The Festival of Reformation Day 31 October Anno + Domini 2010



"Luther Preaching at the City Church in Wittenberg"

"For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law." (Rom. 3:28)

The Festival of Reformation Day 31 October Anno 4 Domini 2010



The Service of Preparation

(Upon entering the nave, <u>silence</u> should be observed to allow all the opportunity to prayerfully prepare for the presence of the Lord and the reception of His gifts)

Preparatory Prayers

Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells. In the multitude of Your tender mercies prepare my heart that I may enter Your house to worship and confess Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, my God and Lord. Amen.

O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.

Some of the Wlessed Reformer's 95 Theses to Ponder . . .

Thesis 1: "Our Lord and Master Jesus Christ, when He said, 'Repent,' willed that the whole life of believers should be repentance."

Thesis 37: "Every true Christian, whether living or dead, has part in all the blessings of Christ and His Church; and this is granted him by God, even without letters of pardon."

Thesis 75: "To think the papal pardons so great that they could absolve a man even if he had committed an impossible sin and violated the Mother of God — this is madness!"

Thesis 86: "Why does not the pope, whose wealth today is greater than the riches of the richest, build just this one Church of St. Peter with his own money, rather than with the money of poor believers?"

The Prelude and Ringing of the Bells

(The congregation stands at the Ringing of the Bells and faces the processional cross. It is customary to continue facing the cross as it is processed in, and to bow your head and make the sign of the cross in reverence and admiration to the Lord as it passes your pew. The same applies for the recessional as Service concludes.)

The Processional Hymn: "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word"

(Text: Rev. Thomas C. Messer; Tune: Erhault Uns Herr - Reformation Day 2010)

(Choir sings stanzas 1,3,5,7; Congregation sings stanzas 2,4,6,8)



The Confession and Absolution

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

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness
- **P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- C who made heaven and earth.
- **P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

- P O almighty God, merciful Father,
- I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. 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.
- **P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ⅓ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

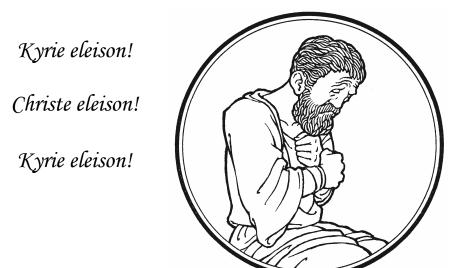
The Service of the Word

The Entrance Hymn









Lord, have mercy!

Christ, have mercy!

Lord, have mercy!

The Gloria in Excelsis





"The Holy Trinity" by Albrecht Dürer

5 You only are the Holy One And over all are Lord alone. O Jesus Christ, we glorify You and the Spirit, Lord Most High; With Him You evermore shall be One in the Father's majesty.

The Salutation and 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.



The First Reading

Revelation 14:6–7

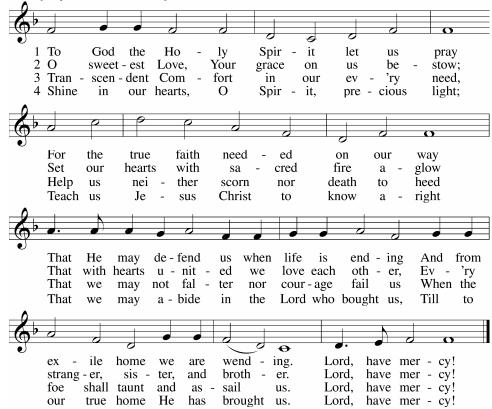
⁶Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people. ⁷And he said with a loud voice, "Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come, and worship him who made heaven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

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

The Anthem



LSB 768



The 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.

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

The Alleluia and Verse



Choir: "Alleluia. Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Alleluia."



The Holy Gospel John 8:31–36

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



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."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



The Creed

We All Believe in One True God

LSB 953



- We all be-lieve in one true God, Fa ther, Son, and Ho ly Ghost,
- 2 We all be-lieve in Je-sus Christ, Son of God and Mar-y's son,
- 3 We all con-fess the Ho ly Ghost. Who from both in truth pro-ceeds.



Ev - er - pres - ent help in need, Praised by all the heav'n - ly host; Who de - scend - ed from His throne And for us sal - va - tion won; Who sus - tains and com-forts us In all tri - als, fears, and needs.



All He made His love en-folds, All cre - a - tion He up-holds. By whose cross and death are we Res - cued from all mis - er - y. Bless-ed, ho - ly Trin - i - ty, Praise for - ev - er be to Thee!

Salvation unto Us Has Come (Choir sings stanzas 3, 6, 9)



- Yet as the Law must be fulfilled
 Or we must die despairing,
 Christ came and has God's anger stilled,
 Our human nature sharing.
 He has for us the Law obeyed
 And thus the Father's vengeance stayed
 Which over us impended.
- 6 Since Christ has full atonement made And brought to us salvation, Each Christian therefore may be glad And build on this foundation. Your grace alone, dear Lord, I plead, Your death is now my life indeed, For You have paid my ransom.
- 7 Let me not doubt, but truly see Your Word cannot be broken; Your call rings out, "Come unto Me!" No falsehood have You spoken. Baptized into Your precious name, My faith cannot be put to shame, And I shall never perish.

- 8 The Law reveals the guilt of sin
 And makes us conscience-stricken;
 But then the Gospel enters in
 The sinful soul to quicken.
 Come to the cross, trust Christ, and live;
 The Law no peace can ever give,
 No comfort and no blessing.
- 9 Faith clings to Jesus' cross alone
 And rests in Him unceasing;
 And by its fruits true faith is known,
 With love and hope increasing.
 For faith alone can justify;
 Works serve our neighbor and supply
 The proof that faith is living.

(Stand)

All blessing, honor, thanks, and praise
To Father, Son, and Spirit,
The God who saved us by His grace;
All glory to His merit.
O triune God in heav'n above,
You have revealed Your saving love;
Your blessèd name we hallow.

The Prayer of the Church

P Friends in Christ, I urge you all to lift up your hearts to God and pray with me as Christ our Lord has taught us and freely promised to hear us.

God, our Father in heaven, look with mercy on us, Your needy children on earth, and grant us grace that Your holy name be hallowed by us and all the world through the pure and true teaching of Your Word and the fervent love shown forth in our lives. Graciously turn from us all false doctrine and evil living whereby Your precious name is blasphemed and profaned. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P May Your kingdom come to us and expand. Bring all transgressors and those who are blinded and bound in the devil's kingdom to know Jesus Christ, Your Son, by faith that the number of Christians may be increased. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Strengthen us by Your Spirit according to Your will, both in life and in death, in the midst of both good and evil things, that our own wills may be crucified daily and sacrificed to Your good and gracious will. Into Your merciful hands we commend [name(s)] and all who are in need, praying for them at all times: Thy will be done. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Grant us our daily bread, preserve us from greed and selfish cares, and help us trust in You to provide for all our needs. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Forgive us our sins as we also forgive those who sin against us so that our hearts may be at peace and may rejoice in a good conscience before You, and that no sin may ever frighten or alarm us. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Lead us not into temptation, O Lord, but help us by Your Spirit to subdue our flesh, to turn from the world and its ways, and to overcome the devil with all his wiles. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P And lastly, O heavenly Father, deliver us from all evil of both body and soul, now and forever. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.



"The Posting of the 95 Theses" by Gustav Koenig

The Offerings are gathered for the Lord's work among us

(If you have not done so already, please sign and share the Fellowship folders in the pews to assist us in keeping accurate attendance records. Thank you.)

The Service of the Sacrament

(Please read the statement regarding Holy Communion on the back of the bulletin)

Stand

The Preface



- P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. Grant us Your Spirit, gracious Father, that we may give heed to the testament of Your Son in true faith and, above all, firmly take to heart the words with which Christ gives to us His body and blood for our forgiveness. By Your grace, lead us to remember and give thanks for the boundless love which He manifested to us when, by pouring out His precious blood, He saved us from Your righteous wrath and from sin, death, and hell. Grant that we may receive the bread and wine, that is, His body and blood, as a gift, guarantee, and pledge of His salvation. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

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.

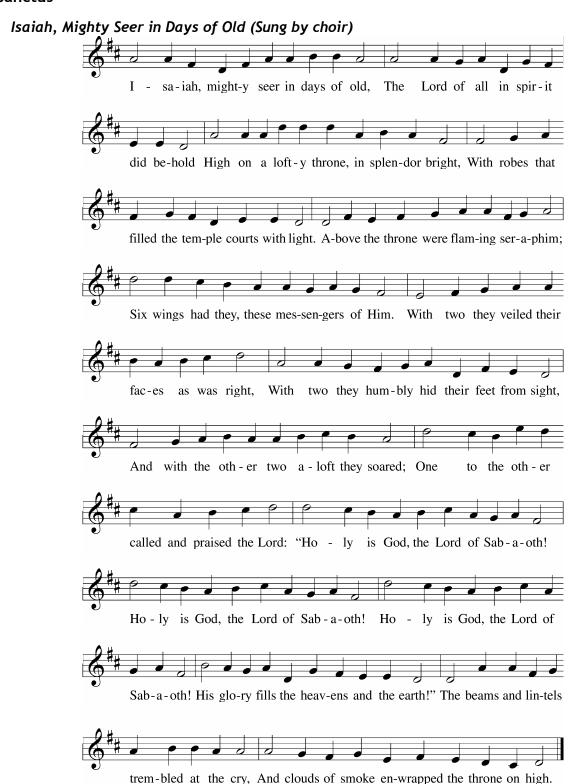
In the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, at His command, and with His own words, we receive His testament:

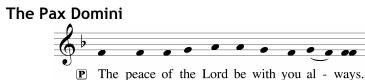
The Words of Our Lord

- P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."
- In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He 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. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

LSB 960

The Sanctus



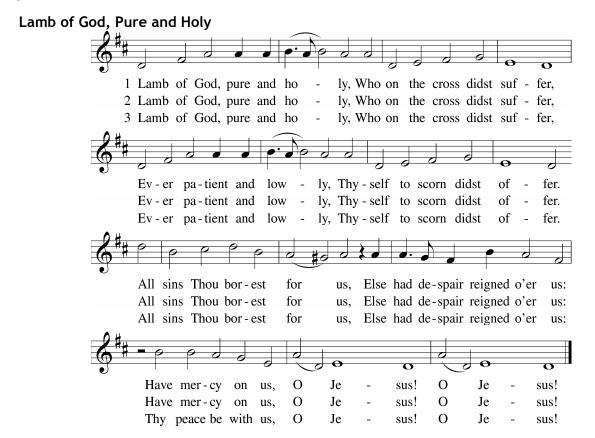






John 1:29

The Agnus Dei



The Distribution

Communicants are invited to pray the following prayers:

Before receiving the Sacrament

O Lord, I am not worthy that You should enter under my roof; but speak only Your Word, and my soul will be healed. I will take the Bread of Heaven and call upon the Name of the Lord.

What shall I give to the Lord for all that He has given to me? I will take the Cup of Salvation and call upon the Name of the Lord.

During the Distribution of the Sacrament

The Lord was made flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory; glory as of the only-begotten Son of the Father, full of grace and truth. Amen.

After receiving the Sacrament

I live, and yet not I, but Christ lives in me.

What we have received with our mouths, O Lord, let us keep with faithful hearts, that this Gift given us in earthly time may bring us to eternal salvation. Amen.

Abide with us, O Lord, that we may abide in You until the end; let not sin and need separate us from You, until we, through the strength of Your Holy Sacrament, enter into heaven and eternal blessing. Amen.

Sit





pierc - ed

from

Christ the priest.

side.

foe.

a - bove.

Al - le

Al - le

Al - le

5 Mighty Victim from the sky, Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie; You have conquered in the fight, You have brought us life and light. Alleluia!

ing from His

the vic - tim,

Through the wave that drowns the

man - na

Flow -

Christ

Eat

- 6 Now no more can death appall, Now no more the grave enthrall; You have opened paradise, And Your saints in You shall rise. Alleluia!
- 7 Easter triumph, Easter joy! This alone can sin destroy; From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free, Newborn souls in You to be. Alleluia!

lu

ia!

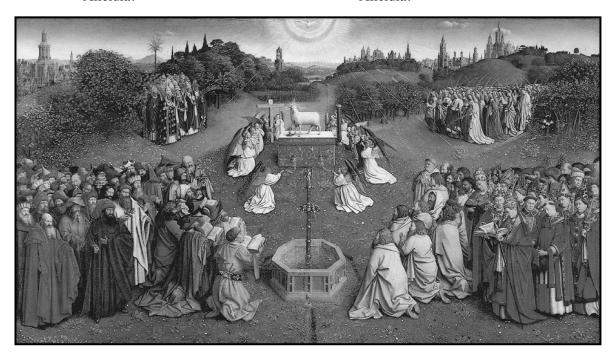
ia!

ia!

ia!

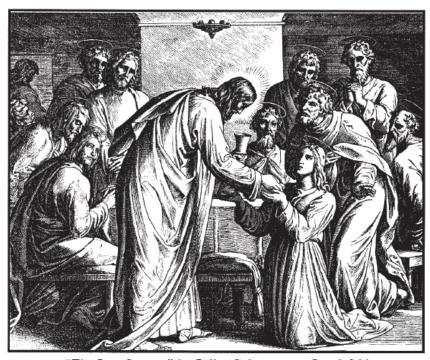
(Stand)

8 Father, who the crown shall give, Savior, by whose death we live, Spirit, guide through all our days: Three in One, Your name we praise. Alleluia!





5 What higher gift can we inherit?It is faith's bond and solid base;It is the strength of heart and spirit,The covenant of hope and grace. Refrain.



"The Last Supper" by Julius Schnorr von Carolsfeld

Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice



- 5 God said to His belovèd Son: "It's time to have compassion. Then go, bright jewel of My crown, And bring to all salvation. From sin and sorrow set them free; Slay bitter death for them that they May live with You forever."
- 6 The Son obeyed His Father's will, Was born of virgin mother; And God's good pleasure to fulfill, He came to be my brother. His royal pow'r disguised He bore; A servant's form, like mine, He wore To lead the devil captive.
- 7 To me He said: "Stay close to Me, I am your rock and castle. Your ransom I Myself will be; For you I strive and wrestle. For I am yours, and you are Mine, And where I am you may remain; The foe shall not divide us.

- 8 "Though he will shed My precious blood,
 Me of My life bereaving,
 All this I suffer for your good;
 Be steadfast and believing.
 Life will from death the vict'ry win;
 My innocence shall bear your sin,
 And you are blest forever.
- 9 "Now to My Father I depart,
 From earth to heav'n ascending,
 And, heavn'ly wisdom to impart,
 The Holy Spirit sending;
 In trouble He will comfort you
 And teach you always to be true
 And into truth shall guide you
- "What I on earth have done and taught Guide all your life and teaching; So shall the kingdom's work be wrought And honored in your preaching. But watch lest foes with base alloy The heav'nly treasure should destroy; This final word I leave you."

The Dismissal

P The holy and precious, true Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, your Lord and Savior, strengthen and preserve you in true faith unto life everlasting. Depart → in peace.

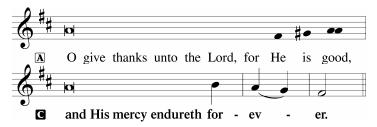
LSB 617

C Amen.

The Post-Communion Hymn



The Thanksgiving



The Post-Communion Collect



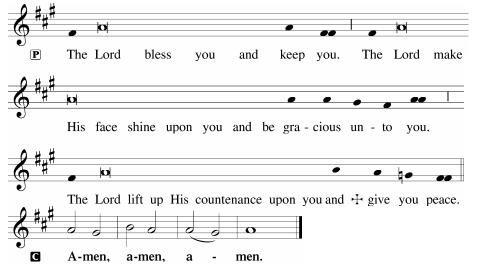
P We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



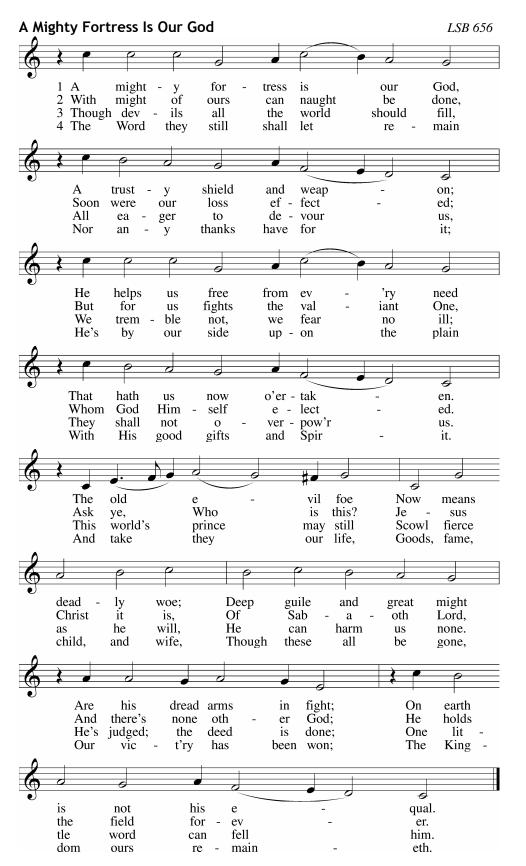
The Salutation and Benedicamus



The Benediction



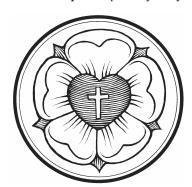
The Recessional Hymn







"Sola Scriptura" by Rudolf Schäfer



Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church



325 E. Warwick Dr. ~ Alma, Michigan ~ 48801 463-5754 ~ www.peacealma.org Email: contact@peacealma.org

Rev. Thomas C. Messer, Pastor Home: 463-3093 ~ Cell: (989) 388-2037

Email: pastor@peacealma.org



Welcome

This morning, we celebrate Reformation Day. It was on October 31, 1517, that the Blessed Reformer, Martin Luther, posted his 95 Theses on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg. This act on Luther's part sparked a series of events that would eventually set the Christian Church free from the captivity of Roman tyranny. Luther was blessed by God to rediscover the Gospel which had long been hidden under the corruption that prevailed in the Church. We thank God for revealing the truth of the Gospel to Luther and for preserving that truth within our church up to the present day. With Luther, we confess that we are justified by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone. In Luther's honor, we follow, for the most part, his Deutsche Messe (German Mass) in our Divine Service this morning, which is Divine Service 5 in LSB. May the Lord of the Church, Jesus Christ our Savior, richly bless our celebration!

Holy Communion Practice

- 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. In preparation for receiving this Blessed Sacrament, you may refer to Martin Luther's "Christian Questions with Their Answers" found on pages 329-330 in *LSB*.
- Communicants at this altar are to be in full confessional fellowship with the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the LCMS are asked, out of love and Christian responsibility, to refrain from partaking with us this morning. If you have any questions regarding Holy Communion, you are invited and encouraged to speak with the pastor before or after the Service.
- See Matt. 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:14-20; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.

Our Mission Statement

The mission of Peace Lutheran Church is to welcome all people into the fellowship of God's love by proclaiming the forgiveness of sins through Jesus Christ and to nurture our members with God's Holy Word and Sacraments.



"Unless I can be instructed and convinced with evidence from the Holy Scriptures or with open, clear, and distinct grounds and reasoning – and my conscience is captive to the Word of God – then I cannot and will not recant, because it is neither safe nor wise to act against conscience. Here I stand. I can do no other. God help me! Amen." - Martin Luther's courageous response at the Diet of Worms, 1521