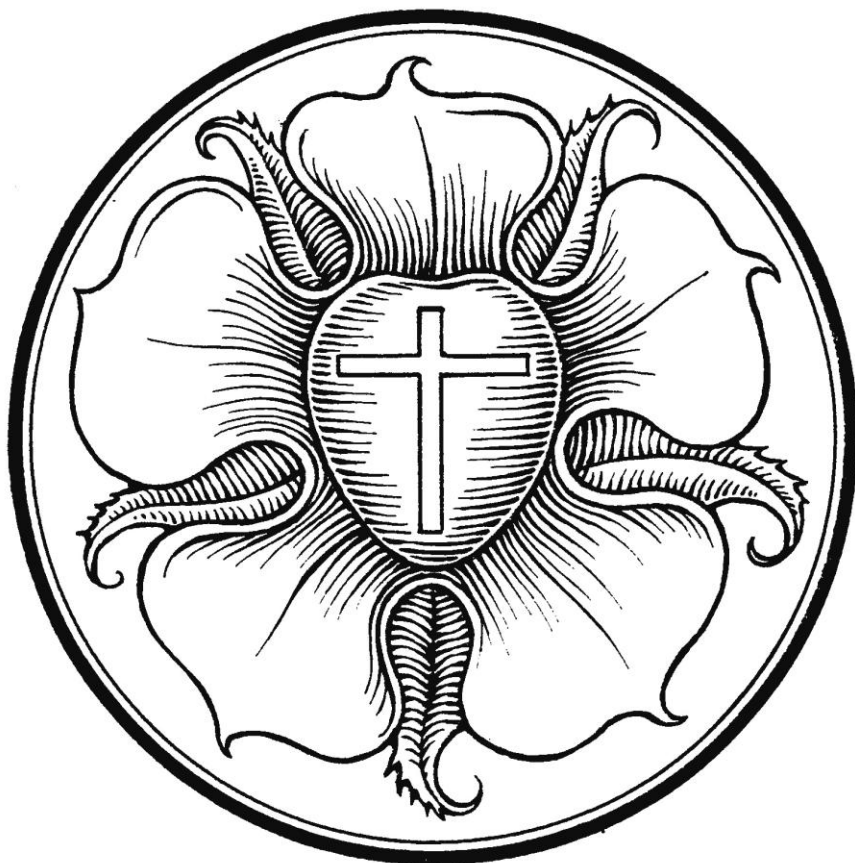


REFORMATION DAY



OCTOBER 25, 2026

ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMS)

124 MAPLE STREET NORTH

LESTER PRAIRIE, MINNESOTA

(320) 395-2573

Pastor Barlau: Cell (612) 394-6224

Pastor email: pastorbarlau@gmail.com

www.stpaullp.org

AS WE GATHER – THE SON OF GOD HAS SET US FREE FROM SIN AND DEATH BY HIS GRACE – “Wisdom is justified by her deeds” (Matt. 11:19), and the true wisdom of God, Christ Jesus, the incarnate Son, justifies us by His deeds. He prepares His way by the preaching of repentance, but He has suffered the violence of the Law and voluntarily handed Himself over to violent men, in order that we may eat and drink with Him in His Kingdom and “remain in the house forever” (John 8:35). He is “a friend of tax collectors and sinners” (Matt. 11:18-19), and He has rescued us by His grace from the slavery of sin and death. By the proclamation of His eternal Gospel “to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people” (Rev. 14:6), “the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law” (Rom. 3:21), “that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus” (Rom. 3:26). And by the hearing of that Gospel of Christ Jesus, “whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith” (Rom. 3:25), “you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free” (John 8:31-32).

DIVINE SERVICE SETTING I P. 151-166

PRESERVICE

(FLUTE TRIO-JANE HOLASEK, AMANDA BARLAU, TRACY PETERSON)

PRESERVICE “CHILD OF GOD” SUNDAY SCHOOL PK-2ND GRADE

OPENING HYMN “A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD” 656

✠ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION ✠ P. 151

✠ THE SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

INTROIT PSALM 34:1-2, 11, 22; ANTIPHON: PSALM 119:46

I will speak of your testimonies before kings, [O Lord,]
and shall not be put to shame.

**I will bless the Lord at all times;
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.**

My soul makes its boast in the Lord;
let the humble hear and be glad.

**Come, O children, listen to me;
I will teach you the fear of the Lord.**

The Lord redeems the life of his servants;
none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;**

**as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

I will speak of your testimonies before kings, [O Lord,]
and shall not be put to shame.

KYRIE

P. 152-153

HYMN OF PRAISE "THIS IS THE FEAST"

P. 155

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

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.

C Amen.

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."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL

PSALM 48:1A, 12-14A

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised in the city of our God! Walk about Zion, go around her, go through her citadels, that you may tell the next generation that this is God, our god forever and ever.

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.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

SUN SCH PREK-6TH GRADE “WE ALL BELIEVE IN ONE TRUE GOD”

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

P. 156

HOLY GOSPEL

JOHN 8:31-26

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

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.

C Praise to You, O Christ

HYMN OF THE DAY “SALVATION UNTO US HAS COME” vs. 1-5 555

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY “SALVATION UNTO US HAS COME” vs. 6-10 555

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

 Lord, in your Mercy,  Hear our Prayer.

In Our Prayers:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| + Linda Kovar | + Bonnie Mueller |
| + Mark Schwartz | + Sonya Clausen |
| + Dave Wroge | + Dan Gueningsman |
| + Associate Pastor | + Maya Radtke |
| + Atticus Aldrich | + Elva Kjenstad |
| + Cheryl Lueck | + Andy Birkholz |
| + Pastor Arndt | + Scott Christenson |
| + Family and Friends of Larry Ide | |

OFFERING

OFFERTORY **p. 159**

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠ p. 160-164

The Sacrament is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that our Lord, as He says, gives not only bread and wine, but His true body and blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation, to repentant, reconciled believers in Christ. Our Lord Jesus invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us (Matt. 26:26-28; 1Cor. 11:23-29; Matt.6:15).

We practice closed communion. Why? (1 Cor. 10:16-17). Because our Lord says those who eat and drink His body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm. If not yet instructed, in doubt, or holding a confession differing from that of the LCMS, you are lovingly asked not to commune at this time. Pastor is happy to make an appointment to discuss adult catechesis or questions you have regarding the Sacrament of the Altar.

Examination Questions: Please prepare by asking yourself — Am I sorry for my sins? Do I believe in Jesus Christ as my Savior from sin? Do I believe that I am receiving the body and blood of Christ along with the bread and wine? Will I try, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to live a more God-pleasing life?

Prayers for “Before communing” and “Thanksgiving after receiving the Sacrament” are printed on the front cover of the hymnal.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“LORD, KEEP US STEADFAST IN YOUR WORD”	655
“THE CHURCH’S ONE FOUNDATION”	644
“O LORD, WE PRAISE THEE”	617
“BUILT ON THE ROCK”	645

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE **P. 164**

COLLECT/BENEDICTION **P. 166**

CLOSING HYMN **“THY STRONG WORD”** **578**

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Attendance Last Week
Sunday: 141
Bible Study: N/A
Sunday School: N/A

Organist:
Lynn Mueller

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY – Our next highway clean-up date will be TODAY Sunday October 25. EVERYONE 12 and older is welcome to help with this service project. We will meet at church at 12:30 PM to watch the safety video, then carpool out to our clean-up site. There is a permission slip that needs to be filled out by a parent if volunteers are between 12 and 17.

2. SPECIAL COLLECTION- The Bahr/Strei Scholarship Fund is a vital initiative supporting college and seminary students, specifically those pursuing degrees in church work. This October, our church will hold a door collection every Sunday to gather contributions. Currently, we are proud to support one student dedicated to this noble calling, and with your generous contributions, we hope to continue assisting future leaders in their educational journey. Your support not only impacts the lives of these students but also strengthens the future of our church community.

3. CALL COMMITTEE – A call committee is being formed to call an associate pastor. Needed are two members of the congregation to join this committee. If interested, please contact Chairman Fred Holasek at 320-405-7903.

4. WINDOWS OF FAITH MATCHING GIFT – We have received a generous offer from a member who is willing to match up to

\$5,000 in new donations to the Windows of Faith campaign. To date we have received \$4,225.00 towards this matching fund. Please prayerfully consider making a contribution so that we can finish off the stained-glass portion of this campaign.

5. TRUNK OR TREAT – It's not too late to sign up to decorate your car trunk and do Trunk or Treat with us in the church parking lot Friday, Oct. 30th from 4:00-6:00! Contact Jane Holasek with any questions.

6. APPRECIATION MONTH – Stewardship would like to remind everyone that October is Church Worker Appreciation Month. Please help us show our church workers how much we appreciate them! There will be a table in the upper narthex with a place to put items for Pastor Barlau and our Administrative Assistant Amanda Streufert. Feel free to leave a note or card of appreciation for them and Stewardship will make sure they get them. Either bring your own card or use the blank ones provided on the table. We are fortunate to have such dedicated people serving the Lord with us!

7. PUMPKIN CARVING – October 31 Pumpkin Carving—Do you need a Jack-o'-lantern for your front porch? Come to church from 1-3p.m. Families are welcome. We have plenty of pumpkins, but you can bring your own. If you need someone to carve a pumpkin for you we will have extra people willing! We will be judging and revealing on Sunday our top 3 pumpkins. Please sign-up on the sheet on the desk in the Upper Narthex.

8. POINSETTIAS- If you would like to order a poinsettia for the Christmas Season, forms are available on the desk in the Upper Narthex. Forms will also be available in the November Lamplighter. Order forms are due November 11th.

9. WINTER GEAR COLLECTION – We will continue collecting new and gently-used KIDS winter gear (coats, hats, mittens) for the Marie Sandvick Center. A box will in the Lower Narthex until November 19th.

10. BASKETS OF BLESSINGS – Through November 15, the LWML is collecting food items for Thanksgiving Dinners to be delivered to the McLeod Food Shelf. Please place your donations into the basket in the lower narthex or in the education wing. Items to Donate: CASH for turkeys, stuffing, cranberry sauce, gravy mix, green beans, canned fried onions, canned pumpkin, pie shells.

11. THANK YOU to everyone who donated school kit supplies. Forty-five backpacks were assembled (thank you to Jane, LaJean, Donna and Lois). They were taken to Mayer to await pick up by Orphan Grain Train and taken to Norfolk, Nebraska warehouse for distribution.

12. SCOTT CHRISTENSON BENEFIT – It's heartwarming to see a community come together to support one of its own, especially when they have dedicated themselves to serving both their church and community as a volunteer firefighter and first responder. Your support and participation undoubtedly contributed to making the pork chop dinner event memorable and a huge success. Thank you for your support of Scott Christenson!

13. SCHEDULE – *November 1* ~ Ushers: 1st Service: Larry Hoof, Stewart Ruwersma, Jr., Derek Zebell; 2nd Service: Paul Seefeldt, Adam Barlau, Brett Schmidt; Acolytes: 1st Service: W. Schauer, J. Schauer; 2nd Service: C. Bebo, T. Herrmann; Greeters- 1st Service: Don & LaJean Hoof, 2nd Service: Shadd & Julie Dial; Flowers: LaJean Hoof; Altar Guild: Jen Schauer and Mandy Lyons; Worship Bags: Elaine Peterson

Calendar of Events

Sun. Oct 25	8:00 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 12:30 p.m.	WORSHIP W/ CONT LINE COMM. Sunday School/ Bible Study WORSHIP W/ CONT LINE COMM. St. Peter Fall Festival Adopt-A-Highway Ditch Clean-up
Mon. Oct 26	Noon	Deadline for Lamplighter 4 th Grade Release Time Class
Wed. Oct 28	Noon 2:55 p.m.	Deadline for Bulletin 5 th /6 th Grade Release Time Class Confirmation Class
Thurs. Oct. 29	7:00 p.m.	Bible Study
Fri. Oct 30	4:00 p.m.	Trunk or Treat
Sat. Oct 31	1:00 p.m.	Pumpkin Carving
Sun. Nov. 1 <i>Daylight Saving time ends</i>	8:00 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION Sunday School/ Bible Study WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION