own sin. And now in Christ we can look at the Law and see it in a new light as well: as a guide for how to live a godly life in thanksgiving to God for His gracious forgiveness in Christ.

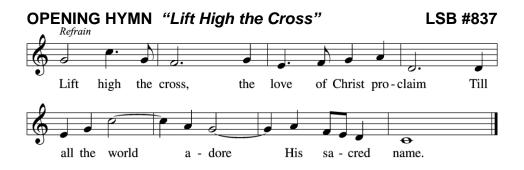


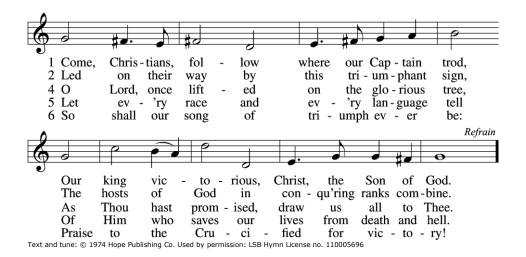
welcome visitors. We extend a warm welcome to all our visitors today. We pray that your worship with us is rewarding. Please be sure to sign your name and address in our guest register, located in the narthex. If you are looking for a church home we would like to invite you to be a part of our Bible based church family.

AS WE GATHER

Today we observe Reformation Day---remembering God's powerful working through Martin Luther. Luther sought to hold the Church accountable for clearly communicating the truth of God's Word. The reformer writes, "One thing, and only one thing, is necessary for Christian life, righteousness, and freedom. That one thing is the most holy Word of God, the Gospel of Christ." ("The Freedom of a Christian," Luther's Works, Vol. 31) Throughout his prolific writings, Luther seeks to unleash this Gospel so that laity may be properly taught its eternal riches and truths. Therefore, the service today walks through several sections corresponding to the Six Chief Parts of Luther's Small Catechism, which is the standard curriculum for Confirmation studies. Throughout these teachings Luther bears witness to the foundational doctrines of the Christian Church.

+ PRESERVICE MUSIC +





INVOCATION AND CALL TO WORSHIP

- In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

TEN COMMANDMENTS INSTRUCTION

- The Law would forever bind us, sentencing us to eternity entangled in the shackles of death. It is <u>not</u> the purpose of the Law to save. Since the fall, we are unable to keep the Law of God.
- "There is not a righteous man on earth who does what is right and never sins." (Eccl. 7:20)
- P The Law was given to show us our sin, guide us in our lives, and to discipline our behavior.
- "Therefore, no one will be declared righteous in His sight by observing the Law; rather, through the Law we become conscious of sin." (Romans 3:20)
- In the Law, the righteous unchangeable will of God is revealed to His people. God's Law is written upon our hearts, and yet, knowingly and unknowingly we act contrary to His commands. We, therefore confess our sins to God, admitting that we have sinned against Him in thought, word, and deed.

CONFESSION OF SINS

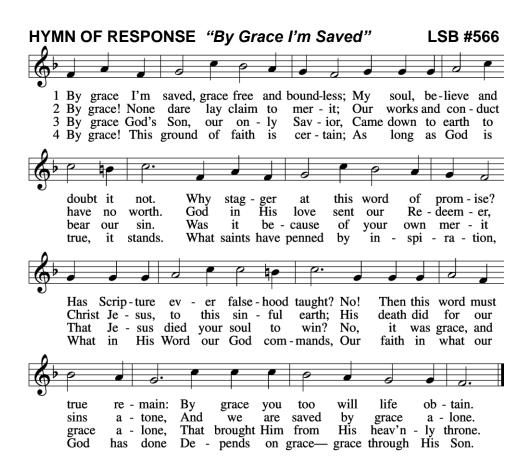
Almighty God, I have not always feared, loved and trusted you above all things. I have not loved my neighbor according to all of Your Holy Commands. I have sinned and I daily fall short of the of Your Holy Law. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

OFFICE OF THE KEYS

- P The Office of the Keys is that special authority which Christ has given and entrusted to His Church on earth to forgive the sins of repentant sinners. The Office of the Keys is a special Godgiven way of applying the Gospel to the individual. "God is surpassingly rich in His grace." (Luther's Small Catechism, The Smalcald Articles)
- "And with that He breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven." (John 20:22-23, Matthew 18:18) Here the Office of the Keys is given to all the Apostles not just to Peter. The "you" in the original Greek is plural.

ABSOLUTION

- P The Christian congregation by the command of Christ calls pastors to carry out the Office of the Keys publicly in His name and on behalf of the congregation. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. (Ephesians 4:11; Acts 20:28; 1 Cor. 4:1)
- Amen. By Grace I am saved. By Grace I am set free. "Praise the LORD, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise His holy name. Praise the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits -- who forgives all your sins" (Psalm 103:1)

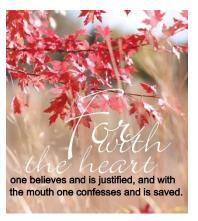


- 5 By grace to timid hearts that tremble,
 In tribulation's furnace tried,
 By grace, in spite of fear and trouble,
 The Father's heart is open wide.
 Where could I help and strength secure
 If grace were not my anchor sure?
- 6 By grace! On this I'll rest when dying; In Jesus' promise I rejoice; For 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.

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+ THE HOLY WORD OF GOD +

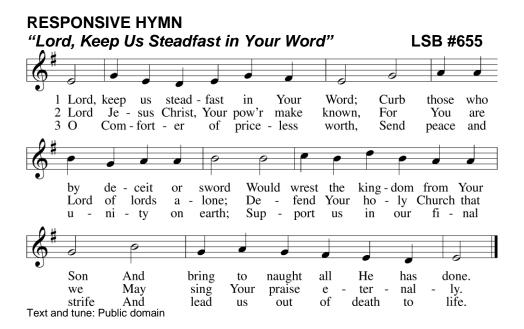
- Preaching the counsels of God's Word, and rightly administering the Sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion are all essential elements in exercising the Office of the Keys. The Word and the Sacraments are the means of grace which God has given to His Church, to sustain its life and increase the faith of His people.
- "Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (Matthew 28:18-20)



THE FIRST LESSON 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."

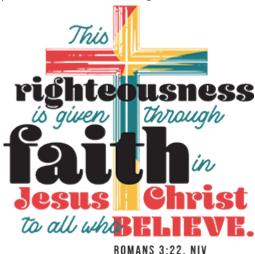
- "And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men,
 - **b**ut as it <u>actually is</u>, the <u>word of God</u>, which is at work in you who believe." (1 Thessalonians 2:13-14)



EPISTLE Romans 3:19-28

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. Therefore, no one will be declared righteous in his sight by observing the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of sin.

But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has



been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. and iustified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood. He did this to demonstrate his justice, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished -- he did it to demonstrate his justice at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.

Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded. On what principle? On that of observing the law? No, but on that of faith. For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from observing the law.

- "and how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus." (2 Timothy 3:15)
- "All Scripture is God-breathed and is <u>useful</u> for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be <u>thoroughly</u> equipped for <u>every good work.</u>" (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

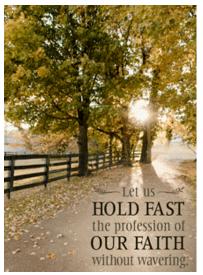




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HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 11:12-19*

¹² From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by



force. ¹³ For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, ¹⁴ and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. ¹⁵ He who has ears to hear, let him hear.

16 "But to what shall I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to their playmates,

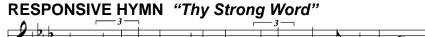
17 "We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;

we sang a dirge, and you did not mourn.'

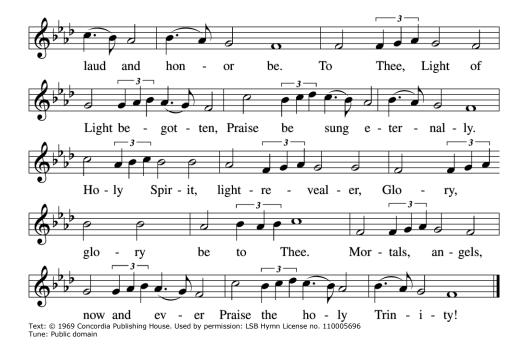
¹⁸ For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a

demon.' ¹⁹ The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' Yet wisdom is justified by her deeds."

- P "Man does not live by bread alone."
- "But on every word that comes from the mouth of God."
 (Matthew 4:4)

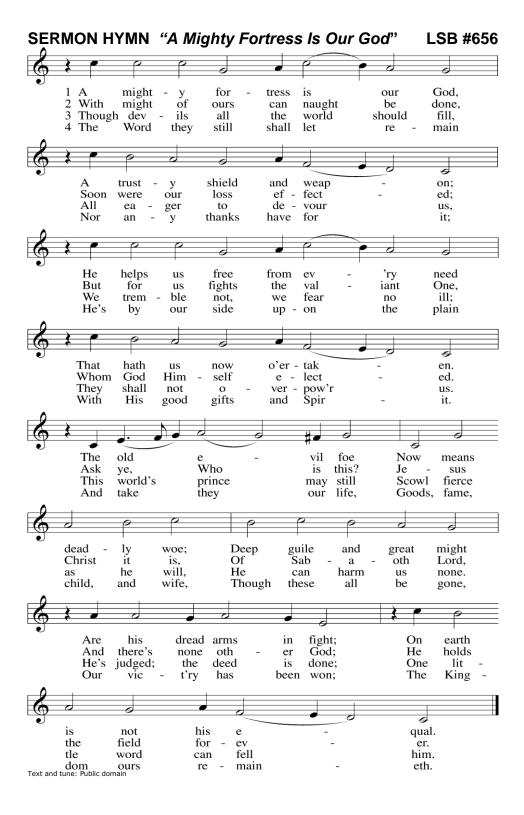


 \triangle 6 God the Fa - ther, light - cre - a - tor, To Thee



APOSTLES' CREED

- I, therefore, ask the members of the congregation and all who are gathered here today, Do you believe in God the Father?
- Yes, I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
- P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
- Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and 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. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.
- P Do you believe in God, the Holy Spirit?
- Yes, 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.



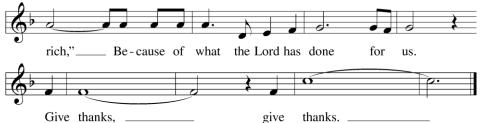


THE SERMON

WE BRING OUR FIRST FRUITS UNTO THE LORD

The Offering (Malachi 3:6-18; Mark 12:41-ff; 2 Cor. 9:6-15)





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LORD'S PRAYER

- Our Father who art in heaven,
- P God tenderly invites us to believe that He is our true Father and that we are His true children.
- Hallowed be Thy name,
- God's name is kept holy when the Word of God is taught in its truth and purity, and we as the children of God, also lead holy lives according to it. Help us, to do this dear Father in Heaven.
- Thy Kingdom come,
- P God's kingdom comes when our heavenly Father gives us His Holy Spirit, so that by His grace we believe His Holy Word.
- Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
- P God's will is done when He strengthens and keeps us firm in His Word and faith until we die.
- Give us this day our daily bread;
- P Daily bread includes everything that has to do with the support and needs of the body.
- And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;
- P We pray that our Father in heaven would not look at our sins, or deny our prayer because of them. So we too will sincerely forgive and gladly do good to those who sin against us.
- And lead us not into temptation,
- P We pray that God would guard and keep us so that the devil, the world, and our sinful nature may not deceive us or mislead us false belief, despair, and other great shame and vice.
- But deliver us from evil.
- P We pray that our Father would rescue us from every evil of body and soul, possessions, and reputations.
- For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever.

- P He Himself has commanded us to pray in this way and has promised to hear us.
- C Amen.
- P "Yes, yes, it shall be so." (Luther's Small Catechism)

THE SACRAMENTS

(Sacrament is a Latin word meaning "Mystery." It is a mystery how God can accomplish His promises through these simple things but He clearly promises that He does.)

+The Sacrament of Holy Baptism+

- During our instruction in the Lutheran faith we spoke of the benefits of Baptism. It works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this. (Luther's Small Catechism)
- "Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. (Romans 6:3-4) and "Baptism now saves you also" (1 Peter 3:21)
- Each time we gather for worship we should remember our own Baptism. Our baptized life in the name of the holy Trinity offers comfort in distress and strength in adversity. It is a promise between God and His children.

+The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper +

- As the Lord has blessed us with the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, He has also given to His Church the gift of Holy Communion. In this Sacrament we receive the true body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, in, with, and under the bread and the wine.
- "Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ? (1 Corinthians 10:16)
- Scripture teaches us to prepare ourselves for a right reception of this holy and precious gift.
- "A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup." (1 Corinthians 11:28)

- Scripture also teaches us that the Sacrament is given that we might have the forgiveness of sins and that we might be strengthened in our faith.
- Jesus said "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. (Matthew 26:28)
- Scripture likewise teaches us that partaking of the Sacrament also make ourselves one with the teachings of that altar and wittiness of oneness in faith with each other.
- "Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf.... Consider the people of Israel: Do not those who eat the sacrifices participate in the altar?" (1 Corinthians 10:16-18)
- May we always hold as sacred and very holy these gifts that God has given us and has attached His holy solemn promises.

C Amen!

BENEDICTION

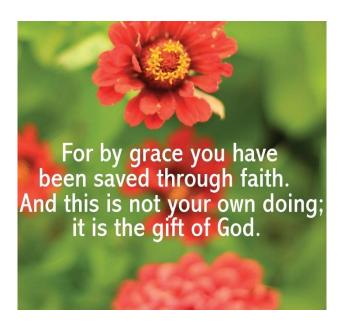
The Lord bless you and keep you.

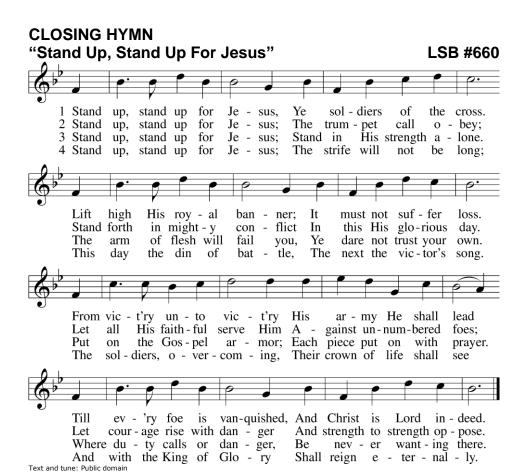
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and + give you peace.

G Amen

you.





DON'T BE LATE!!





Sunday: Deuteronomy 29:1-29;

Matthew 18:21-35

Monday: Deuteronomy 30:1-20;

Matthew 19:1-15

Tuesday: Deuteronomy 31:1-29;

Matthew 19:16-30

Wednesday: Deuteronomy 31:30 – 32:27; Matthew 20:1-16 **Thursday:** Deuteronomy 32:28-52; Deuteronomy 33:1-29;

Matthew 20:17-34

Friday: Deuteronomy 34:1-12; Matthew 21:1-22 **Saturday:** Jeremiah 1:1-19; Matthew 21:23-46



Circuit Reformation Service October 30 at 6:30 p.m. St. John – Merrill All are welcome!

FAITH and ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCHES

Please remember the following in your prayers:

Gary Baumann Bob Burish
Cheryl Dahlke Doris Dahlke
Rodney Dahlke Steve Dahlke
Alice Fromm Wallace Emmerich
Angie Harkner Emma Hein
Dale Janisch Cecelia & Lucille Klade
Emily Klug Rob Koebe Bruce Krenz

Ron Lang Debbie Olson Mark Pester Edgar Pfaff
Marge Radenz Karen Rajek Jo Schedler
Audrey Steckling Lorraine Steckling
Carl Uttech Philip Vogel Deb Wiederhoeft
Susie and Ellie Zastrow





CHURCH CALENDAR ST. JOHN'S and FAITH

Sunday, October 27 REFORMATION SUNDAY

8:30 a.m. Worship at St. John's

Sunday School during Sermon at St. John's

9:15 a.m. Sunday School at Faith

9:30 a.m. Bible Study at St John's

10:15 a.m. Worship at Faith

11:15 a.m. Bible Study at Faith

Monday, October 28

NO CHOIR TODAY

6:30 p.m. Worship at Faith

Wednesday, October 30

5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith

6:30 p.m. Reformation Worship at St. John - Merrill

Sunday, November 3 ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY

8:30 a.m. Worship at St. John's

Sunday School during Sermon at St. John's

9:15 a.m. Sunday School at Faith

9:30 a.m. Bible Study at St John's

10:15 a.m. Worship at Faith

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Pancake Dinner at Faith

Monday, November 4

5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal at Faith

6:30 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion at Faith

Tuesday, November 6

6:30 p.m. Women of Faith at Faith

Wednesday, November 6

5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith

7:00 p.m. Youth Group at Faith

Thursday, November 7

6:30 p.m. Mary Martha Guild at St. John's

6:30 p.m. Adult Information Classes at St. John's



If anyone has EYE GLASSES AND/OR CASES that are no longer used, there is a Lion's Eye Glass Bucket in the coat room, All glasses and cases can be put in the bucket. Any questions, contact Beth (715-574-0190) or Leon Bartelt (715-574-1261) of the Maine Lion's Club.



ST. JOHN'S NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY

Looking for updated pictures and contact information for all St. John' members and their families. Please check your church mailboxes for more information.

ADULT INFORMATION CLASS

Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. at St. John's. For more information talk with Pastor Love. All are welcome to join the class.



NO CHOIR REHEARSAL Monday, October 28



FALL EVENT

LUTHER MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

N5302 Townhall Road and Highway 17, Gleason Harvest Dinner on November 17

11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Buffet of Turkey, Ham, Mashed Potatoes, Stuffing, Squash, salads and desserts
Dine In, Carryout, Drive Through
Adults \$13 Child 6-12 \$7 5 and under Free

FALL SPORTS ARE IN FULL SWING!!

Whether you are cheering for the Badgers, Packers and/or your favorite high school teams, don't forget your tailgating and celebration supplies wheth er at home or away. It's also



time to remember those supplies for fall harvest or yard work. Holidays are coming up soon. Pick up scrip for all your household needs. Help support the ministry of our church through the Scrip program. ... All without it costing you an extra penny!.



FELLOWSHIP FUNDRAISERS

St. John's will be hosting Fellowship several times a month beginning October 27. Funds raised will go to Hurricane Relief.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank You for your generous sacrificial offerings to the Lord, to help us keep our ministry going. You can also mail your offerings to Our Churches at

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

15425 County Road K South Merrill, WI 54452 or

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

134058 County Road L Athens, WI 54411

(Please do not send hard cash through the mail)

Please help us spread the Word. Visit us online at Pastor's (Don Love) Facebook Page, or Faith Lutheran Merrill Facebook Page https://faithmerrill.webs.com/

