

Christ the Servant Lutheran Church

3676 Centerville Rd | 651-429-6595 | www.cslcvh.org

Pastor Jon Yurk

Encounter God | Love one another | Reach the World

November,
2025

From the Pastor

Friends in Christ,

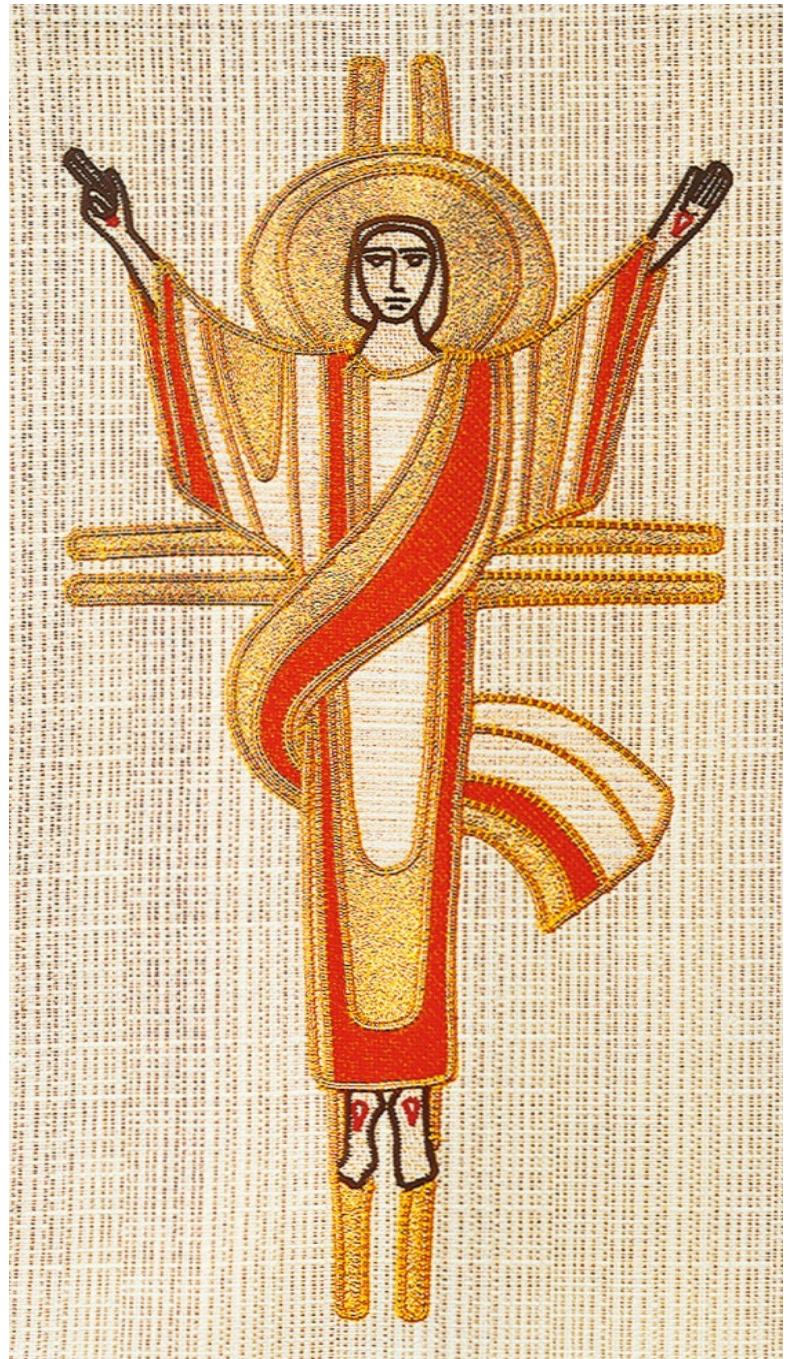
Sometimes change happens in a moment... an accident, a diagnosis, a chance encounter with someone that completely shifts the trajectory of our lives. Sometimes change happens gradually over time. No matter what situation we may find ourselves in, when faced with the prospect of change, it oftentimes can be difficult to navigate. On October 26th, we get to celebrate a change that altered the course of history. You can easily argue that many of us wouldn't be where we are today without that change. And of course, as I am sure all of you know, I am talking about the Reformation.

I know that when most of us think about the Reformation, we picture Luther nailing his 95 theses to the door in Wittenburg. And while this event can be considered the catalyst, the Reformation lasted decades. I would argue that what began in 1517 with that monumental act has never stopped. We are constantly being reformed as communities of faith, and as individual disciples of Jesus.

When something or someone is reformed, you could easily say that a change has occurred. Things are different than they were previously. When looking at this past year and the journey our two communities of faith have embarked on together, you could correctly state that it has been a year of reformation for all of us. We have worshipped together, met new people, built new relationships, and even shared resources. It hasn't always been easy or smooth sailing... but I would argue that our partnership has changed all of us for the better. I think that many of us have a deeper, fuller sense of what it means to be "the church."

I am so grateful to have been able to help guide and witness this partnership. For me, anytime we create new relationships and new opportunities to live out the Gospel, we tap into the creative and redemptive power of the Spirit. When we face challenges and change head on with faith that God is present with us, amazing things can happen. Luther was willing to risk everything for the sake of the Gospel. And while we may not have as many chips on the table, I love the fact that we went all in on trying something new. Thank you for being a part of Christ the Servant and Lakeview. I cherish you all.

Pastor Jon



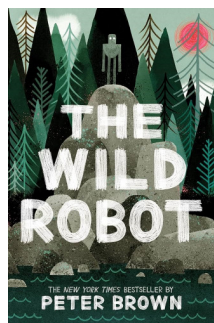
Upcoming Events

- 11/2 Joint worship at CSLC - 9:30 AM
- 11/14 Community Family Movie Night - 6:30 PM
- 11/15 Come Tie with Us/Project Day 9:30 AM - 9 PM
- 11/26 Thanksgiving Worship 7:00 PM
Pie Fest after Worship
- 12/6 Advent Tea - 1:00-3:00 PM
- 12/24 Christmas Eve Worship 4:00 & 10:00 PM

News & Events Cont'd.

Community Family Movie Night

Join us Friday, November 14 at 6:30 for a community family movie night! Bring a blanket to spread out in the Fellowship Hall as we show *The Wild Robot* on the big screen. Popcorn will be provided and beverages will be available for purchase. Families of all shapes and sizes are welcome!



Reformation & All Saints Sunday Joint Worship

Join us for worship along with our partner congregation, Lakeview Lutheran Church for joint services on Reformation Sunday, October 26 (at Lakeview) and All Saints Sunday, November 2 (at CSLC). If you have lost a loved one in the last year who you wish to be named in worship please send the name and a photo to office@cslcvh.org to be included during Nov. 2 worship.

Thanksgiving Worship and Piefest

On Wednesday, November 26 we will celebrate Thanksgiving with an evening worship service at 7:00 PM followed by the all-important Piefest. *Join us!*

Winter Clothing Drive

It's not too late to donate new or gently used winter warmwear to the Vadnais Heights Community Action Network's 3rd annual Winter Clothing Drive. The drive runs October 15-31. Donations may be placed in the collection box in the Narthex.



stayCONNECTED

If you prefer to receive the CSLC newsletter by mail, contact the office so we can add you to our list.

Submit news and events for the December newsletter to office@cslcvh.org by Tuesday, Nov. 18.

Serving This Month

Ushers:

11/2 OPEN
11/9 OPEN
11/16 OPEN
11/23 OPEN
11/30 OPEN

Readers:

11/2 Tony Lee
11/9 Mike Woehrle
11/16 Jayson Mehrling
11/23 Ron Hawkinson
11/30 Sarah Kelvie

Coffee Serving:

11/2 Sandy Meyer & Mary Barlau
11/9 Jacquelyn Farm & Karen Lehner
11/16 Deb & Mike Gennow
11/23 Sandy Johnson & Nancy Sacco
11/30 Deb & Mike Gennow

Focus on Faith

Our Autumnal Celebrations of Faith

The month of November has a different feel to it than the rest of the church year. Yes, there's a chill in the air and the smell of pies wafting through the house like incense, but it runs far deeper than that.

We begin the month with a party! As we remember and celebrate those who have gone before us in faith we remember that we, too, are the communion of saints. We are intrinsically joined to all creation, all that has been, and all that will be, through the Lord's death and resurrection. In the Lord we have our being.

We end the month with a party. A new year's eve, of sorts. Celebrating the reign of Christ and the summation of the liturgical year we lift up Christ's name and look with hope toward the coming Advent season. We celebrate our salvation - our *reason for being*.

In gratitude and joy for that salvation and the blessings God bestows on all creation, we must give thanks. We are called to give thanks always - at all times and in all places, to praise the Lord while we have our being.

Like our bond to one another in Christ these celebrations don't just stand alone as floating holidays. Rather when we view the connections between them we discover multiplied value in our shared celebrations. That's something to be thankful for.

WORSHIP WITH US

Sundays @ 9:00 AM

Or join our livestream on Youtube!

Your giving to CSLC is appreciated! Scan the QR code to give through our website or stop in with your offering!



Stewardship News

New member Rachel Maves reflects on the Lord's plans for her and for CSLC.

As you reflect on this verse from Jeremiah, where have you seen the Lord's plans unfolding in your life?

I felt a connection to God and loved him from a young age, but I didn't meet Jesus until Tony Campolo came to Central Junior High School in White Bear Lake in the mid 1980's. Yep. I am that old. We had an all school assembly where he gave a motivational talk, but then he invited students to come back for an evening talk. It was pretty easy to get permission to go back to school for that. At the end, he shared the gospel and I prayed to receive Christ. At that point, things shifted for me spiritually in ways that I did not plan. I began going to a Lutheran church youth group and then began to sing in a youth choir. The joy of singing to and for Jesus is like none other.

You're fairly new to CSLC. What was it that led you here? Did the Lord have a guiding hand in bringing you here?

I was looking for a local weekly Bible study to participate in. Throughout my life my faith has been nurtured, sustained, and grown through times in the Bible with others. It is the fuel that keeps me going. In college, I was mentored through InterVarsity Christian Fellowship and a central focus of that ministry is learning how to study the Bible for yourself and then spreading the gospel through on campus Bible Studies. After graduation, I just kept on studying the Bible with others and never stopped. Without regular Bible Study I get cranky.

What are you most excited about here at CSLC? In what ways do you see the Lord at work in the ministries of the congregation?

The Wednesday morning Bible study folks are amazing. They took me in right away. I regularly learn big words as well as feel comfortable sharing and asking hard questions. I love learning from every single person gathered around that table. It is a feast of wisdom, laughter, frustration, and exaltation.

There is nothing stuffy about CSLC. I appreciate that. I am pretty sure that when Jesus walked this earth that people didn't find him stuffy either. He was the King, but first and foremost a humble servant both of the Father and us. The babies and the beasts were safe with Him.

The members of this church have made me feel welcome and wanted and that is why I stayed. I was a neighbor in need of a new home. The Lord is already here doing a new work among you and I wanted to be a part of it too.

FOR I KNOW THE PLANS
I HAVE FOR YOU
SAYS THE LORD
PLANS TO PROSPER YOU
AND NOT TO HARM YOU
PLANS TO GIVE
YOU A HOPE
AND A FUTURE
JEREMIAH 29:11



Membership, Attendance, and Statistics

Statistics Through Sunday, October 19

Membership Jan. 1: **307**

Members Added (baptism, transfer, statistical adj.): **7**

Members Removed (death, transfer, inactive): **27**

Current Membership: **287**

Average in-person Attendance: **59**

Average online Attendance: **18**

Total Stewardship Pledges to 2025 Budget: **33**

Total pledged amount: **\$113,508**

Pledged funds given so far: **\$75,409**

Synod News

Listening Sessions With Bishop Election Committee
Saturday, Nov. 1 - 10 a.m. at Augustana Lutheran Church in West St. Paul OR Thursday, Nov. 6 - 7 p.m. at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in Shoreview

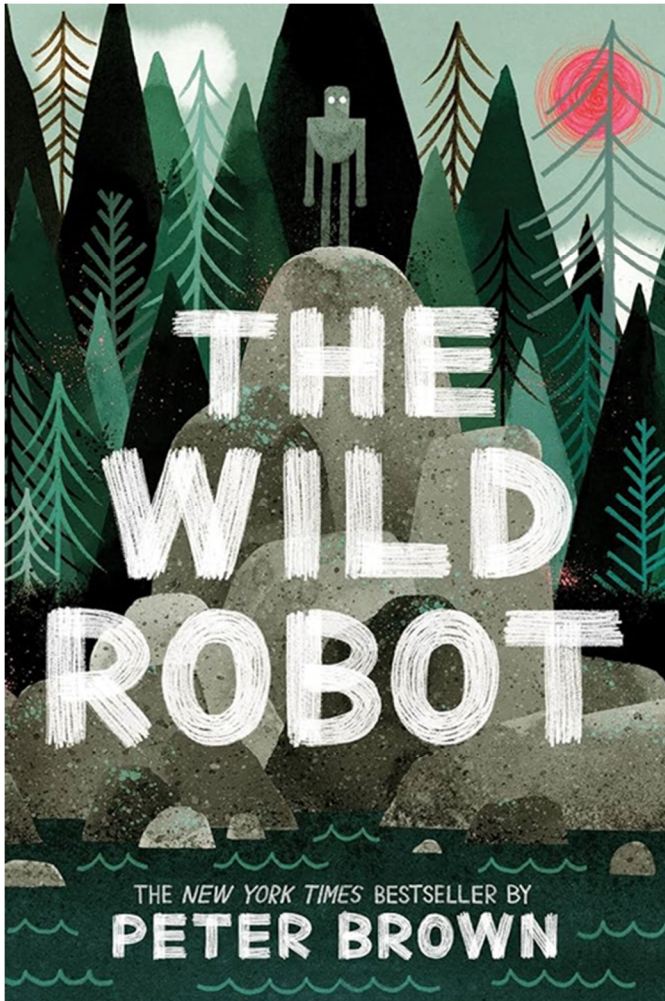
The Saint Paul Area Synod will be electing a new bishop in 2026 and the Bishop Election Committee wants to hear from YOU as we begin the journey of discerning our new leader. What qualities, values and leadership do you believe are essential for the next bishop to faithfully guide our synod? All congregation members around the synod are invited to be part of this call process. No registration is necessary; just show up!



November Calendar



Sun							Mon							Tue							Wed							Thu							Fri							Sat						
26							27							28							29							30							31							1						
2							3							4							5							6							7							8						
Daylight Saving Time 8am - Bible Study 9:30am - Joint Worship 10am - Fellowship 11:15am - EFLC Sunday							9am - Package bread and 12pm - Picemakers (FH)							Election Day 7am - Bread Preparation 8:30am - Bread 6:30pm - Lake Country 7pm - AA (FH)							10am - Bible Study (FH) @ 6pm - Care of Creation 6pm - Youth 7pm - AA Meeting (Class)							5:30pm - EF Choir																				
9							10							11							12							13							14							15						
8am - Bible Study 9am - Worship @ CSLC-1 10am - Fellowship 11:15am - EFLC Sunday 12:30pm - EFLC Worship							9am - Package bread and 12pm - Picemakers (FH) 5:30pm - Cedar							Veterans Day 7am - Bread Preparation 8:30am - Bread 7pm - AA (FH)							10am - Bible Study (FH) @ 11:30am - Senior H/Likes 6pm - Youth 7pm - AA Meeting (Class)							5:30pm - EF Choir 6pm - EF Board Meeting 6:30pm - Community							8:30am - Men's Breakfast 9:30am - Come Tie with 9:30am - Women's Bible 11am - Revelation													
16							17							18							19							20							21							22						
8am - Bible Study 9am - Worship @ CSLC-1 10am - Fellowship 11:15am - EFLC Sunday 12:30pm - EFLC Worship 1:45pm - EF Board							9am - Package bread and 12pm - Picemakers (FH)							7am - Bread Preparation 8:30am - Bread 7pm - AA (FH)							10am - Bible Study (FH) @ 6pm - Youth 7pm - AA Meeting (Class)							6pm - A-Team 6pm - Church Council							9am - Picemakers @ 5:30pm - EF Choir							11am - Revelation						
23							24							25							26							27							28							29						
8am - Bible Study 9am - Worship @ CSLC-1 10am - Fellowship 11:15am - EFLC Sunday 12:30pm - EFLC Worship 1:45pm - EF Board							9am - Package bread and 12pm - Picemakers (FH)							7am - Bread Preparation 8:30am - Bread 6pm - VH Green Team 7pm - AA (FH)							10am - Bible Study (FH) @ 11:30am - Senior H/Likes 7pm - AA Meeting (Class) 7pm - Thanksgiving Eve 7:45pm - PicFest @ CSLC							Thanksgiving Day							Black Friday 5:30pm - EF Choir							9:30am - Women's Bible						
30							1							2							3							4							5							6						
8am - Bible Study 9am - Worship @ CSLC-1 10am - Fellowship 11:15am - EFLC Sunday 12:30pm - EFLC Worship 1:45pm - EF Board																																																



**Community Family
Movie Night**

Friday, November 14

6:30 PM

**Popcorn provided,
soda/drinks 50¢**