

Abiding Presence Lutheran Church and Preschool



Lectionary 30

Reformation Sunday

Blessing of Costumes

Sunday, 9:30am, October 25, 2026

Monday, 7:30pm, October 26, 2026

Abiding Presence Church and Preschool

Rt. 25A and Sunken Meadow Road

Fort Salonga, New York 11768

(631) 269-6454

The People of God, Ministers

The Reverend Robert Schoepflin, Pastor

The Reverend Toby Tobias, Pastoral Associate

Ms. Kathy Pucci, Deacon

Mr. Gavin Schwen, Deacon

Mr. Brian Forberg, Deacon

Dr. Thomas Zatorski, Director of Music

Ms. Lisa Pecchio, Soloist

Dcn. Kathy Pucci, Preaching and Presiding

Dcn. Gavin Schwen, Ms. Jean Forberg, Mr. Brian Forberg, Ms. Kathy Smith, Mr. Jim Meyer, Assisting

Ms. Sandra Luethi, Mr. Paul Farber, Ms. Jane Stark, Readers

Ms. Jahnae Mickens, Mr. Nicholas Seery, Greeters

Mr. Hendrick Peters, Greeter Monday Evening

Mr. Paul Farber, Usher

Ms. Janice Norton, Altar Guild

Mr. Patrick O'Donnell, Video Production

Ms. Marialaina Sheehan, Preschool Director



**Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America**

Welcome to Worship!
Lectionary 30
Reformation Sunday
October 25, 2026
9:30am
Abiding Presence Church and Preschool

INTRODUCTION

Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

PRELUDE

“Erhalt uns, Herr, bei deinem Wort”
settings by Johann Pachelbel and J.S. Bach

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

Please stand as you are able

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.
Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
**we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness
in the world and in our own hearts.**

Creation groans from overuse.

Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.

Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.

**Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love
to others.**

Turn our hearts back to you.

Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.

**Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.**

Amen.

Hear this good news:

We have peace with God through ✠ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN 504 "A Mighty Fortress is Our God"



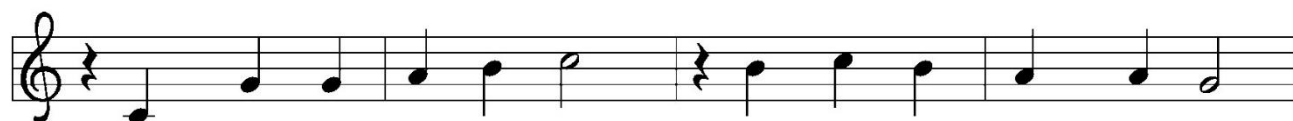
1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who



to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
 ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
 vour us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
 fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
 God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
 weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,



has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
 in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
 goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
 they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*

Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther

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BLESSING OF COSTUMES AND CHILDREN

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray together:

Gracious Father, we pray for your holy catholic 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; for the sake 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.

Please sit

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the Lord means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the Lord will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.

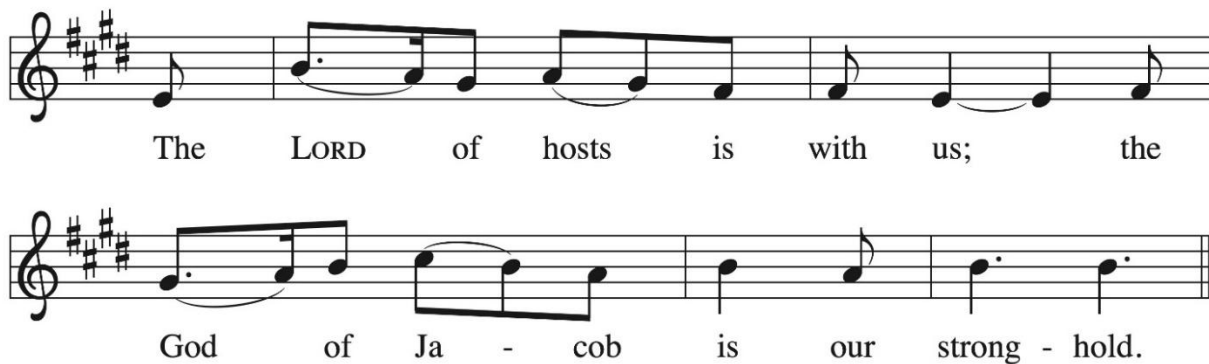
³¹ The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³² It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. ³³ But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴ No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.

Lector/. Word of God. Word of Life. Congregation/. Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 46

(Cantor sings verses. All sing response.)

Response



Psalm 46:7

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- 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. **R**

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. **R**

Second Reading: Romans 3:19-28

Paul’s words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ’s death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

¹⁹ Now we know that, whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰ For no human will be justified before him by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹ But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed and is attested by the Law and the Prophets, ²² the righteousness of God through the faith of Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³ since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴ they are now justified

by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶ it was to demonstrate at the present time his own righteousness, so that he is righteous and he justifies the one who has the faith of Jesus.

²⁷ Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law? That of works? No, rather through the law of faith. ²⁸ For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

Lector/. Word of God. Word of Life. Congregation/. Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able

GOSPEL PROCESSIONAL

(Cantor sings proper verse. All sing Alleluia before and after verse.)



Verses may be sung by a leader. Then the alleluia is repeated.

Gospel: John 8:31-36

Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

The Holy Gospel according to John

Glory to You, O Lord

³¹ Jesus said to the people who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” ³³ They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have

never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free’?” ³⁴ Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵ The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶ So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

GOSPEL RECESSIONAL



Please sit

SERMON

Dcn. Kathy Pucci

Please stand as you are able

HYMN 652

“Built on a Rock”





fall - ing; crum-bled have spires in ev - 'ry land, bells still are
dwell - ing— high in the heav'ns his tem - ple stands, all earth - ly
ta - tion; he fills our hearts, his hum - ble thrones, grant - ing us
bless - ing; hith - er we come to praise his name, faith in our
ring - ing, man - y may come to hear your Word, who here this



chim-ing and call - ing—call - ing the young and old to rest, call - ing the
tem - ples ex - cel - ling. Yet God who dwells in heav'n a - bove deigns to a -
life and sal - va - tion. Where two or three will seek his face, he in their
Sav - ior con-fess - ing. Je - sus to us his Spir - it sent, mak-ing with
prom-ise is bring - ing: "I know my own, my own know me; you, not the



souls of those dis - tressed, long - ing for life ev - er - last - ing.
bide with us in love, mak - ing our bod - ies his tem - ple.
midst will show his grace, bless-ings up - on them be - stow - ing.
us his cov - e - nant, grant-ing his chil-dren the king - dom.
world, my face shall see; my peace I leave with you. A - men."

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Carl Doving, 1867–1937, adapt.
Music: KIRKEN DEN ER ET GAMMEL HUS, Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–1887
Text © 1958 *Service Book and Hymnal*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,**

he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the + life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (Response: “Your mercy is great.”)

Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world, responding “your mercy is great.”

A brief silence.

As we celebrate Reformation Sunday, we remember the witness of Martin Luther and the reformers of the church in every generation. Empower us to continue the work of reform and renewal in our own day. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the healing of natural places despoiled by pollution and human greed. Give all living creatures access to safe land, water, and air. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We ask your blessing upon all people who have been harmed by the church and its leaders, that the truth may make them free. We pray for the relief of all those who are sick or suffering, especially those on our prayer list, and those we name before you, aloud or in our hearts *pause for names*. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We give thanks for those exploring or returning to a life of faith. Encourage and guide them, that they may find their hope in you. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

With gratitude, we remember those disciples who paved the way for us and all of our beloved dead. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

SHARING OF PEACE

Please sit

ANTHEM ***“ A Mighty Fortress”*** setting by Laura Ann Page
Resounding Praise Bell Choir

OFFERING **NO OFFERING ENVELOPE?**
SCAN THE QR CODE TO CONTRIBUTE



Please stand as you are able

OFFERING HYMN 465 ***“As the Grains of Wheat”***

Refrain

***As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill
were gathered into one to become our bread;***

***so may all your people from all the ends of earth
be gathered into one in you.***

***As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst,
may we share the presence of your love. Refrain***

***Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come
when all creation shares this feast with you. Refrain***

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray: God of creation,
you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you;
make us generous with what we have.
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts
in service to you and in love to our neighbors,
today and always. Amen.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he (+) who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

When our congregation last gathered in worship, we heard again of God's mighty acts and the love shown us in Jesus' life, death, and resurrection. We shared in the holy meal of the Lord's supper.

Now this bread and cup of blessing, is set before us, so that we may share in these same gifts and be strengthened in communion with all the people of God.

Gathered at the Lord's table, our congregation remembered with thanksgiving that "in the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

This is the supper of our Lord Jesus Christ. This same bread and cup, shared in our community of faith, are here given for us. Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ invites you to this table.
All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!
Thanks be to God.

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on

us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Please sit

THE DISTRIBUTION

All who believe that along with the bread and wine we receive the true Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ are invited to the Lord's table to receive the Sacrament. The Sacrament will be distributed in one or two continuous lines at the main aisle. The bread is received in the hand and the communicant then proceeds to a gold chalice for intinction or to a crystal chalice to drink from the common cup, or if so desired, the communicant may receive only the bread. Please let your Communion Minister know if you wish to receive a gluten free wafer. Please follow the guidance of the ushers.

COMMUNION HYMN 878 "Soli Deo Gloria"



1 O God of bless - ings, all praise to you! Your love sur -
 2 All praise for proph - ets, through grace in - spired to preach and
 3 All praise for mu - sic, deep gift pro - found, through hands and
 4 All praise for Je - sus, best gift di - vine through word and
 5 A bil - lion voic - es in one great song, now soft and



rounds us our whole life through. You are the
 wit - ness with hearts on fire. Your Spir - it
 voic - es in ho - ly sound; the psalms of
 wit - ness, in bread and wine; in - car - nate
 gen - tle, now deep and strong, in ev - 'ry



free - dom of those op - pressed; you are the com - fort of all dis -
 choos - es the weak and small to sing the new reign where might - y
 Da - vid, and Mar - y's praise, in word - less splen - dor and lyr - ic
 love song of bound - less grace, priest, teach - er, proph - et in time and
 cul - ture and style and key, from hill and val - ley, with sky and



tressed. Come now, O ho - ly and wel - come guest:
 fall; with them may we live your gos - pel call:
 phrase, with all cre - a - tion one song we raise:
 space, your stead - fast kind - ness with hu - man face:
 sea, with Christ we praise you e - ter - nal - ly:



So - li De - o glo - ri - a! So - li De - o glo - ri - a!

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: SOLI DEO GLORIA, Marty Haugen

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Please stand as you are able

BLESSING

POST COMMUNION HYMN 207 *"Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise"*



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let



ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927
Text and music © 1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

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POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray: Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup,
you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.
Amen.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord make his face shine upon us and be gracious to us. The Lord look upon us with favor, and give us his peace, In the name of the Father and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN 511 *“Thy Strong Word”*



1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; at thy
2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, dark as
3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous; bright with
4 From the cross thy wis - dom shin - ing break - eth



speaking it was done. For created light we
night and deep as death, broke the light of thy sal -
thine own ho - li - ness, glo - rious now, we press toward
forth in conquering might; from the cross for - ev - er



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise to thee who light dost send!



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!

5 Give us lips to sing thy glory,
tongues thy mercy to proclaim,
throats that shout the hope that fills us,
mouths to speak thy holy name.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
May the light which thou dost send
fill our songs with alleluias,
alleluias without end!

6 God the Father, light-creator,
to thee laud and honor be.
To thee, Light of Light begotten,
praise be sung eternally.
Holy Spirit, light-revealer,
glory, glory be to thee.
Mortals, angels, now and ever
praise the holy Trinity!

DISMISSAL

Gathered by Christ, Growing in Faith, Sent to serve.

All are welcome!

Go in peace. Serve in love.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE ***“Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott”*** setting by Donald Hustad

IN OUR PRAYERS FOR COMFORT AND HEALING ARE: Alie, Rakel Anderson, Annette, Jean B., J. Bauer, Margaret Belt, Rich Bender, Betsey Berry, Anthony Bonello, Betty Bose, Keith Bose II, Keith Bose III, Brenda, Bobby Burns, Annabelle Carini, Carol Carini, John Carini, Fran Casola, Claire, Anthony Ceriello, Lindsey Ann Clark, Christel Clausen, Nancy Couture, Mitch Crowley, Vania Davis, Jackie DeVille, Avery Doyno, Mary Donnelly, Jeff Eisner, Elaine, Wayne Ericksen, Felix, Frank Fox, Melinda Geis, Ella Giana, Sal Giannotta, Frank Gonzalez, Kristen Bruce-Gonzalez, Gregory, Thomas H., Ed and June Heidelberger, Jennifer Hoffman, Josephine Hoffman, Jennifer Howard, Dylan Israelian, Joanne, Joe, Cliff Johnson, Kathy, Brian Kennedy, Kristen Kern, Lia Krautmanis, Erik Krisch, Melissa L., Terry Lago, Lauren, Douglas Lozel, Marissa Luethi, Gene Maccarone, Laurie Mandel, Mark, Mason, Mel, Melissa, Stancy Mentnech, Herb Menzel, Doris Meyer, Debra Michels, Carol Minton, Terry Moore, Jennifer Morrell, Debra Morsello, The Murphy Family, Steven N., Matthew Naeher, Kim Nallan, Lindi Nubel, Jane O'Brien, Lucille Ochal, Pamela, Rose P., Patrick, Paul, Richard Pecchio, Dorothy Philcox, Keith Philcox, Nicholas Pohlmann, Ned Price, Jessica Pucci, Ron Pucci, Joseph, Joan and Matt Reilly, Matt Reilly's of Albany, Grace Revere, Lynn R., Margaret Rizzo, Doris Roche, Charlotte Roessle, Jim Rogin, Nancy Rosen, Paul Rosen, Ruth, Jordan S., Sal, Claire Salem, Susan Salerno, Pastor Schoepflin, The Seale Family, Joan Sepp, Jeff Smith, Jeffrey Starke, Stephen, The Strumza Family, Suzanne Stoklosa, Annette Swanson, Gavin Tarsio, Todd, Peter T., Anna T., Julie Tiberie, Michael Wagner, Diane Wattecamps, Bill Wegener, Peter Weichner, Bill Witte, Claire Zatorski, Kathy Zieran, Erwin Zimmermann.

FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY: Courtney Burke, Paul Cassuti, John Delano, Jonathan Dixon, Walton Delano Gouldin, Eric Hank, Jr., Michael Hewson, Alycia A. Howard, Claire James, Justin MacDonald, Katie Mayer, Daniel Murray, Richard Mutari, Jay Rosenwald, Jake Sass, Kaitlin Stark, Bryce Michael Wheeler, Rachel Williams.



THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given in memory of Frank Fox from the Music Ministry of Abiding Presence Church.

THE BREAD AND WINE are offered in loving memory of Jack. We love and miss you every day. Love, Kathy, Jody, and Rob.

Daily Bible Readings for Year A (October 25 – November 1)
From *EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP*

The foundational premise of this set of daily readings is their relationship to the Sunday lectionary. The readings are chosen so that the days leading up to Sunday (Thursday through Saturday) prepare for the Sunday readings. The days flowing out from Sunday (Monday through Wednesday) reflect upon the Sunday readings.

Sun 10/25	<i>Lectionary 30</i> Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18 Psalm 1 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8 Matthew 22:34-46	<i>Reformation Sunday</i> Jeremiah 31:31-34 Psalm 46 Romans 3:19-28 John 8:31-36
Mon 10/26	Psalm 119:41-48 Deuteronomy 6:1-9, 20-25 James 2:8-13	
Tues 10/27	Psalm 119:41-48 Deuteronomy 10:10-22 James 2:14-26	
Wed 10/28	Psalm 119:41-48 Proverbs 16:1-20 Matthew 19:16-22	<i>All Saints</i> Revelation 7:9-17 Psalm 34:1-10, 22 1 John 3:1-3 Matthew 5:1-12
Thurs 10/29	Psalm 43 1 Samuel 2:27-36 Romans 2:17-29	
Fri 10/30	Psalm 43 Ezekiel 13:1-16 2 Peter 2:1-3	
Sat 10/31	Psalm 43 Malachi 1:6—2:9 Matthew 23:13-28	
Sun 11/1	<i>Lectionary 31</i> Micah 3:5-12 Psalm 43 2 Thessalonians 2:9-13 Matthew 23:1-12	<i>All Saints</i> Revelation 7:9-17 Psalm 34:1-10, 22 1 John 3:1-3 Matthew 5:1-12

Monday, October 26, 2026
7:30 pm

PRELUDE

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.

Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
**we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness
in the world and in our own hearts.**

Creation groans from overuse.

Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.

Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.

**Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love
to others.**

Turn our hearts back to you.

Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.

**Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.**

Amen.

Hear this good news:

We have peace with God through † Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN 504 *“A Mighty Fortress is Our God”*



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -
4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who



to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
ject - ed. But now a cham-pion comes to fight, whom
your us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,



has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther
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GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together:

Gracious Father, we pray for your holy catholic 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; for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

GOSPEL: John 8:31-36

Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

The Holy Gospel according to John
Glory to You, O Lord

³¹ Jesus said to the people who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” ³³ They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free’?” ³⁴ Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵ The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶ So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Please sit

REFLECTION

Dcn. Kathy Pucci

Please stand as you are able

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (Response: “Your mercy is great.”)

Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world, responding “your mercy is great.”

A brief silence.

As we celebrate the Reformation, we remember the witness of Martin Luther and the reformers of the church in every generation. Empower us to continue the work of reform and renewal in our own day. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the healing of natural places despoiled by pollution and human greed. Give all living creatures access to safe land, water, and air. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We ask your blessing upon all people who have been harmed by the church and its leaders, that the truth may make them free. We pray for the relief of all those who are sick or suffering, especially those on our prayer list, and those we name before you, aloud or in our hearts *pause for names*. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We give thanks for those exploring or returning to a life of faith. Encourage and guide them, that they may find their hope in you. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

With gratitude, we remember those disciples who paved the way for us and all of our beloved dead. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SHARING OF PEACE

OFFERING

NO OFFERING ENVELOPE?
SCAN THE QR CODE TO CONTRIBUTE



OFFERING HYMN 465 *“As the Grains of Wheat”*

Refrain

*As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill
were gathered into one to become our bread;
so may all your people from all the ends of earth
be gathered into one in you.*

*As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst,
may we share the presence of your love. Refrain*

*Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come
when all creation shares this feast with you. Refrain*

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray: God of creation,
you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you;
make us generous with what we have.
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts
in service to you and in love to our neighbors,
today and always.
Amen.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.
It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all
places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our
Savior Jesus Christ.
And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of
heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of
your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he (+) who comes in the
name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

When our congregation last gathered in worship, we heard again of God's mighty acts and the love shown us in Jesus' life, death, and resurrection. We shared in the holy meal of the Lord's supper.

Now this bread and cup of blessing, is set before us, so that we may share in these same gifts and be strengthened in communion with all the people of God.

Gathered at the Lord's table, our congregation remembered with thanksgiving that "in the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

This is the supper of our Lord Jesus Christ. This same bread and cup, shared in our community of faith, are here given for us. Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ invites you to this table.

All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

Thanks be to God!

AGNUS DEI



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

THE DISTRIBUTION

Gluten-free wafers are available. When you come forward, please let your Communion Minister know if you wish to receive a gluten-free wafer.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray: Sustaining God,

with this bread and cup,

you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.

By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.

Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,

following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

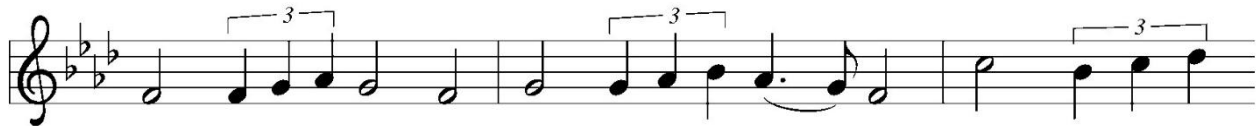
Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

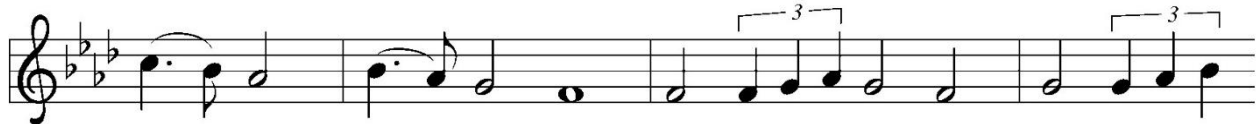
The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord make his face shine upon us and be gracious to us. The Lord look upon us with favor, and give us his peace, In the name of the Father and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN 511

“Thy Strong Word”



1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; at thy
2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, dark as
3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous; bright with
4 From the cross thy wis - dom shin - ing break - eth



speaking it was done. For created light we
night and deep as death, broke the light of thy sal -
thine own ho - li - ness, glo - rious now, we press toward
forth in con - qu'ring might; from the cross for - ev - er



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise to thee who light dost send!



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!

5 Give us lips to sing thy glory,
tongues thy mercy to proclaim,
throats that shout the hope that fills us,
mouths to speak thy holy name.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
May the light which thou dost send
fill our songs with alleluias,
alleluias without end!

6 God the Father, light-creator,
to thee laud and honor be.
To thee, Light of Light begotten,
praise be sung eternally.
Holy Spirit, light-revealer,
glory, glory be to thee.
Mortals, angels, now and ever
praise the holy Trinity!

SENDING

A: Gathered by Christ, Growing in Faith, Sent to serve

C: All are welcome!

A: Go in peace. Serve in love.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

IN OUR PRAYERS FOR COMFORT AND HEALING ARE: Alie, Rakel Anderson, Annette, Jean B., J. Bauer, Margaret Belt, Rich Bender, Betsey Berry, Anthony Bonello, Betty Bose, Keith Bose II, Keith Bose III, Brenda, Bobby Burns, Annabelle Carini, Carol Carini, John Carini, Fran Casola, Claire, Anthony Ceriello, Lindsey Ann Clark, Christel Clausen, Nancy Couture, Mitch Crowley, Vania Davis, Jackie DeVille, Avery Doino, Mary Donnelly, Jeff Eisner, Elaine, Wayne Ericksen, Felix, Frank Fox, Melinda Geis, Ella Giana, Sal Giannotta, Frank Gonzalez, Kristen Bruce-Gonzalez, Gregory, Thomas H., Ed and June Heidelberger, Jennifer Hoffman, Josephine Hoffman, Jennifer Howard, Dylan Israelian, Joanne, Joe, Cliff Johnson, Kathy, Brian Kennedy, Kristen Kern, Lia Krautmanis, Erik Krisch, Melissa L., Terry Lago, Lauren, Douglas Lozel, Marissa Luethi, Gene Maccarone, Laurie Mandel, Mark, Mason, Mel, Melissa, Stancy Mentnech, Herb Menzel, Doris Meyer, Debra Michels, Carol Minton, Terry Moore, Jennifer Morrell, Debra Morsello, The Murphy Family, Steven N., Matthew Naeher, Kim Nallan, Lindi Nubel, Jane O'Brien, Lucille Ochal, Pamela, Rose P., Patrick, Paul, Richard Pecchio, Dorothy Philcox, Keith Philcox, Nicholas Pohlmann, Ned Price, Jessica Pucci, Ron Pucci, Joseph, Joan and Matt Reilly, Matt Reilly's of Albany, Grace Revere, Lynn R., Margaret Rizzo, Doris Roche, Charlotte Roessle, Jim Rogin, Nancy Rosen, Paul Rosen, Ruth, Jordan S., Sal, Claire Salem, Susan Salerno, Pastor Schoepflin, The Seale Family, Joan Sepp, Jeff Smith, Jeffrey Starke, Stephen, The Strumza Family, Suzanne Stoklosa, Annette Swanson, Gavin Tarsio, Todd, Peter T., Anna T., Julie Tiberie, Michael Wagner, Diane Wattecamps, Bill Wegener, Peter Weichner, Bill Witte, Claire Zatorski, Kathy Zieran, Erwin Zimmermann.

FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY: Courtney Burke, Paul Cassuti, John Delano, Jonathan Dixon, Walton Delano Gouldin, Eric Hank, Jr., Michael Hewson, Alycia A. Howard, Claire James, Justin MacDonald, Katie Mayer, Daniel Murray, Richard Mutari, Jay Rosenwald, Jake Sass, Kaitlin Stark, Bryce Michael Wheeler, Rachel Williams.



THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given in memory of Frank Fox from the Music Ministry of Abiding Presence Church.

THE BREAD AND WINE are offered in loving memory of Jack. We love and miss you every day. Love, Kathy, Jody, and Rob.

Daily Bible Readings for Year A (October 25 – November 1)
From *EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP*

The foundational premise of this set of daily readings is their relationship to the Sunday lectionary. The readings are chosen so that the days leading up to Sunday (Thursday through Saturday) prepare for the Sunday readings. The days flowing out from Sunday (Monday through Wednesday) reflect upon the Sunday readings.

Sun 10/25	<i>Lectionary 30</i> Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18 Psalm 1 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8 Matthew 22:34-46	<i>Reformation Sunday</i> Jeremiah 31:31-34 Psalm 46 Romans 3:19-28 John 8:31-36
Mon 10/26	Psalm 119:41-48 Deuteronomy 6:1-9, 20-25 James 2:8-13	
Tues 10/27	Psalm 119:41-48 Deuteronomy 10:10-22 James 2:14-26	
Wed 10/28	Psalm 119:41-48 Proverbs 16:1-20 Matthew 19:16-22	<i>All Saints</i> Revelation 7:9-17 Psalm 34:1-10, 22 1 John 3:1-3 Matthew 5:1-12
Thurs 10/29	Psalm 43 1 Samuel 2:27-36 Romans 2:17-29	
Fri 10/30	Psalm 43 Ezekiel 13:1-16 2 Peter 2:1-3	
Sat 10/31	Psalm 43 Malachi 1:6—2:9 Matthew 23:13-28	
Sun 11/1	<i>Lectionary 31</i> Micah 3:5-12 Psalm 43 2 Thessalonians 2:9-13 Matthew 23:1-12	<i>All Saints</i> Revelation 7:9-17 Psalm 34:1-10, 22 1 John 3:1-3 Matthew 5:1-12

THE PARISH COUNCIL

*If you would like contact information for the council members listed below,
please call the church office at 631-269-6454.*

Joanne Pittfick, President
Pr. Robert Schoepflin, Vice-President
Brian Ansink, Fellowship
Karen Garone, Finance
Joie Burkhardt, Treasurer
Karen Garone, Assistant Treasurer
Mark Waldron, Assistant Treasurer
Barbara Kaifler, Secretary
Marina Bedrossian, Youth
Paul Fick, Property
Karen Wallin, Social Ministries
Betty Bose, Music and Worship
Aubrey Minton, Christian Education
Paul Farber, Stewardship
Lauri Christiansen-Wegener, Outreach and Marketing (Evangelism)

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Sunday Schedule	9:30am In person and Live stream via YouTube	The Holy Eucharist
Monday Evening	7:30pm In Person *Second and Fourth Sundays*	The Holy Eucharist
Sunday school N3 – Grade 5	9:30am In person	September - May

OUR MISSION

The mission of Abiding Presence Lutheran Church, a spiritual home centered in Christ and community, is to share Jesus' love in our words and in our works as we welcome all to the family of God.



CHURCH WEBSITE



PRESCHOOL WEBSITE

Church: www.abidingpresencechurch.org email: abidingpresenceoffice@gmail.com
Preschool: www.abidingpresencepreschool.com email: aplcpreschool@gmail.com