

***Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
Reformation Sunday October 25, 2026***

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Prelude Fugue in d minor by J. S. Bach

Welcome and Announcements

Invitation to Pledge: Missy Bergman

***Gathering Hymn** *A Mighty Fortress is our God* ELW 504 (LCGS Favorite)

***Prayer of the Day – volunteer (sign up on the whiteboard to help)**

Let us pray:

Thank you God, for being with us when we are afraid. Teach us that we never need to be afraid of you because you love us always and no matter what. Give us the courage to act in love for our neighbors, following the example of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

Children's Sermon - Katie

Psalm 46

¹ God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

² **Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**

³ though its waters rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

- ⁴ **There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.**
- ⁵ God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;
God shall help it at the break of day.
- ⁶ **The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth melts away.**
- ⁷ The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.
- ⁸ **Come now, regard the works of the LORD,
what desolations God has brought upon the earth;**
- ⁹ behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.
- ¹⁰ **“Be still, then, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”**
- ¹¹ The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

***Gospel Acclamation** Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones ELW 424
*O friends, in gladness let us sing,
supernal anthems echoing: Alleluia! Alleluia!
To God the Father, God the Son,
and God the Spirit, Three in One:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

***Gospel: Matthew 22:34-40**

The holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁴ When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, ³⁵ and one of them, an expert in the law, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶ “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” ³⁷ Jesus said to him, “ ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your

heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’³⁸ This is the greatest and first commandment.³⁹ And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’⁴⁰ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”
The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon – Pastor Liz

Hymn of the Day : VeggieTales Video *God is Bigger than the Bogieman!*

*** Prayers of the People**

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus,
let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God’s creation:

Gracious Father, on this Reformation Day, we pray for your holy worldwide church. Fill it with all truth and peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in anything it is amiss, reform it; where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in need, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it in Jesus Christ who holds all things together.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Compassionate God, be present to all in need of healing, especially those we name aloud and in our hearts ——. Give them what they need for their comfort and well-being.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Resurrected Savior, take away all our fears of death and hell. Help us to trust that your mercy is real and for us. Remind us that you share your new life with us, and bring us into eternal life.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting your mercy through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

~Our prayers come from this community. Please join in crafting them by writing on the bulletin insert titled Prayers of the People. If you have a prayer request you would like to be kept confidential, please drop a note into the prayer request box on the welcome desk.~

***Peace - Pastor**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Invitation to Offering

(not on slide):

During the Reformation, people used fear as a tool to get people to give money to the church. God doesn't need any payment from us in exchange for God's love. God gives to us abundantly and freely- God gives us love, community, hope, peace, and everything we need to live each day. We give as a reflection of God's generosity, and we give because our neighbors need our gifts. We are the way God cares for others.

We are the way God shows love in ways that can be felt, touched- and tasted! The fruit you have brought in as a gift is going to go out into our community and be presented on the Thanksgiving tables of our neighbors. Someone nearby is going to taste God's love - and it's going to taste like apples, or pineapple, or even mixed fruit!

In just a moment, we are going to invite all the young people to go out into the fellowship hall and bring in all the fruit that you have been so generous in gifting, and come up the center aisle to arrange the fruit onto this heart as a reminder that each of these cans is a way you are all acting in love for your neighbors.

Once the can is up here, go out the side door and get more until we have all the cans presented here.

The offering that makes possible the ministry of the church will also be collected at this time- our ushers will hand you a plate and please take that plate, put in your offering or a token of your online offering or offering of time and talents, and pass the plate all the way through your aisle to the usher on the other side. Thank you for your generosity.

Offering “My Lighthouse” by Gareth Gilkeson and Chris Llewellyn

***Offering Presentation Verse:**

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow ELW 885

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

praise God, all creatures here below;

praise God above, ye heav'nly host;

praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Blessing of Offering**

God, we give you thanks because you are so very generous to us. You give us all good things, and you give us enough to share. Bless the offerings dedicated to the ministry of your church. Bless this fruit and bless those who will receive it. Bless their Thanksgiving gatherings and bless our own. As we pass dishes at our own Thanksgiving tables, help us to celebrate the joy of sharing food not only with our family and friends, but also with our neighbors. Thank you for providing for all people. **Amen.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

***Words of Institution**

Lord's Prayer

***Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.***

Distribution

In communion, we experience Jesus for us. The simple elements of bread and wine/juice convey Jesus' love, forgiveness, and grace. All are welcome to receive communion or a blessing. Ushers will invite your pew; continue forward to the communion server on your side of the sanctuary. Please put a hand over your heart for a blessing only. If you wish to receive communion, hold open your hand to receive a wafer. Please tell the server if you need a gluten-free wafer. Dip the wafer in the wine (red) or juice (clear). You may immediately eat the wafer. Continue along the outside of the pews to return to your seat.

Songs during Communion: *Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word* ELW 517
Goodness Is Stronger than Evil ELW 721 (repeat in prayer)

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

***Blessing**

Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
Amen.

***Dismissal**

Go in peace, serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

***Sending Hymn:**

Christ, Be Our Light (v. 3-5)

ELW 715

***Postlude**

Toccata in d minor by J. S. Bach

**Thank you all our volunteers who signed up this morning
and the following who prepared ahead!**

Altar Guild

Janean Tucker

Projections Preparer

Julie Seidelmann

Projectionist

Jody Keppers

Streaming

Brian Fischer

Hospitality

Susen Aulie Next Week: Lois Opseth

This Week at LCGS!

Oct 25, Reformation Sunday

8:45AM Sunday School
8:45AM Choir rehearsal
9:30AM Worship REVERSE
TRICK OR TREAT FOR FRUIT!
10:30AM Coffee Fellowship

Oct 19, Monday

9:00AM –2:00PM Quilters
6:00PM Austin Story Project

Oct 21, Tuesday

8:30AM Laundry Love
6:30PM Safer Together: Beyond
the Gun Control Debate

Oct 22, Wednesday

7:00AM Men's Bible Study
6:00PM Confirmation

Oct 23, Thursday

9:30AM Women's faith study
6:30PM Spirited Faith at Starbucks
@ Bluestone

Oct 24, Friday

8:00AM Women's "Son"rise Bible
Conversation (ZOOM)

Oct 25, Saturday

Oct 26, All Saints Sunday

Daylight Savings! Fall Back 1 hour
8:45AM Choir Rehearsal
8:45AM Sunday School!
9:30AM Worship
10:30AM Coffee Fellowship

LCGS Office is open: M – Th: 9am-4pm Friday: 9am – noon

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