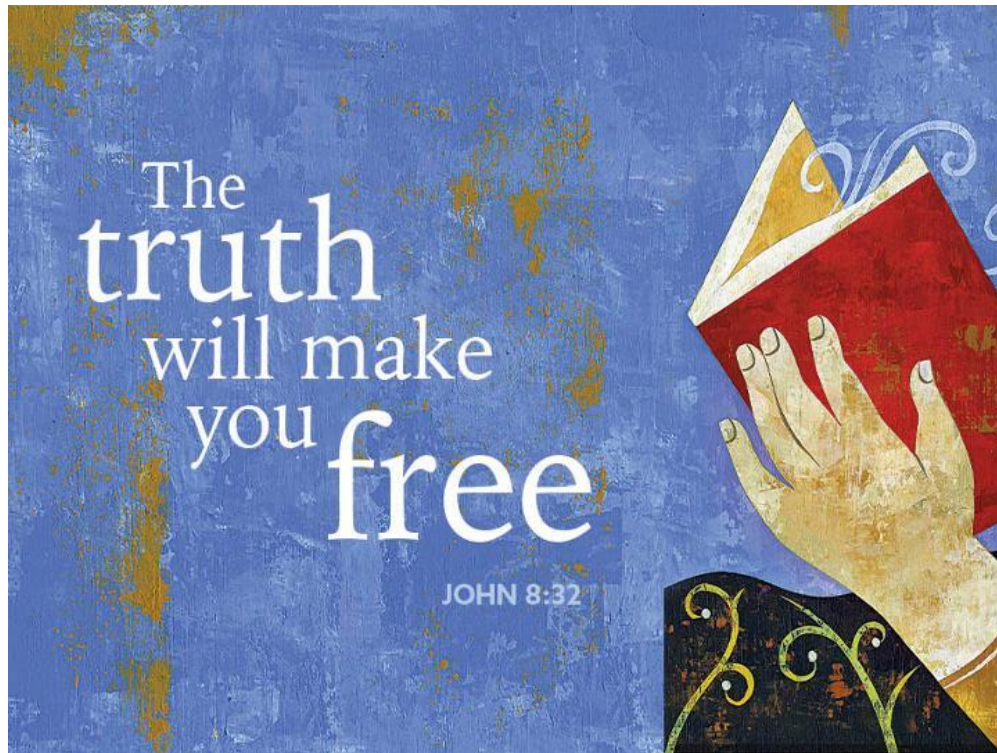


First Lutheran Church ELCA



Reformation Sunday

Sunday ✠ October 26, 2025 ✠ 10:30 am

We gather for worship

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

PRELUDE

"Ein Feste Burg Ist Uncer Gott"

Johann Pachelbel

WELCOME



1 Dear - est Je - sus, at your word we have come a -
 2 All our knowl - edge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est
 3 Ra - diance of God's glo - ry bright, Light of Light from
 4 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, praise to you and



gain to hear you; let our thoughts and hearts be stirred
 dark - ness shroud - ed till your Spir - it breaks the night,
 God pro - ceed - ing, Je - sus, send your bless - ed light;
 ad - o - ra - tion! Grant us what we need the most:



and in glow - ing faith be near you as the prom - is -
 fill - ing us with light un - cloud - ed. All good thoughts and
 help our hear - ing, speak - ing, heed - ing, that our prayers and
 all your gos - pel's con - so - la - tion while we here on



es here giv - en draw us whol - ly up to heav - en.
 all good liv - ing come but by your gra - cious giv - ing.
 songs may please you, as with grate - ful hearts we praise you.
 earth a - wait you, till in heav'n with praise we greet you.

Text: Tobias Clausnitzer, 1619–1684, sts. 1–3; *Gesangbuch*, Berlin, 1707, st. 4; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, adapt.
 Music: LIEBSE JESU, WIR SIND HIER, Johann R. Ahle, 1625–1673

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
 who forgives all our sin,
 whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us.

**We confess that we have turned from you
and given ourselves into the power of sin.**

We are truly sorry and humbly repent.

**In your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown,**

things we have done and things we have failed to do.

**Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit,
so that we may live and serve you in newness of life
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

We hear God's Word for us

God speaks to us through scripture, preaching, and song.

FIRST KIDS !!

Sunday School in the Fireside Room

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

After uttering many oracles of judgment, Jeremiah announces a day of hope when God will make a new covenant with Israel and Judah, a covenant written upon their hearts and sealed with God's forgiveness.

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.

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 46

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

- 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.**
- 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 up on 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.

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

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.

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia Verse

ELW 172

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah.

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 Gospel according to John, the 8th chapter
Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹ Jesus said to the Jews 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.**

SERMON



HYMN OF THE DAY

"The Church's One Foundation"

ELW 654



1 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
 2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,
 4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war,
 5 Yet she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One,



she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth:
 by schisms . . rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;
 and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.



From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
 one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
 yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,
 Oh, bless - ed heav'n-ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace,



with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
 and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
 and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
 that we, like saints be - fore us, may see you face to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839–1900

Music: AURELIA, Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–1876

APOSTLES' CREED

ASSISTING MINISTER:

We have been made God's people through our Baptism into Christ.

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**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

Following each prayer, we respond...

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

MUSICAL OFFERING

"Here I Am, Lord"

Jack Schrader
Choir

Welcome to God's Table

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

Greet one another with a gesture of peace.

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING / OFFERING SONG

Thank you for your offering! Offerings can be shared in the basket at the entry before or after worship. Your support of the ministry of First Lutheran is important and valued!

Thanks to those who give on a regular basis through "direct deposit" giving. (Contact the church office about this giving option.)

**Loaves were broken, words were spoken by the Galilean shore.
Jesus, Bread of life from heaven, was their food forevermore.
By your body broken for us, by your wine of life outpoured,
Jesus, feed again your people. Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

ASSISTING MINISTER:

Let us pray.

Lord of the harvest,

we return to you a portion of what you have given to us.

*Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches,
but on you, who richly provides for us.*

*Multiply what we have gathered
to bless all who are suffering and in need,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them 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.

Communion Prayers / Words of Institution

On 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.

Together we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Lord's Prayer

Over the years, different versions of the Lord's Prayer have become familiar (all quite different from the original prayer as recorded in the Gospels).

Please use the most meaningful version as you pray today:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.	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.
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Communion

These are the gifts of God, for the people of God!

All are invited to receive these gifts of God. Children are welcome to receive communion or a blessing.

Communion is served by intinction. Dip the bread in either the wine or the grape juice.

Gluten-wafers are available, simply ask your server. If you prefer to remain seated, the pastor will come and serve you there.

COMMUNION MUSIC

“Ein Feste Burg”

Gerhard Krapf

BLESSING AND PRAYER

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you,
and keep you in his grace. Amen.

ASSISTING MINISTER:

Let us pray.

O God,

through this meal you have strengthened us

and appointed us to be your servants.

Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need.

We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

We go into God's world

God blesses us and sends us into daily vocations of service.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / OPPORTUNITIES

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you,

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

"A Mighty Fortress is Our God

ELW 504



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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SENDING

ASSISTING MINISTER:

Go in Peace! Serve the Lord! Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Two Voice Invention No. 13 in A Minor

J.S. Bach

Played by Terry Brooks

Coffee and fellowship follow worship today!

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First Lutheran Church ELCA

3939 Cheyenne Blvd Sioux City, Iowa 51104

712- 239-3942

www.firstlutheransc.org

Church office open Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday

9:00am – 2:00pm

Lindsey McGinty, Office Manager



First Lutheran Church Council 2025

Bill Habermann, *President*

Kaia Downing, *Vice-President*

Enola Peters, *Secretary*

Pete Hawkinson, *Treasurer*

Jenny Denne, Dave Gross, Brad Heider, Richard Storm

Welcome to worship! You are valued and we welcome you!

We are grateful for God's gift of a diverse community.

Find comfort in this holy space. Find friendship in this community.

Children always participate here!!

- Adults are encouraged to help children participate in the times we sing and pray together.
- Faith is learned by doing and belonging. Worship bags for children are available.
- All children are welcome at Holy Communion. Children learn by doing!

About Holy Communion today

- o Everyone (yes everyone!) is invited to God's table of grace!
- o We believe that Christ is present in the gifts of bread and wine
- o Holy Communion will be served today by intinction... dip the bread in either the wine (dark Color) or the grape juice (light color)
- o If you prefer to remain seated, the pastor will come and serve you there.
- o Gluten-free communion bread may be requested

Happy Birthday this week to:

Kim Erickson 10/31

SERVING TODAY

Pastor Scott Egbers	<i>pastor</i>
Dan Moore	<i>assisting minister</i>
Yvonne Hazlett	<i>organist, choir director</i>
Terry Brooks	<i>choir accompanist</i>
Richard Storm	<i>reader</i>
Jenny Denne	<i>sacristan</i>
Janet Gross	<i>communion minister</i>
Denise Powell	<i>usher</i>
Nadine Holst, Richard Storm	<i>greeters</i>
Ben & Ellie Hertenstein	<i>sound and media technicians</i>
Becki McGlauflin, Mary McCoy	<i>coffee fellowship</i>

Save the Date: November 23

St. Mark Lutheran Church invites you to a community open house

In honor of **Pastor David Halaas**. Sunday, November 23

(his final Sunday before **retirement**),

12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m.

A special program will be held at 12:30 p.m.

First Lutheran members are welcome to sing *in the choir* !!

One rehearsal, Sunday, November 23 at 12 noon.

Thank you, dear people of First Lutheran Church,
for the many months we have shared in ministry together.
It has been a privilege and joy. I will always hold you in my prayers,
confident that your ministry will be fruitful.

~Pastor David Halaas

THIS WEEK AT FIRST LUTHERAN

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9am to 2pm.

Monday, October 27

9:00am Quilters

6:30pm Handbells

Wednesday, October 29

9:00-11:30am Holy Family Food Pantry

Volunteers: Jeanne Hanna, Mary McCoy – others are welcome and needed!

6:30pm Choir

6:30pm Confirmation at St. Mark Lutheran, 5200 Glenn Avenue

Special Requests:

A “Care Committee” is being formed to provide support for our church family members when there is a special need. If you can help, please inform the church office!

Sunday School

We are looking for a couple more people to teach Sunday School. Sunday School will take place during the worship. Please contact Jenny Denne (712-251-3069 or jenndenne@yahoo.com) if you are willing to assist with Sunday School.

Your presence is a gift – to you and to others!

Attendance at worship previous weeks: Sept. 28 – 57, Oct. 5 – 52, Oct. 12 - 77

Attendance at worship last week: 70

September Offerings: \$21,361

September Designated Offerings: \$8,045 (including \$4,035 from FLC WELCA for organ repair and \$2,400 for the Holy Family Food Pantry from the annual picnic.

**There is now an online option to choose “HVAC - Capital Campaign” in Realm to designate your offering. You can also write HVAC on your check memo to designate your offering specifically. Thank you for your continued generosity

Coffee Forever!

Bring in your donations to help support the Warming Shelter!

ELCA Lutheran Churches in Sioux City are participating in a project to provide "Coffee Forever" for The Warming Shelter. The Warming Shelter offers low-barrier shelter and compassionate support to individuals and families experiencing homelessness in Siouxland.