



## REFORMATION SUNDAY

October 29, 2023 | 8:00 and 10:30am

## GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Thornville, Ohio

### VISITORS

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We welcome you in the name of Christ and hope his word of forgiveness and freedom finds you while you are with us this morning. If you are visiting or are new to our church, we ask that you complete a yellow Connection Card and pass it to the center isle for collection during the Entrance Hymn. We would like to be in touch with you and to let you know more about Grace Lutheran. We are glad you are with us.

### OUR WORSHIP

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Lutherans think of worship not in terms of something we do for God, but rather what God does for us. We often call our worship a "service," and that means that God serves us in our need. At the end of his life in 1546, Martin Luther famously said, "We are beggars" before God. In our liturgy (order of worship), which includes hymns and songs, specially selected Bible readings, preaching, and Holy Communion, God serves us by delivering to us sinful human beings the good news of Jesus Christ as Savior, which we grasp by faith. We respond with prayer, praise, and thanksgiving, which carries over into our everyday lives.

### PARENTS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

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Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me." The presence of children in worship, even when they are noisy, is a gift to the Church and a reminder that our parish is growing. If you have to leave worship with your children, feel free to do so, but even more so, feel free to come back in!

### PRAYER BEFORE HOLY COMMUNION

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*We do not presume to come to your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son, Jesus Christ, and so to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him and he in us. Amen*

## ORDER FOR WORSHIP - LBW Setting 2

*Watchword: For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. - 1 Corinthians 3:11 ESV*

### PRELUDE | WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS | OPENING PRAYER

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#### Confession and Absolution

#### INVOCATION

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*The people stand.*

P: In the Name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

#### PRAYER OF PREPARATION

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P: 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.

**C: Amen.**

#### CONFESSION

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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.

*The people kneel for silent reflection and self-examination.*

P: Most merciful God,

**C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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**

#### ABSOLUTION

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*The pastor stands and addresses the assembly.*

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, 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.

**C: Amen.**

*The people stand.*

#### Gathering

**ENTRANCE HYMN** "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

Green Book 229

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#### APOSTOLIC GREETING

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P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

## REFORMATION DIALOG

A: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**C: And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever.**

A: There is one Body and one Spirit;

**C: There is one hope in the God who calls us;**

A: One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

**C: One God and Father of all.**

A: If God is for us...

**C: ...who can be against us?**

A: Who shall bring any charge against God's elect?

**C: It is God who justifies!**

A: Who is to condemn?

**C: Christ Jesus is the One who died — more than that, who was raised — who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.**

A: I have been crucified with Christ.

**C: It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.**

A: Blessed be God who sustains and protects his Holy Church.

**C: And blessed be God who guides and confirms us in our Faith. Amen. Alleluia!**



## THE HYMN OF PRAISE

A=Leader; C=all voices



A This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



C Wor- thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo- ple of God. Pow- er and rich- es and wis- dom and



strength, and hon- or and bless- ing and glo- ry are his.



This is the feast of vic- to- ry for our God. Al- le - lu - ia.



Sing with all the peo- ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless- ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic- to- ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY



☐ The Lord be with you.      ☑ And al - so with you.

P: Let us pray. O Lord God, heavenly Father, pour out your Holy Spirit upon your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your grace and truth, protect and comfort them in all temptation, defend them against all enemies of your Word, and bestow upon the Church your saving peace; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

*The people may be seated.*



## The Liturgy of the Word

### THE FIRST LESSON

*Jeremiah 31:31-34*

L: A reading from Jeremiah.

*The prophet Jeremiah speaks of a new covenant that God will make with His people, marked by closeness, with God's law written on the hearts of the people.*

<sup>31</sup>“Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, <sup>32</sup>not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the Lord. <sup>33</sup>For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares 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. <sup>34</sup>And no longer shall each one teach his

neighbor and each his brother, saying, ‘Know the Lord,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.”

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

### PSALMODY

*Psalms 46*

*The verses are chanted alternately by the cantor and the congregation.*



<sup>1</sup>God is our ref- | uge and strength,\* a very present | help in trouble.

<sup>2</sup>**Therefore we will not fear, though the | earth be moved,\* and though the mountains be toppled into the depths | of the sea;**

<sup>3</sup>though its waters | rage and foam,\* and though the mountains tremble | at its tumult.

<sup>4</sup>**The Lord of | hosts is with us;\* the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.**

<sup>5</sup>There is a river whose streams make glad the cit- | y of God,\* the holy habitation of | the Most High.

<sup>6</sup>**God is in the midst of her; she shall not be | overthrown;\* God shall help her at the | break of day.**

<sup>7</sup>The nations make much ado, and the king- | doms are shaken;\* God has spoken, and the earth shall | melt away.

<sup>8</sup>**The Lord of | hosts is with us;\* the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.**

<sup>9</sup>Come now and look upon the works | of the Lord,\* what awesome things he has | done on earth.

<sup>10</sup>**It is he who makes war to cease in | all the world;\* he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the | shields with fire.**

<sup>11</sup>“Be still, then, and know that | I am God;\* I will be exalted among the nations;  
I will be exalted | in the earth.”

<sup>12</sup>**The Lord of | hosts is with us;\* the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.**

*GraceNotes (10:30 only): "Toccata"*

## THE SECOND LESSON

*Romans 3:19-28*

L: A reading from Romans.

*How do we see God's righteousness? By His grace as a gift through Jesus Christ. How to we grasp it? By faith.*

<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: The Word of the Lord.      **C: Thanks be to God.**

## THE VERSE

*The people stand.*

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a common time signature (C) and contains the melody for the first line of text. The second staff continues the melody for the second line of text. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

## THE GOSPEL

*John 8:31-36*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 8<sup>th</sup> chapter.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

The image shows a single staff of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It begins with a common time signature (C) and contains the melody for the text. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

<sup>31</sup>So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed 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 practices 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: The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The image shows a single staff of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It begins with a common time signature (C) and contains the melody for the text. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

**HYMN OF THE DAY**     *“To God the Holy Spirit Let Us Pray”*     LBW 317

*The people stand.*

**THE APOSTLES’ CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.

**THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

*After each petition:*

*A: 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 your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**



*The Liturgy of Holy Communion*

**THE PEACE**

P: The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

*The people greet one another in the name of the Lord and then are seated.*

**OFFERING**

*Stationary plates have been placed in the sanctuary for giving offerings before or after service. Online giving through the church's website is also highly encouraged. Quiet music will play to provide a time for prayer and reflection.*

*Choir Anthem (10:30 only) : “Be Still”*

**OFFERTORY RESPONSE**

*The people stand.*



☪ Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles-sing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be



fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u -



nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.



### *The Order for Dedication of Pulpit Bible and Chalice*

P: Let us pray. Blessed are you, O Lord our God, king of the universe. You have enriched our lives with every good and perfect gift; you have commanded us to show your splendor to our children and to praise you with lives of love, justice, and joy.

Accept this chalice which we offer in thanksgiving; may all who receive the heavenly drink from it be sustained by your grace and power.

Accept this pulpit Bible which we offer in thanksgiving; may your Word continue to be proclaimed in this place and to your whole creation, that it would give your true life to the world.

Bring us all at length to your perfect kingdom, where you live and reign with the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

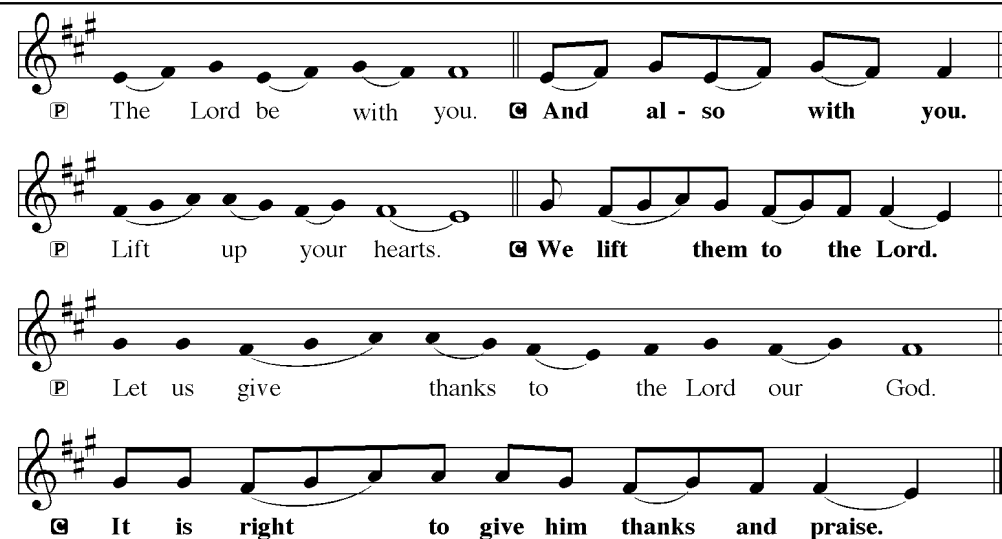
**C: Amen.**

### THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Let us pray. Merciful Father

**C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us — our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. **☩** And al - so 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 him thanks and praise.

### THE PREFACE

P: It is indeed right .... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

### THE SANCTUS



**☩** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:  
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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P: Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

**C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P: In 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.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

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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 FRACTION

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P: Blessed be the Kingdom of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

**C: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, now and forever!**

*The people may be seated.*

## LAMB OF GOD

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**Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.**



**Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.**



**Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;**



**grant us peace, grant us peace.**

## DISTRIBUTION

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*Lutherans teach that Holy Communion (the Lord's Supper) was instituted by Jesus Christ himself for us to eat and drink. As his words declare, with bread and wine, he imparts to us his body and blood, and with it the grace of God. This sacrament is God's way of giving us the good news of Jesus in a concrete, physical way as we continue our pilgrimage on earth. We are rightly prepared to receive this great gift when we come before God with humility and faith. All are welcome to receive the Lord's Body and Blood who are baptized and believe that Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, is truly present in, with and under the forms of bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation.*

To receive Holy Communion, come forward in two lines (10:30) or one line (8:00) as the ushers direct you. With open hands, you will receive the bread from the pastor or assisting minister. For those not able to receive regular bread, some gluten free wafers are available. Then proceed to receive the wine from an assistant on your side of the sanctuary. Take an empty cup, which will be filled using a pouring chalice. For those not able to receive wine, there are some pre-filled cups of grape juice available. After receiving the Lord's Supper, the communicant may say "Amen"



and return to your pew for prayer. Those choosing not to receive Holy Communion may come forward for a brief prayer and blessing. You may indicate that by crossing your arms over your chest.

Hymns during distribution: Alleluia (as printed), Green Book 212, 433



1. Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia,  
lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia.

2. How I love him 3. Blessed Jesus 4. My Redeemer 5. Jesus is Lord 6. Alleluia

## POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

*The people stand.*

**P:** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C:** Amen.



## POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



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



Let ev-'ry-one who seeks 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 PRAYER

**A:** Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C:** Amen.



## Sending

### THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

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☐ 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.



**A:** Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

**C:** Thanks be to God!

**SENDING HYMN**      *“Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer”*      Green Book 343

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### THE POSTLUDE

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*We are sent into the world to proclaim God’s grace in word and deed.*

### PRAYER AFTER WORSHIP

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*Almighty God, grant that the words we have heard this day with our ears may be grafted onto our hearts through your grace, that they may produce in us the fruit of a good life, to the praise and honor of your name, through Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord. Amen*

### GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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The Rev. Dr. Thomas Jacobson, Pastor



NORTH AMERICAN  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH

### COMMEMORATIONS:

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As Christians in the twenty-first century, we are called to remember that God's people of the past form a great "cloud of witnesses" (Hebrews 12:1). In that spirit, we commemorate memorable Christians of the past, usually on the day of their death. Though imperfect, their witness inspires us today as we run the race of faith. This week, the Church commemorates:

Oct. 31 REFORMATION DAY

Nov. 1 ALL SAINTS' DAY

### SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR ALL SAINTS (NOVEMBER 5)

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Revelation 7:9-17  
1 John 3:1-3

Psalms 34:1-10, 22  
Matthew 5:1-12