

Reformation Day October 31, 2021 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

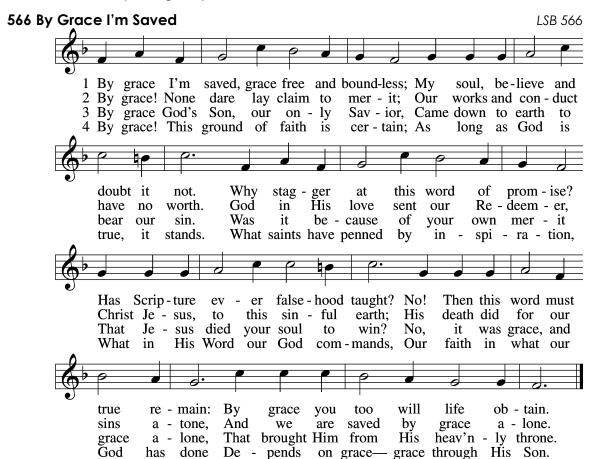


Christ Lutheran Church
3509 SW Burlingame Rd.
Topeka, KS 66611
785-266-6263
www.christlcms.org
Rev. Ben Micheel, Pastor
Amanda Adams, DCE
Chris Francik, TLS Principal



As we gather this morning, please take time to fill out the fellowship pad located near the center aisle in your pew. If you have any prayer requests, feel free to use a prayer request card from the pew rack in front of you, and place it in the offering plate after the sermon. (For those joining us online, please contact the church office.) We will include these requests in our prayers during worship, and share them with our prayer chain (if desired).

#### **Welcome and Opening Prayer**



- 5 By grace to timid hearts that tremble,
  In tribulation's furnace tried,
  By grace, in spite of fear and trouble,
  The Father's heart is open wide.
  Where could I help and strength secure
  If grace were not my anchor sure?
- 6 By grace! On this I'll rest when dying; In Jesus' promise I rejoice; For though I know my heart's condition, I also know my Savior's voice. My heart is glad, all grief has flown Since I am saved by grace alone.

Stand

#### Divine Service Setting One, page 151

+ Confession and Absolution +

Confession, to confess to God our sins and sinful nature. Absolution, "To absolve of sin and wrongdoing," more specifically, to affirm God's forgiveness to all who sincerely confess their sins to Him.

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

**Invocation**Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

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

  → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

**Exhortation** 1 John 1:8–9 151

- **P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination. Consider: Have you loved God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength? Have you loved your neighbor as yourself?

Confession of Sins LSB 151

- **P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

- P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

#### Service of the Word

#### Introit

Psalm 34:1-2, 11, 22; antiphon: Psalm 119:46

- P I will speak of your testimonies before kings, [O Lord,]
- **C** and shall not be put to shame.
- **P** I will bless the LORD at all times;
- **C** his praise shall continually be in my mouth.
- **P** My soul makes its boast in the LORD;
- **C** let the humble hear and be glad.
- P Come, O children, listen to me;
- I will teach you the fear of the LORD.
- P The LORD redeems the life of his servants;
- onne 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.
- P I will speak of your testimonies before kings, [O Lord,]
- and shall not be put to shame.



**Kyrie** Mark 10:47 152

A Greek phrase meaning, "Lord, have mercy!" A brief prayer not only imploring God's mercy but rejoicing in it through Jesus Christ.

**P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



**P** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



**P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



P Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.



#### Salutation and Collect of the Day

"Salutation" is a word from Latin meaning, "to greet." "Collect" (KAH-lekt), a brief structured prayer, usually consisting of five parts: address to God, basis for the prayer, petition, desired benefit or result, and trinitarian conclusion. The Collect of the Day also "collects" the message of the day's Gospel reading.

**P** The Lord be 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.



Sit

## First Reading Revelation 14:6–7

The First Reading is from Revelation, chapter 14.

<sup>6</sup>Then 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. <sup>7</sup>And 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.

Here I Am, Lord Choir

Due to copyright restrictions, we cannot reprint lyrics or stream the performance of this song.

**Epistle**Romans 3:19–28

The Epistle is from Romans, chapter 3.

<sup>19</sup>Now 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. <sup>20</sup>For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

<sup>21</sup>But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—<sup>22</sup>the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: <sup>23</sup>for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup>and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup>whom 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. <sup>26</sup>It 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.

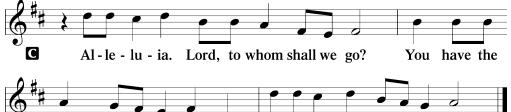
<sup>27</sup>Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. <sup>28</sup>For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

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

Stand

### Alleluia and Verse

Hebrew word meaning "praise the LORD." Also spelled "Hallelujah".







Holy Gospel John 8:31–36

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



<sup>31</sup>So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, <sup>32</sup>and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." <sup>33</sup>They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?"

<sup>34</sup>Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. <sup>35</sup>The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. <sup>36</sup>So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.





#### Nicene Creed

Creed comes from the Latin "credo" which means "I believe." We confess our Christian faith in one of the three creeds (short statement of belief) agreed upon by the ancient church.

I believe in one God. the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ. the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds. God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made: who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man: and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and

the dead,

whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins. and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

#### Children's Message

Matthew 19:14; Mark 13:13-15; Luke 18:16

Children are invited to join Amanda Adams, our Director of Christian Education, at the front of the sanctuary for the Children's Message.



#### Sermon

#### Offering

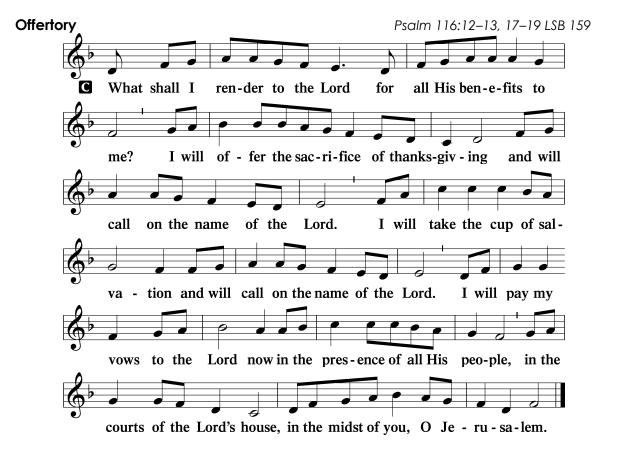
If you brought your gift, tithe, or offering with you today, you may place it in the offering plate as it passes. We also have multiple options for electronic giving. You can sign up for online giving at pushpay.com/pay/christlcms for a one-time or recurring gift. Direct links with more information are available on the church website (christlcms.org/giving).

For those joining us remotely, you may use the electronic giving methods listed above, or you may mail your offering to the church office (3509 SW Burlingame Rd, Topeka, KS 66611).



SCAN ME

#### Stand



#### Prayer of the Church

1 Timothy 2:1-4

At the end of each petition, the pastor will say, "Lord, in Your mercy," to which the congregation will respond, "Hear our prayer."

- ...through Jesus Christ, Your son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

#### Service of the Sacrament

#### Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136] LSB 160

P The Lord be with you.



P Lift up your hearts.

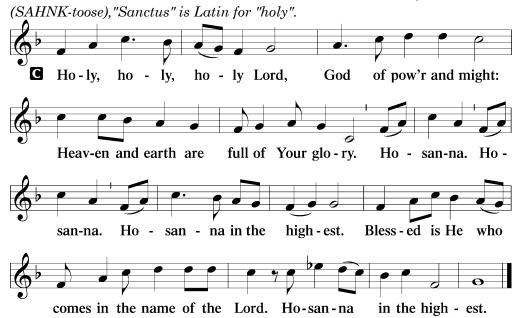


P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



#### **Proper Preface (Full)**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



#### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

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Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. 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.



- P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- C 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.

#### 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."

Pax Domini John 20:19 163

(PAKS DOH-mee-nee), Latin for "peace of the Lord" (John 20:19).

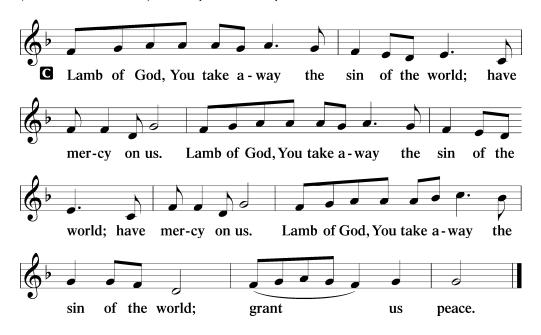
P The peace of the Lord be with you always.





Agnus Dei John 1:29 LSB 163

(AHG-noose DAY-ee). Latin for "Lamb of God."



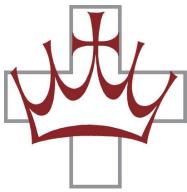
Sit

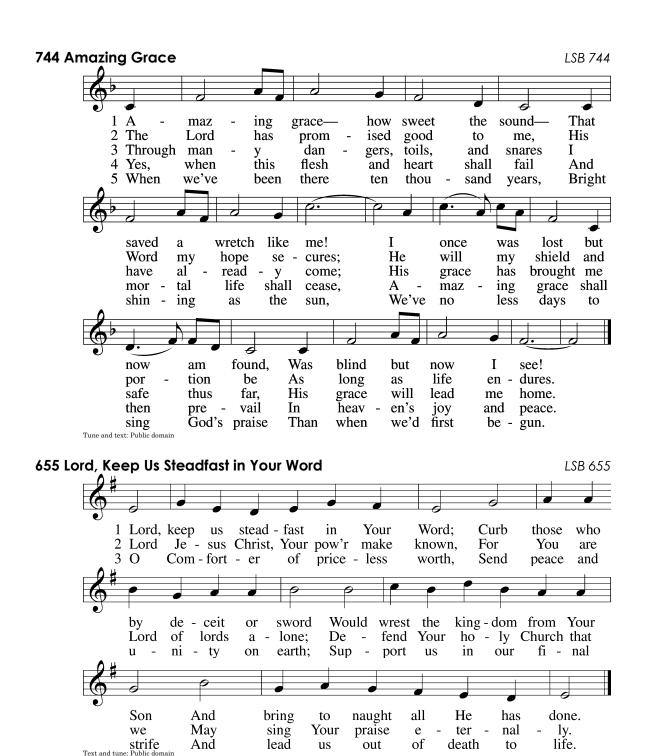
#### **Distribution**

Communion is reserved for those who are members of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod or members of a church body in fellowship with the LCMS unless special arrangements have been made with the pastor. The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first. Then they will distribute it to those who cannot come up to the altar rail due to physical ailments. Following that the ushers will dismiss the people from their pews to go to the altar rail. The congregation will be ushered down the middle aisle to go up to the rail and when dismissed from there will use the side aisle to return to their seats. All are invited up to receive a blessing.









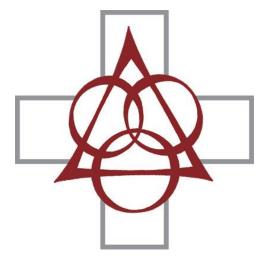


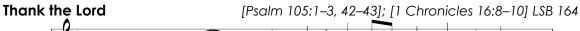


- 5 Yet as the Law must be fulfilled
  Or we must die despairing,
  Christ came and has God's anger stilled,
  Our human nature sharing.
  He has for us the Law obeyed
  And thus the Father's vengeance stayed
  Which over us impended.
- 6 Since Christ has full atonement made
  And brought to us salvation,
  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.
- △10 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.

Stand







**C** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



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

#### **Post-Communion Collect**

P Let us pray.

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.



#### **Luther's Morning Prayer**

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

**Benediction** Numbers 6:24–26 166

A final blessing from God this morning before we leave.

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

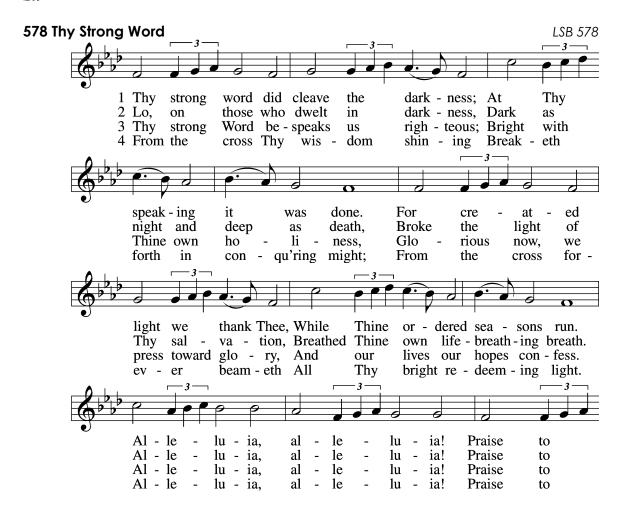
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

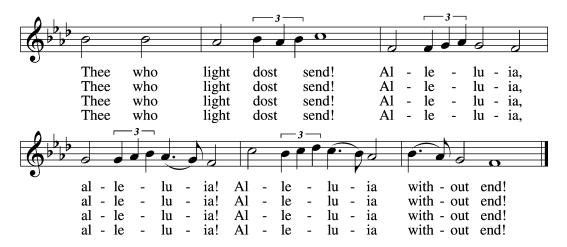
The Lord look upon you with favor and 

→ give you peace.



Sit





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!

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#### Acknowledgments

## -- Week at a Glance --

Sunday October 31st	9:15 am	Worship Service w/ Communion Reformation Celebration (activitie Reformation Potluck	s for all ages) Reformation Day
Monday November 1st			
Tuesday November 2nd	· ·	Christian Skate Night at Sk8away Elders Meeting	Election Day
Wednesday November 3rd	5:30 pm	Confirmation WWF – potluck & game night Choir Practice	
Thursday November 4th	2:00 pm	Chair Aerobics	
Friday November 5th	6:00 pm	TLS Camp Out	
Saturday November 6th	10:00 am	Women's Monthly Bible Study Men's Bible Study (via Zoom) Trivia Night	
Sunday November 7th		Worship Service w/ Communion Sunday School (children & adults)	

#### **Celebrating**

**Birthdays:** Dennis B., David G. (31st); Darric C., Matthew G., Ryan H. (1st); Marjean P. (2nd); Liz H. (3rd); Wayne K., Chris N. (4th); Glenna B., Kinley G., Terry L., Jana R., Duane S. (5th); Lisa D. (6th); Michelle K., Steffan W. (7th)

Baptism Birthdays: Jolene B., Frank J., John W. (31st); Marlee C., Dylan E., Sharon L., Vikki N. (1st); Tagen K. (2nd); Elijah H. (3rd); Nicholas H., Jacob L. (4th); Kaitlyn M.(6th)

**Anniversaries:** (none this week)

## -- Announcements --

#### Adult Sunday School Hour (9:15 am)

Journey through Psalms with Pastor Ben – Schemm Family Life Center (Gym) God's Word for Today: Acts – Basement A Walk Through the Bible (Women's Group) – Pastor's Office

#### Children/Youth Sunday School Hour (9:15 am)

Children (Pre-K through  $6^{th}$  grade) — Upstairs Education Wing Youth ( $7^{th}$ - $12^{th}$  grades) — Basement Youth Room

#### Pastor's Midweek Bible Study

The Epistles – Thursday at 7 PM – Basement Our class is now Thursdays at 7 PM , but will NOT meet on the first week of each month.

#### **Mask Information**

Face masks are still optional throughout the church building. Disposable masks are available at all church entrances for those who would like one. Children's size masks are located by the main entrance. Reusable cloth masks are available by the church office. For more information regarding masking, please visit <a href="www.cdc.gov">www.cdc.gov</a>.

#### **Bible Reading Challenge Prizes**

Did you make it all the way through Paul's Epistles? Bring your completed reading log to church, and pick up your prize – a Luther's Rose keychain – in the coffee lobby!

#### Reformation Celebration & Potluck

TODAY! Join us for our Reformation Celebration during Sunday School hour at 9:15 AM. We'll have activities for all ages in the Schemm Family Life Center (gym). Then at 11:45 AM (after worship services), we'll have a potluck dinner. German foods are encouraged, but your favorite dish to share is always welcome.

#### **Kansas District Reformation Offering**

It's time for the annual Kansas District Reformation Offering, which supports the Rev. Eugene Schmidt Memorial Mission Fund. This fund helps mission outreach *HERE IN KANSAS*, including church revitalization, church planting, and other specialized ministries. If you'd like to contribute to this special offering, you can donate online through the Kansas District website, <u>kslcms.org/donate</u>, or send a check with "2021 Reformation Offering" in the memo line to LCMS Kansas District, 1000 SW 10<sup>th</sup> Ave., Topeka, KS, 66604-1104. We're grateful for your support as we work together to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ throughout the state!

# -- Announcements --

#### **Matching Funds**

A member of our congregation has generously offered \$10,000 in matching funds for the next \$10,000 donated toward our Debt Reduction! Thank you for your continued gifts.

#### **Christian Skate Night**

All are welcome to join us at Sk8away on Tuesday, Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> from 6-8 PM for Christian Skate Night. \$5 covers admission and skate rental.

#### <u>Trivia Night</u>

Join us for trivia night on Saturday, Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>! Doors open at 6 PM, trivia begins at 6:30 PM. Suggested donation per player is \$10 – please sign up through the church website (christlems.org) or contact the church office. Snacks and childcare are included. All funds raised will help offset costs for those attending the National LCMS Youth Gathering in 2022. Thank you for supporting Christ Youth!

#### Children's Christmas Program

It's almost that time of year again! Rehearsals for our Children's Christmas Program will begin on November 14<sup>th</sup> during the regular Sunday School hour. If your child would like to participate, please contact Amanda Adams.

#### **Chair Aerobics Class**

Tina Shadley's class begins on Thursday, November  $4^{\rm th}$ . They will meet weekly on Thursdays from 2-3 pm in the gym here at Christ. For more information, please contact Tina Shadley or Adair Hartman.

#### **Veterans**

LWML would like to recognize our veterans again this November. If you received a card from them last year, we have you on our list already. But if you are a veteran and have NOT received a card from LWML previously, please contact the church office by 11/3.

#### **Care Packages for Active Military**

We would like to send Christmas Care Packages to those actively serving in the military who are members (or children/grandchildren of members) here at Christ. Please submit names and addresses of military personnel to the church office (office@christlcms.org).

#### **Pray for our Soldiers**

Pick up a toy soldier from the back of the sanctuary to remind you to pray for our veterans and active troops!

## -- Announcements --

#### Remembered in our Prayers

Charlie P., Alice M., Luke H., Julie J., Don L., Jerry M., Jean B. (sister Pauline C.'s sister), Judy (Colleen B.'s neighbor), Noel (Colleen B.'s brother), Kathy (Brenda Z.'s sister-in-law), Shirley (Frank J.'s grandmother), Melanie (Sharon L.'s daughter), Ella (Marsha S.'s granddaughter), Kent B., Jeanette W., Lisa (Judy K.'s sister), Randy (Carol J.'s son), Jeanette B., Madison L., Steve (Rachel M.'s father), Vikki N., Matt N., Lynn M., Virginia C., Avrynn (infant daughter of friends of Mel L.), Leonard (brother of Jeanette B.), Phil B., the McReynold's (friends of Phil B.), JoAnn (friend of Nancy P.), Evelyn (mother of Sandy S.), Marjean P., Ted M., Adam (son of Jamie H.), Carolyn S., Rene A. for a speedy adoption process for Barbara, and others named in your heart. Pray for the Topeka Rescue Mission, Chelsea Irwin and and missionaries around the world. We pray especially for those around the world being persecuted for their faith in the one, true God and the suffering they endure. Please continue to pray for Pastor Ben, DCE Amanda, our staff and their families as they do our Lord's work here at Christ Lutheran. We pray for the staff and students of Topeka Lutheran School and the Center for Young Children. We also pray for those who serve in the armed forces, first responders, and for our country and government. Prayers of thanksgiving for our Lord and Savior and the new life we have in Him.

# Reformation Celebration Sunday, October 31st



9:15 AM
REFORMATION ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES

11:45 AM

POTLUCK DINNER

(GERMAN FOODS ENCOURAGED, BUT ALL DISHES ARE WELCOMED)



# SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6TH

DOORS OPEN AT 6 PM - TRIVIA BEGINS AT 6:30 PM SUGGESTED DONATION OF \$10 PER PERSON

THIS FUNDRAISER WILL HELP OFFSET COSTS FOR THOSE ATTENDING THE NATIONAL LCMS YOUTH GATHERING IN 2022.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING CHRIST YOUTH!

SIGN UP AT CHRISTLCMS.ORG

#### 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, has justified 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, that we might 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).

#### Worship Attendance - Sunday, October 24th

8:00 AM -- 59 10:30 AM -- 88

## **Stewardship Corner**

Budgeted Weekly Needs:	\$	7,878
Offerings Received - Week of 10/24	\$	5,161
Debt Retirement Gifts Received - Week of 10/24	\$	183
Budgeted Needs (Jan - Sept 2021)		07,278
Offerings Received (Jan - Sept 2021)	<b>\$2</b>	92,525

\*\*\*\*

Romans 3:20 – "For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin." The Law of God is good – it's just that we sinners cannot save ourselves by the Law. Salvation is a free gift of God because that is the only way we could ever be saved. The Law shows us God's holiness and thus our own sin. And now in Christ we can look at the Law and see it in a new light – as a guide for how to live a godly life in thanksgiving to God for His gracious forgiveness in Christ.