



**St. Stephen  
Lutheran  
Church  
West &  
East Bay**



**500<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary  
of the  
Reformation**

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**Sunday,  
October 29<sup>th</sup>  
2017**



# St. Stephen Lutheran Church and School

A member of the Church of the Lutheran Confession (clclutheran.org)  
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Organist: Sue Slattengren

**October 31, 2017 † 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation**

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**We Welcome Our Visitors** who are with us this morning.

We hope that you are uplifted by the Gospel at our worship service.  
We invite you to join us every Sunday. Please sign our guestbook in the entry.

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† Preparation for Worship: Read Psalm 46 (Lutheran Service Book or Pew Bible) †

## Welcome

Today we are celebrating the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation. The Reformation was not all about Martin Luther, or the Reformers. It was not, and is not all about a particular church body, or group of church bodies. It was, and still is, all about Jesus. It is all about His Word, which has, as its central focus, Jesus and His saving work. It was all about Jesus when the Lord God first promised a Savior to Adam, Eve, and their descendants. It was all about Jesus with every foretelling of the coming Christ by Old Testament prophets. It was all about Jesus at the manger, the cross, and the empty tomb. It was all about Jesus as the apostle Paul penned, **“We hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law” (Romans 3:28)**. It was all about Jesus when Martin Luther posted his Ninety-Five Theses on October 31, 1517. It’s still all about Jesus today as we receive the Means of Grace—the Gospel in Word and Sacrament. It will be all about Jesus when He returns in glory on the Last Day. As we observe the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation, we celebrate that it always has been, and always will be, all about Jesus!

## Invocation

*We invoke ("call upon") the name of the one true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

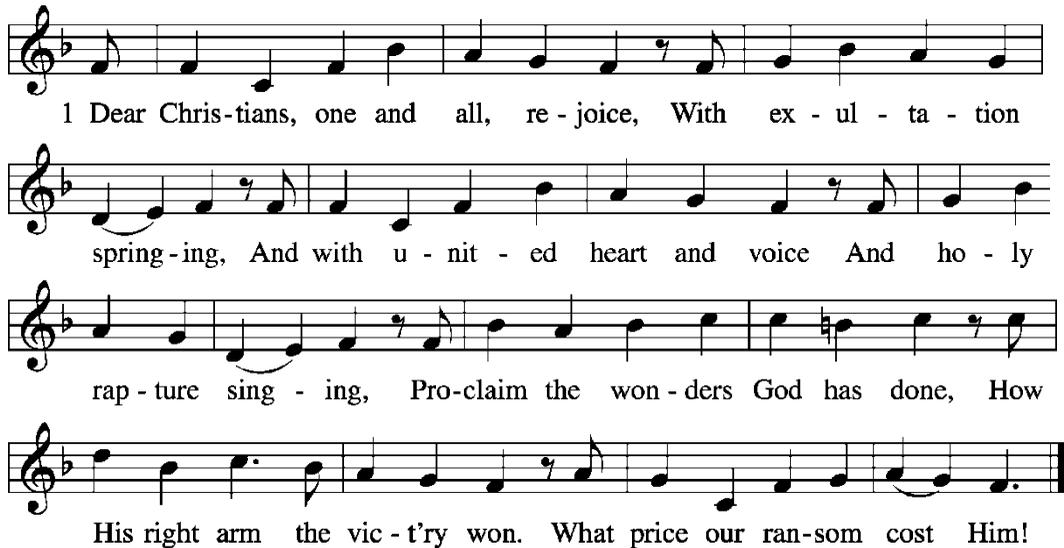
- P** In the name of the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

## Confession and Absolution

*We come before our Holy God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.*

- P** God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.
- C** **If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.**
- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** **If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** (1 John 1:5, 7-9)
- P** Let us pray...
- C** **Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer:**  
**We confess that we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have not loved You above all things. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Have mercy on us, and, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive us our sins.**
- P** Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. We are forgiven! With boldness and confidence we may approach the throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the joy and peace of forgiveness let us praise the Lord...

## 556 Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice - v. 1



1 Dear Chris-tians, one and all, re - joi-ce, With ex - ul - ta - tion  
spring - ing, And with u - nit - ed heart and voice And ho - ly  
rap - ture sing - ing, Pro - claim the won - ders God has done, How  
His right arm the vic - t'ry won. What price our ran - som cost Him!

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## Prayer of the Day

**P** We 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. We pray this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## The "Reformation" Psalm

*The responsive reading of Psalm 46 and singing of "A Mighty Fortress is Our God" (Hymn 774 W.S.)*

**P** God is our refuge and strength,

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

**P** Therefore we will not fear, even though the earth be removed,

**C** And though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea.

- P** Though its waters roar and be troubled,  
**C** **Though the mountains shake with its swelling.**

♪ ***A mighty Fortress is our God, A trusty shield and weapon;  
He helps us free from every need That has us now o'er taken.  
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.***

- P** There is a river whose streams shall make glad the city of God,  
**C** **The holy place of the tabernacle of the Most High.**

- P** God is in the midst of her, she shall not be moved;  
**C** **God shall help her, just at the break of dawn.**

- P** The nations raged, the kingdoms were moved;  
**C** **He uttered His voice, the earth melted.**

- P** The LORD of hosts is with us;  
**C** **The God of Jacob is our refuge.**

♪ ***With might of ours can naught be done; Soon were our loss effected.  
But for us fights the valiant One Whom God Himself elected.  
You ask, "Who is this?" Jesus Christ it is, The Almighty Lord.  
And there's no other God; He holds the field forever.***

- P** Come, behold the works of the LORD,  
**C** **Who has made desolations in the earth.**

- P** He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;  
**C** **He breaks the bow and cuts the spear in two; He burns the chariot in the fire.**

♪ ***Though devils all the world should fill, All eager to devour us,  
We tremble not, we fear no ill; They shall not over pow'r us.  
This world's prince may still Scowl fierce as he will,  
He can harm us none. He's judged the deed is done!  
One little word can fell him.***

**P** Be still, and know that I *am* God;

**C** I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!

**P** The LORD of hosts *is* with us;

**C** The God of Jacob *is* our refuge.

 *The word they still shall let remain, Nor any thanks have for it;  
He's by our side upon the plain With His good gifts and Spirit.  
And do what they will—Hate, steal, hurt, or kill—  
Though all may be gone, Our victory is won;  
The Kingdom's ours forever!*

## Second Reading

*Romans 3:19-28 (NIV)*

**P** The second reading is from Romans 3:19-28.

**C** Sanctify us by Your truth, O LORD. Your Word is truth!

*<sup>19</sup> Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God. <sup>20</sup> Therefore no one will be declared righteous in his sight by observing the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of sin. <sup>21</sup> But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. <sup>22</sup> This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, <sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup> and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. <sup>25</sup> God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood. He did this to demonstrate his justice, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished-- <sup>26</sup> he did it to demonstrate his justice at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus. <sup>27</sup> Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded. On what principle? On that of observing the law? No, but on that of faith. <sup>28</sup> For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from observing the law.*

**P** Here ends our Scripture readings.

## 582 God's Word Is Our Great Heritage

God's Word is our great her - i - tage And shall be ours for -  
ev - er; To spread its light from age to age Shall be our  
chief en - deav - or. Through life it guides our way, In death it  
is our stay. Lord, grant, while worlds en - dure, We keep its  
teach - ings pure Through - out all gen - er - a - tions.

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## Confession of Faith - 2<sup>nd</sup> Article of the Apostles' Creed *Luther's Catechism (Sydow, p. 87)*

**☞ I believe 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, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sits on the right hand of God, the Father Almighty; from there He shall come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary is my Lord.**

**He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sin, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and His innocent suffering and death.**

He did this that I should be His very own, live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in eternal righteousness, innocence, and joy; just as He is risen from death, lives and reigns in eternity.

This is most certainly true!

**Hymn of the Day: 658 *Preserve Your Word, O Savior***

LSB 658

**Children's Sermon**

**Sermon: Real Reformation**

1. ABIDE in Jesus' Word
2. KNOW the Truth
3. BE FREE



**Text: John 8:31-36 (NKJV)**

<sup>31</sup> Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. <sup>32</sup> "And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." <sup>33</sup> They answered Him, "We are Abraham's descendants, and have never been in bondage to anyone. How *can* you say, 'You will be made free'?" <sup>34</sup> Jesus answered them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin. <sup>35</sup> "And a slave does not abide in the house forever, *but* a son abides forever. <sup>36</sup> "Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.

**Offertory**

LSB 956

**956 Create in Me**

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new  
a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way



from Thy pres - ence; and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
 from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va - tion;  
 and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

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**Offering** *We offer our gifts to the Lord, remembering that He has first given to us that we might have to give to Him.*

**Choir Song: "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Thy Word"**

**Prayer Requests** *We bring our prayers to God.*

**Reformation Prayer** (RESPONSIVE)

**P** Let us pray to the Lord for the Church on earth and for all people everywhere.

For all who gather here today and for our congregations, that through the Gospel the Lord would give us growth in faith and increase our love:

**C We ask you to bless us, O Lord.**

**P** For the spreading of the gospel throughout the world; for all pastors, missionaries, and their families, that they may boldly proclaim Christ to the nations:

**C We ask you to hear us, O Lord.**

**P** For the comforting, absolute truth of the gospel, that salvation is found in Christ alone, in His work, and not in anything we might have to produce or provide:

**C We glorify your name, O Lord.**

**P** For the people of our country; for the Lord's blessings on our work; for those seeking employment; for good health; and for good weather:

**C We ask you to help them according to your will, O Lord.**

**P** For all who are sick in body or mind; for the hungry and the homeless; for those who are in prison; for those who are dying and those who are mourning:

**C** **We ask you to help them according to your grace and mercy, O Lord.**

**P** All this we ask, O Father, through your Son, Jesus Christ, who has taught us to pray:

### Lord's Prayer

**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.**

**Benediction** *The blessing given by God for the blessing of His people (Numbers 6:24-26).*

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

### The Doxology

LSB 923 v. 3

3 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Him, all  
crea - tures here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye  
heav'n - ly host: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

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**Closing Hymn: "Lord, Give Us Hearts to Treasure"** (See insert page – All 6 verses)

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**Acknowledgments** - Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing House.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Week: Tuesday – *Reformation Day*  
**Stockton Area Worship Service** – (Cameron residence) – **1pm**  
Wednesday – **Villa Fontana Worship Service – 11am**  
**Catechism Classes (via Skype)** (Fossum) – **7pm**  
Saturday - ☪ **Daylight Savings Time Ends – Turn Clocks Back One Hour** ☪

Next Sunday: **St. Stephen – West** (Mt. View): **Bible Class – 9am**  
11/5/17 **Worship w/ communion– 10am**

**St. Stephen – East Bay** (Hayward): **Worship w/ communion – 1pm**  
**Luther Video & Luncheon – 2pm**

Coming Up: **St. Stephen - East Bay** (Hayward) **Voter’s Meeting – Sun. Nov. 12<sup>th</sup>**  
**St. Stephen – West** (Mt. View) **Voter’s Meeting – Sun. Nov. 19<sup>th</sup>**

**October Elder & Usher:** Paul Pelzl (Elder) & Michael Slattengren (Usher)

**November Elder & Usher:** Scott Mueller (Elder) & Dan Gullerud (Usher)



**Welcome!** – We welcome our members from both West and East Bay congregations, and all our visitors and guests who are with us today. We pray that you have been blessed through the Gospel message! Everyone is invited to join us for a fellowship meal and a Reformation-themed presentation after the worship service. We hope you can join us!



**Luther Video & Luncheon – East Bay (Hayward) – Next Sun. 11/5 @ 2pm –**

An invitation from the Education Committee of St. Stephen - East Bay:

We will be hosting a showing of the PBS video "Rick Steves' Luther and the Reformation" **next Sunday, November 5th** during the time period scheduled for East Bay's Bible Class at **2pm**. Copies of a study guide will be available for those in attendance at the presentation. There will also be a light luncheon with the showing.

**"Evangelism Sunday" – Invite a Friend to Church – Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup> –**

"If you want to celebrate the Reformation, preach the Gospel!" That was the theme of the church service I attended last Sunday at my dad's church in Middleton, WI. What a great reminder! The way we can best carry on the message of the Reformation is to tell others the "Good News" (Gospel) that Jesus loves them and died and rose again to save them. In our continuing celebration of the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation we are having an "Evangelism Sunday" on November 12<sup>th</sup>. We are encouraging everyone to personally invite both a member who may not have attended in a while and a "non-member" who may not know their Savior Jesus yet. Our worship service and Bible Study that Sunday will have evangelism themes as well. Please join us and invite others to join us as well!



**CLC News** - Immanuel Lutheran, Mankato, MN, has called Pastor Andrew Schaller, of Calvary Lutheran, Marquette, MI as co-pastor.