

Blessed Savior Lutheran Church

1205 North Lincoln Ave
O'Fallon, IL
(618) 632-0126
www.mybslc.org
Worship –9:30 am.

Pastor Tony Troup (618-340-8375), Vacancy Pastor
Pastor Perry Schefelker (618-322-7498), Vacancy Pastor
Brett Arrasmith, Field Worker
Cheryl Vohlken, Organist
Sunday School & Bible Class: 10:45am

REFORMATION DAY OBSERVED

OCTOBER 27, 2024

AS WE GATHER

Today, we celebrate something that is 507 years in the making: the Reformation of the Christian Church. As we mark time, we trace our heritage back to Martin Luther's posting of the Ninety-Five Theses on October 31, 1517. That action would ignite the Reformation movement and refocus God's people on the Scriptural teaching of salvation by grace through faith in Christ alone. It is the "eternal gospel" (Rev. 14:6), proclaimed by both angels in heaven and God's messengers on earth. By God's grace we receive this precious, life-saving, life-changing good news in our worship today.



WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

A TIME TO PRAISE

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

C: **Amen.**

P: Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,

C: **from everlasting to everlasting!**

P: Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of Your name; rescue us, and atone for our sins, for Your name's sake!

C: **We, Your people, the sheep of Your pasture, will give thanks to You forever; from generation to generation we will recount Your praise.**

P: Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved, but remains forever.

C: **As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the Lord surrounds His people, from this forth and forevermore.**

HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 656

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

**A mighty fortress is our God,
A trusty shield and weapon;
He helps us free from ev'ry need
That hath us now o'ertaken.
The old evil foe
Now means deadly woe;
Deep guile and great might
Are his dread arms in flight;
On earth is not his equal.**

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.

Though devils all the world should fill,
All eager to devour us,
We tremble not, we fear no ill;
They shall not overpow'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 word can fell him.

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.

A TIME TO CONFESS

P: Let us confess our sins to God, our Refuge and our Strength. For we have wandered outside the protecting walls of His fortress. We have brought trouble and distress on ourselves and others. We have sinned against Him and are in need of His forgiveness.

C: Lord, I confess that at time I have lived as if You did not matter and as if I mattered most. Your name I have not always honored as I should. My worship and prayers have sometimes faltered. I have not let Your love have its way with me and so my love for others has fallen short of what it should be. My thoughts and desires are soiled with sin. For the sake of Jesus, please forgive my many wrongs and through the power of Your Holy Spirit help me to amend my sinful life, that I may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P: Friends in Christ, hear the words of Psalm 62:1-2, *"My soul finds rest in God alone; my salvation comes from Him. He alone is my rock and my salvation; He is my fortress. I will never be shaken."* For those of you who have sincerely confessed and repented of your sins, it is my joy and privilege to share with you that God Is Your Rock and your Fortress. He is your salvation. And His full and complete forgiveness is now yours through the atoning sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

A TIME TO SHARE GOD'S PEACE WITH ONE ANOTHER

A TIME TO PRAY TO GOD

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And with your spirit.**

P: Let us pray. Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people.

C: Keep us strong in Your grace and truth. Protect and rescue us in times of trouble. Defend us against all enemies of Your Word.

P: And, give to Your Church Your saving peace. All this through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

A TIME TO LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

FIRST READING: Revelation 14:6-7 (Another angel proclaims an eternal Gospel message.)

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. 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.**

SECOND READING: James 1:2-4, 12

Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL READING: John 8:31-36 (Jesus proclaims that "the truth will set you free.") (Please rise.)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 8th chapter

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

(The Gospel is read.)

So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." 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"?"

Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. 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.** *(Please be seated.)*

A TIME TO TALK TO THE CHILDREN – Children's Talk

A TIME TO SING – SERMON HYMN NO. 770, “What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

What a friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Ev’rything to God in prayers!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit;
Oh, what needless pain we bear
All because we do not carry
Ev’rything to God in prayer!

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.

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.

A TIME TO GROW – SERMON: “Problems, Grief, & Help” Pastor Perry

A TIME TO PROFESS – APOSTLE’S CREED: *(Please rise.)*

(After the creed, please be seated.)

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.**

A TIME TO GIVE: “Find Us Faithful,” *Words & Music by Jon Mohr, 1987 Birdwing Music and Jonathan Mark Music by EMI Christian Music Pub.* also has Gaither Copyright management.

A TIME TO PRAY – PRAYER RESPONSES:

P: God of Power and Love...

C: Receive our thanks for Your blessings and help us in our needs.

LORD’S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

C: **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.**

A TIME TO DEPART – BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN No 733 “O God, Our Help in Ages Past” Stanzas 1,2,3,6 (*Please rise.*)

**O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home.**

**Under the shadow of Thy throne
Thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is Thine arm alone,
And our defense is sure.**

**Before the hills in order stood
Or earth received her frame,
From everlasting Thou art God,
To endless years the same.**

**O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come
Be Thou our guard while troubles last
And our eternal home!**

P: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.