St. Luke's
Lutheran Church

4801 Anderson Ave
Manhattan, KS 66503
785-539-2604
www.stlukesmanhattan.org

Sharing Jesus Christ's love with those around us.

Sunday, October 25 2026 – 11:00 AM

Rev. Michael J. Schmidt, Sr. Pastor
William Prann, Director of Christian Education
Gretchen Hartsook, Director of Music

REFORMATION DAY (OBSERVED)

(Series A)

WELCOME

We are glad you are here to worship our Savior with us. Please remember to turn your cell phone to silence. Restrooms are on the west side of the sanctuary. Prayer requests can be submitted to the church office through email, office@stlukesmanhattan.org, or by calling 785-539-2604. On Communion Sundays, if you need non-gluten wafers at communion, or need to have communion brought to you, please notify the elder who is serving. We hope you will join us again so that you may experience Jesus.

AS WE GATHER

Freedom is a treasured gift. Nations celebrate it, people long for it, and history remembers those who have fought for it. Yet the freedom Jesus speaks of is greater than any earthly liberty. In today's Gospel, He declares, **"If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."** We are not merely freed from outward burdens but from our deepest enemies: sin, death, and the devil. On this observance of the Reformation, we give thanks that God restored the clear proclamation of this saving Gospel to His Church. With the apostles, the reformers, and Christians of every age, we confess that we are justified by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone. As we gather around God's Word and Sacraments today, we rejoice that the eternal Gospel still sets sinners free and that the truth of Christ continues to be proclaimed to every nation, tribe, language, and people. In Him, we are forgiven. In Him, we are free indeed.

IMAGE ON THE COVER

A mighty fortress is our God,
A trusty shield and weapon;
He helps us free from ev'ry need
That hath us now o'ertaken.
The old evil foe
Now means deadly woe;
Deep guile and great might
Are his dread arms in fight;
On earth is not his equal. LSB *656:1*

PRELUDE

(Please use this time to prayerfully prepare your hearts to enter into the presence of Jesus.)

✠A SERVICE OF WORSHIP AND PRAISE✠

OPENING SONG – Special Music

JuBELLation Handbell Choir

Stand

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

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✢ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES *John 8:31-32, 36; Romans 3:28*

P If you abide in My Word, you are truly My disciples.

C **Then we shall know the truth, and the truth shall set us free.**

P We hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the Law.

C **Salvation is God's gift, received by grace through faith in Christ.**

P If the Son sets you free,

C **We will be free indeed!**

CONFESSION OF SINS

P As we remember the Reformation, we rejoice that the Gospel of Christ is still proclaimed among us and that by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone, our sins are forgiven. Yet we confess that we have not always remained steadfast in His Word nor lived in the freedom He has won for us. Let us therefore come before our gracious Father with repentant hearts.

Lord, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean and have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed.

C **Lord, forgive us for our sinful condition.**

P Lord, You call us to fear, love, and trust in You above all things and to gladly hear and learn Your Word, yet we often trust in ourselves and allow the cares and distractions of this world to draw us away from Your truth.

C **Lord, forgive us for our misplaced trust and neglect of Your Word.**

P Lord, You declare that we are justified by grace through faith apart from works of the Law, yet we often rely upon our own efforts, accomplishments, and worthiness rather than upon Christ alone.

C **Lord, forgive us for our self-righteousness.**

P Lord, You call us to live in the freedom won by Your Son, to love our neighbors, and to confess Christ boldly before the world, yet we return to sinful habits, fail to love as we ought, and remain silent when opportunities arise to speak of Your saving grace.

C **Lord, forgive us for our sins of thought, word, and deed.**

P Heavenly Father, we confess these sins and all the sins that burden our hearts.

C **For the sake of Jesus Christ, who died for our sins and rose again for our justification, have mercy on us, forgive us, renew us, and lead us by Your Holy Spirit, that we may abide in Your truth and walk in the freedom of Your Son; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

ABSOLUTION

P Almighty God, in His mercy, has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, has redeemed you by His holy life, innocent suffering and death, and glorious resurrection. In Him, your sins are forgiven, your guilt is removed, and you are set free from the power of sin, death, and the devil.

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.**

P If the Son sets you free,

C **We are free indeed! Amen.**

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;

C **I will teach you the fear of the LORD.**

P The LORD redeems the life of his servants;

C **none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.**

C **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,]
C **and shall not be put to shame.**

KYRIE *(Greek for "Lord, [have mercy]")*
P In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the holy Christian Church throughout the world, that she may remain steadfast in God's Word and faithfully proclaim the eternal Gospel of Christ crucified and risen, let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For all pastors, teachers, missionaries, and all who serve Christ's Church; and for all who hear and learn God's Word, let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; for those burdened by guilt, troubled in conscience, or tempted to despair; and for all in need of God's mercy, let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For this congregation, that God would strengthen us in the true faith, prosper the preaching of His Word among us, and bless our efforts to proclaim Christ to future generations, let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
C **Amen.**

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, You have set us free by Your holy life, innocent death, and glorious resurrection. Keep us steadfast in Your Word, strengthen us in the true faith, and lead us to live in the freedom You have won for us, that we may boldly confess Your saving Gospel; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

HYMN OF PRAISE – "Way Maker"

1 You are here moving in our midst
I worship You, I worship You
You are here working in this place
I worship You, I worship You
You are here speaking through Your word
I worship You, I worship You
You are here, healing every heart
I worship You, I worship You

2, 3, 5 You are way Maker, miracle Worker
6, 11, 12 Promise Keeper, Light in the darkness
My God, that is who You are

4 You are here touching every heart
I worship You, I worship You
You are here shining in the dark
I worship You, I worship You
You are here turning lives around
I worship You, I worship You
You are here working in our lives
I worship You, I worship You

7, 8 That is who You are, that is who You are
That is who You are, that is who You are

9, 10 Even when I don't see it You're working
Even when I don't feel it You're working
You never stop, You never stop working
You never stop, You never stop working

FIRST READING *Revelation 14:6-7*

(John shares his vision of an everlasting, all-encompassing Gospel.)

6 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. 7 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."

L This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM *Psalm 46; antiphon: v. 7*

L 7 The LORD of hosts is with us;
C **the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

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

L 2 Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,
C **though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,**

L 3 though its waters roar and foam,
C **though the mountains tremble at its swelling.**

L 4 There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
C **the holy habitation of the Most High.**

L [5]God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;
C **God will help her when morning dawns.**

L [6]The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;
C **he utters his voice, the earth melts.**

L [7]The LORD of hosts is with us;
C **the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

L [8]Come, behold the works of the LORD,
C **how he has brought desolations on the earth.**

L [9]He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
C **he breaks the bow and shatters the spear;**
he burns the chariots with fire.

L [10]"Be still, and know that I am God.
C **I will be exalted among the nations,**
I will be exalted in the earth!"

L [11]The LORD of hosts is with us;
C **the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

C **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.

L [7]The LORD of hosts is with us;
C **the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

EPISTLE *Romans 3:19-28*

(Paul declares the sinner is justified by grace through faith.)

[19]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. [20]For by works of the law no human being
will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.
[21]But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the
law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—
[22]the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe.
For there is no distinction: [23]for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of
God, [24]and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is
in Christ Jesus, [25]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. [26]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.
[27]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. [28]For we hold that one is
justified by faith apart from works of the law.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

ALLELUIA AND VERSE *Luke 12:32*

P Alleluia. Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure

C **to give you the kingdom. Alleluia.**

HOLY GOSPEL *John 8:31-36*

(Christ announces Himself as the Son who gives freedom to sin's slaves.)

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

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

31 So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, *"If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, 32 and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."* 33 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'?"

34 Jesus answered them, *"Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. 35 The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. 36 So 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.**

APOSTLES' CREED

P We confess our faith together, using the words of the Apostles' Creed,

C **I believe in God, the Father Almighty,**
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.

Sit

LAMB'S MESSAGE

SERMON

VOTUM

P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

C **Amen.**

OFFERING

There are several ways to give.

1. Please **send** your offerings to
   St. Luke's Lutheran Church
   4801 Anderson Avenue
   Manhattan, KS 66503
2. **Electronic Funds Transfer**
   Sign up through the church office.

STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE: **John 8:36 – "So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."** Today we celebrate Reformation Day! Luther is rightly remembered as a champion of the Gospel — but he also called himself "the apostle of good works." For, only by being set free by the Gospel, can we do good works. Jesus has set us free: His blood covers our sins, and now we stand before God as His beloved children, invited to live our lives to His glory for the good of His kingdom.

OFFERTORY – "I Will Celebrate" Psalm 63:4

1, 2, 4, 6, 7 I will celebrate, sing unto the Lord
Sing to the Lord a new song
I will celebrate, sing unto the Lord
Sing to the Lord a new song

3, 5 With my heart rejoicing within
With my mind focused on Him
With my hands raised to the heavens
All I am worshipping Him

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Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Gracious Father, we thank You for the eternal Gospel, proclaimed by prophets, apostles, evangelists, pastors, teachers, and faithful Christians throughout the ages. Preserve Your Church in the truth of Your Word, that many may come to know the freedom found in Your Son, Jesus Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Almighty God, we praise You for Martin Luther and all who faithfully contended for the Gospel during the Reformation. Grant us courage to confess Christ before the world, steadfastness against error, and confidence in the saving truth that sinners are justified by grace through faith in Christ alone. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Heavenly Father, bless all pastors, missionaries, church workers, and congregations. Prosper the proclamation of Christ crucified and risen to every nation, tribe, language, and people, that Your kingdom may be extended and many brought to saving faith. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord Jesus, You have called us to abide in Your Word. Bless our homes and families. Strengthen husbands and wives, parents and children. Grant that our households may be places where Your Word is taught, Your promises are trusted, and Your name is honored. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P God of all wisdom, guide the leaders of our nation, state, and community. Grant them integrity, humility, and a desire for justice and peace. Restrain evil, protect the vulnerable, and bless all who serve the common good. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Merciful Father, You are our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Remember all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially _____. Grant healing according to Your will, comfort to the grieving, strength to the weary, and confidence in Your abiding presence. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Keep us steadfast in Your Word, O Lord. Preserve us from false teaching, strengthen us in faith, and lead us to trust not in our own righteousness but in the redemption won for us by Christ's holy life, innocent death, and glorious resurrection. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

P Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold 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.

Sit

COLLECTION OF PLEDGES

Stand

CLOSING PRAYER

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, we thank You for every blessing You have bestowed upon this congregation and for the faith You have worked among us through Your Word. Bless the pledges offered this day for our campaign, *Faith in Christ, Building Our Future*. Grant us cheerful hearts, faithful stewardship, and confidence in Your provision, that through the ministry of this congregation and the building of a new sanctuary Your saving Gospel may continue to be proclaimed, Your people gathered around Your Means of Grace, and future generations brought to the knowledge of Christ; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever**.**

C **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ☩ give you peace.

C **Amen.**

GREET ONE ANOTHER

We greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "The Lord be with you," "Peace be with you," or "The peace of the Lord be with you".

CLOSING SONG - "A Mighty Fortress is Our God" Psalm 18:2

1 A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing
Our helper He amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe
His craft and power are great and armed with cruel hate
On earth is not His equal

2 Did we in our own strength confide our striving would be losing
Were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing
Don't ask who that may be, Christ Jesus, it is He
Lord Sabaoth His name, from age to age the same
And He must win the battle

3 And though this world with devils filled should threaten to undo us
We will not fear for God hath willed His truth to triumph through us
The prince of darkness grim, we tremble not for him
His rage we can endure for lo, his doom is sure
One little word shall fell him

4, 6, 7 A mighty fortress
A mighty fortress is our God
A mighty fortress
A mighty fortress is our God

5 That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them abideth
The spirit and the gifts are ours through Him who with us sideth
Let goods and kindred go this mortal life also
The body they may kill, God's truth abideth still
His kingdom is forever

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