



# St. Luke's Lutheran Church



4801 Anderson Ave  
Manhattan, KS 66503  
[www.stlukesmanhattan.org](http://www.stlukesmanhattan.org)

*Sharing Jesus Christ's love with those around us.*

**Sunday, October 27, 2024 – 11:00 AM**

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

**REFORMATION DAY**

**(Series B)**

## **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](mailto: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**

In Psalm 12, King David cries out, “Save, O LORD, for the godly one is gone; for the faithful have vanished from among the children of man” (v. 1). The Lord God’s anointed king lives in a troubling world! Many centuries later, Martin Luther paraphrased the words of David, writing in a hymn text in 1523: “O Lord, look down from heav’n, behold and let Thy pity waken; . . . dark times have us o’ertaken” (*TLH* 260:1). Looking at our world today, we can relate to both King David and Martin Luther. Yet both men expressed hope in their written words. In his psalm, David writes, “The words of the LORD are pure words, . . . You, O LORD, will keep them” (vv. 6a, 7a). And Luther confidently writes, “So through God’s Word shall men endure each trial and temptation” (*TLH* 260:5). Reformation Day echoes the call to faithfulness heard by God’s people through the ages. May we listen well!

## **IMAGE ON THE COVER**

If you abide in My word, you are truly My disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free. *John 8:31b–32*

## **PRELUDE**

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

## **✠A SERVICE OF WORSHIP AND PRAISE✠**

## WELCOME

**PRESERVICE SONG** – Special Music  
A Joyful Sound

*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

*Psalm 41:13; 79:9, 13; 125:1-2*

- P** Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel,  
**C** **from everlasting to everlasting!**
- P** Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of Your name; deliver us,  
and atone for our sins, for Your name's sake!  
**C** **We Your people, the sheep of Your pasture, will give thanks to You  
forever; from generation to generation we will recount Your praise.**
- P** Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount Zion, which cannot be  
moved, but abides forever.  
**C** **As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the LORD surrounds His  
people, from this time forth and forevermore.**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**C** **who made heaven and earth.**
- P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?  
**C** **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

**P** Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word and call upon Him in prayer and praise, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

**C** **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. 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.**

### **LORD, HAVE MERCY**

**P** Lord, have mercy,

**C** **Christ, have mercy.**  
Lord, have mercy.

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**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.**

## **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*

## OPENING 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 A mighty fortress  
6, 7 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

(Martin Luther & Tommy Walker ©1997 Doulos Publishing a div. of Maranatha! Music CCLI #288089)

## REFORMATION SEQUENCE

Part 1

- P** One of the most famous documents of the Reformation Era is the set of the Ninety-Five Theses posted on the door of the Castle Church at Wittenberg, Germany, on October 31, 1517. In this set of ninety-five statements that Dr. Luther wished to have debated was a challenge to accepted practices in the church of his time that Luther felt were at odds with the biblical witness and therefore were not true. His introduction to the set of statements he had written is highlighted by two words: “love” and “truth.” We now hear what Luther wrote as the introduction to his now famous Ninety-Five Theses.
- L** “Out of love for the truth and the desire to bring it to light, the following propositions will be debated at Wittenberg, under presidency of the Reverend Father Martin Luther, Master of Arts and of Sacred Theology, and the Lecturer on Ordinary on the same at that place. For that reason, he requests that those who cannot be present and debate orally with us may do so by letter.”
- P** The challenges to Luther that resulted from his posting of the Ninety-Five Theses remained a constant factor throughout his life. A few years before his death, he wrote the words to the stirring hymn “Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word.” Both the text and the tune are attributed to the great reformer.

### 655 LORD, KEEP US STEADFAST IN YOUR WORD

st. 1

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word". It consists of three staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains the first line of the hymn: "1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in Your Word; Curb those who". The second staff contains the second line: "by de - ceit or sword Would wrest the king - dom from Your". The third staff contains the third line: "Son And bring to naught all He has done." The music is written in a simple, clear style suitable for a church service.

Text and tune: Public domain

## FIRST READING

*Revelation 14:6-7*

*(Another angel proclaims an eternal Gospel message.)*

<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."

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

*Psalm 46; antiphon: v. 7*

**P** <sup>7</sup>The LORD of hosts is with us;

**C** **the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

**P** <sup>1</sup>God is our refuge and strength,

**C** **a very present help in trouble.**

**P** <sup>2</sup>Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,

**C** **though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,**

**P** <sup>3</sup>though its waters roar and foam,

**C** **though the mountains tremble at its swelling.**

**P** <sup>4</sup>There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,

**C** **the holy habitation of the Most High.**

**P** <sup>5</sup>God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;

**C** **God will help her when morning dawns.**

**P** <sup>6</sup>The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;

**C** **he utters his voice, the earth melts.**



**P** <sup>7</sup>The LORD of hosts is with us;  
**C** **the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

**P** <sup>8</sup>Come, behold the works of the LORD,  
**C** **how he has brought desolations on the earth.**

**P** <sup>9</sup>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.**

**P** <sup>10</sup>“Be still, and know that I am God.  
**C** **I will be exalted among the nations,  
I will be exalted in the earth!”**

**P** <sup>11</sup>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.**

**P** <sup>7</sup>The LORD of hosts is with us;  
**C** **the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

## EPISTLE

*Romans 3:19-28*

*(God grants the gift of redemption through Jesus Christ.)*

<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.

**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,

**C** **for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Alleluia.**

## HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 11:12-19

*(Jesus speaks of John the Baptist and his prophetic mission to a troubled world.)*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

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

<sup>12</sup>[Jesus said:] *“From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. <sup>13</sup>For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, <sup>14</sup>and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. <sup>15</sup>He who has ears to hear, let him hear.*

<sup>16</sup>*“But to what shall I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to their playmates,*

<sup>17</sup>*“We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we sang a dirge, and you did not mourn.’*

<sup>18</sup>*For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon.’*

<sup>19</sup>*The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is justified by her deeds.”*

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

**C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

*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:** 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 well: as a guide for how to live a godly life in thanksgiving to God for His gracious forgiveness in Christ.

## OFFERTORY - “Holy Ground”

- 1, 2      We are standing on holy ground  
            And I know that there are angels all around  
            Let us praise Jesus now  
            We are standing in His presence on holy ground
- 3            We are standing in His presence on holy ground  
            (Geron Davis ©1983, arr. ©1992 Meadowgreen Music Co. CCLI #288089)

## REFORMATION SEQUENCE

Part 2

- P** A major focus of Luther’s Ninety-Five Theses was his concerns about the marketing of indulgences or letters of pardon for sins committed that were sold by traveling salesmen sent out by the church to raise funds for cathedral construction and other church projects. This money-raising strategy turned the forgiveness God gives freely through Jesus Christ into a commodity that could be purchased for the right price. Indulgences were readily available to wealthy people but not to the masses of common people—the kind of people that Luther knew well and preached to week by week. In Theses 36 and 37, he rightly asserts that God’s forgiveness is equally available to all who repent.
- L** “Every truly repentant Christian has plenary [full] remission of penalty and guilt, even without letters of pardon. Every true Christian, whether living or dead, has a part in all the benefits of Christ and the church, given him by God, even without letters of pardon.”
- P** Luther’s love for the truth and his desire to bring it to light led to dark times for those who saw the light of the Gospel in the writings of the great reformer. In the second stanza of “Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word,” Luther prays that God would defend and protect the church and its people. His prayer in his day is our prayer today as well.

### 655 LORD, KEEP US STEADFAST IN YOUR WORD

st. 2

2 Lord Je - sus Christ, Your pow'r make known, For You are  
Lord of lords a - lone; De - fend Your ho - ly Church that  
we May sing Your praise e - ter - nal - ly.

Text and tune: Public domain

## 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.

Almighty God, we give You thanks and praise for all Your goodness and tender care, especially on this Reformation festival. Thank You for the gift of Your Son and for the revelation of Your will and grace. Implant Your Word in us, and give us fertile hearts to keep it and bring forth its good fruit in our lives. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** God of grace, keep us steadfast in Your Word, and prevent our wayward hearts from following false gospels that lead us away from You. Provide Your Church with faithful pastors who preach in purity and joy, that we are saved by Your grace alone, through faith alone, because of Christ alone. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Mighty God, You have great power and yet You act with mercy. Teach those who lead us to use power rightly for the preservation of order, the accomplishment of justice, the protection of life and the defense of the weak. Give us wise, godly and faithful leaders who will follow Your commands and serve with integrity. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Gracious God, remember all who face adversity of any kind [*especially* \_\_\_\_\_]. Comfort them by Your Holy Spirit, that they would acknowledge their afflictions as the manifestation of Your fatherly will. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

- P** Preserve Your Church, O Lord, and each of us as members of Christ's Body, that we may not surrender the true Gospel for any reason, but be kept in this faith and fear throughout the days of our earthly pilgrimage, until that day when we and all Your people shall stand before the judgment seat of Christ to receive the reward You have prepared for us and all who have loved His appearing; through the same 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** 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.

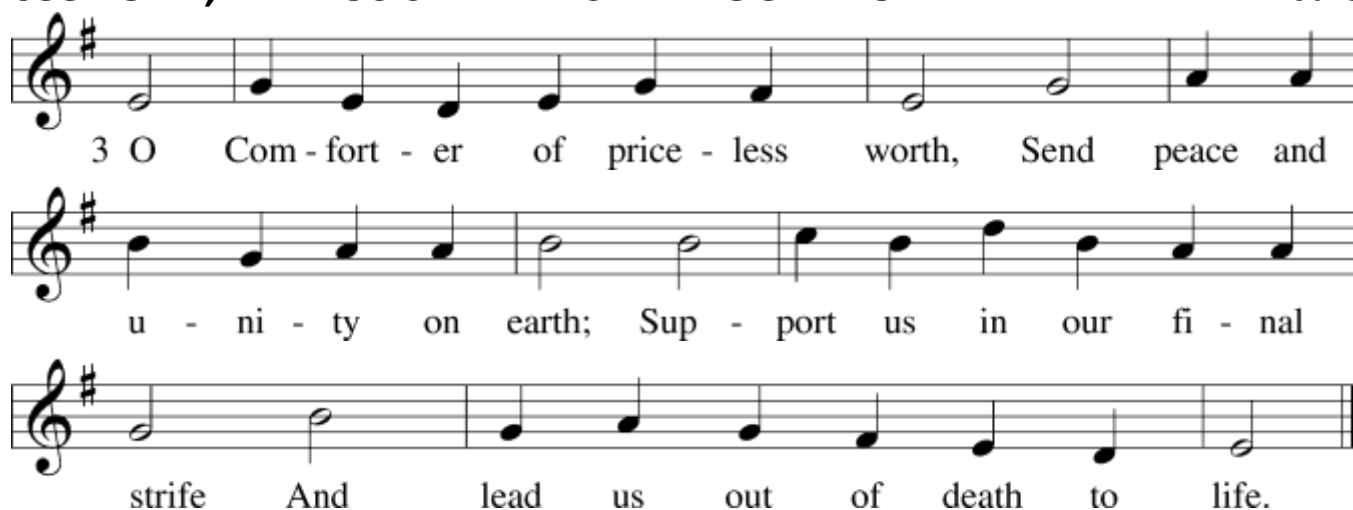
## REFORMATION SEQUENCE

Part 3

- P** In the final two of the Ninety-Five Theses, Martin Luther gave an indication that he was well aware of the pathway that Christians would be taking as they followed the truth of the Gospel. No matter how contentious and challenging the world might be in a given era, the gracious guidance of Christ would be sufficient to lead His faithful flock to the joys of everlasting glory. Hear now Theses 94 and 95.
- L** “Christians should be exhorted to be diligent in following Christ, their Head, through penalties, death and hell. And thus be confident of entering into heaven through many tribulations rather than through the false security of peace (Acts 14:22).”
- P** In Thesis 62, Luther shared the heart of his message in a most straightforward way, as he writes, “The true treasure of the church is the most holy gospel of the glory and grace of God.” The closing stanza of “Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word” is a prayer for peace and unity to the Holy Spirit. With the psalmist we say to our loving Lord, “I will praise You with an upright heart. . . . I will keep Your statutes” (119:7a, 8a). Together we sing the last stanza of Luther’s hymn of trust and faith.

### 655 LORD, KEEP US STEADFAST IN YOUR WORD

st. 3



3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, Send peace and  
u - ni - ty on earth; Sup - port us in our fi - nal  
strife And lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Tune: Geistliche Lieder auff's new gebessert, 1543, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug

Text and tune: Public domain



## BENEDICTION

- 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.
- 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 - "House of the Lord"

- 1 We worship the God who was  
We worship the God who is  
We worship the God who evermore will be  
He opened the prison doors  
He parted the raging sea  
My God, He holds the victory
- 2, 4, 7, 8 There's joy in the house of the Lord  
There's joy in the house of the Lord today  
And we won't be quiet  
We shout out Your praise  
There's joy in the house of the Lord  
Our God is surely in this place  
And we won't be quiet  
We shout out Your praise
- 3 We sing to the God who heals  
We sing to the God who saves  
We sing to the God who always makes a way  
'Cause He hung up on that cross  
Then He rose up from that grave  
Our God's still rolling stones away

5, 6        'Cause we were the beggars  
Now we're royalty  
We were the prisoners  
Now we're running free  
We are forgiven, accepted  
Redeemed by His grace  
Let the house of the Lord sing praise

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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