



FESTIVAL OF THE REFORMATION

9:30am October 31, 2021



ROCK OF AGES

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Ancient Faith for Today's World

Welcome! May you be filled with peace and joy from Jesus who lived, died, and rose again to be your Savior. He is forever our living Rock of Ages.

Our Mission is to share the rock-solid hope of Jesus with today's world through timeless truths found in the Holy Scriptures.

Our Message centers around the forgiveness, freedom, and fellowship we have in Jesus.

Membership: We are part of a church family and together we reach out with the amazing gospel message. We'd love to have you join with us in our mission!

Children's activity bags, quiet toys, and a changing table are available from the nursery in entry area.

Large Print service folders and **hearing assistance** devices are available.

Restrooms are located at the far ends of the entry area.

We Support the world-wide gospel ministry of the WELS. We'd love to share more with you. Contact our pastor today. You can also visit wels.net



WELS

Christ's Love, Our Calling.



Festival of the Reformation

Greeting

Hymn

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Christian Worship 201

All hymn numbers today are for the red hymnals

In the name of the Father and of the \dagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Confession

(1 John 1:9, John 20:23)

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I deserve your punishment both now and forever. But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death. Trusting in him, I pray: have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection.

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the \dagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy *Kyrie*

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

Glory Be to God *Gloria in Excelsis*

Glory be to God on high and on earth peace, good will toward men.

We praise you, we bless, we worship you,

We glorify you, we give thanks to you, for your great glory,

O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

You take away the sin of the world; receive our prayer.

You sit at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us.

For you only are holy; you only are the Lord.

You only, O Christ, with the Holy Spirit,

Are most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE WORD

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, through the preaching of your servants, the blessed Reformers, you caused the light of the gospel to shine forth. Grant that we may faithfully defend it against all enemies and joyfully proclaim it for the salvation of people everywhere to the glory of your holy name; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading

Daniel 3:16-28

God delivers his people so that his Word may continue in truth.

Shadrak, Meshak, and Abednego answered King Nebuchadnezzar, "We have no need to answer you about this matter. ¹⁷Since our God, whom we serve, does exist, he is able to save us from the blazing fiery furnace. So, he may save us from your hand, Your Majesty. ¹⁸But if he does not, you should know, Your Majesty, that we will not serve your gods, and we will not worship the golden statue that you set up."

¹⁹Then Nebuchadnezzar was filled with rage, and the expression on his face changed against Shadrak, Meshak, and Abednego. He said to heat the furnace seven times hotter than it was usually heated. ²⁰He ordered some men, who were soldiers from his army, to bind Shadrak, Meshak, and Abednego in order to throw them into the blazing fiery furnace. ²¹So these men were bound in their coats, their pants, their turbans, and their other clothing, and they were thrown into the middle of the blazing fiery furnace. ²²Because the king's order was urgent and the furnace was extremely hot, those men who carried Shadrak, Meshak, and Abednego were killed by the intense heat of the fire. ²³But these three men, Shadrak, Meshak, and Abednego, who had been tied up, fell into the blazing fiery furnace.

²⁴Then King Nebuchadnezzar was startled and immediately stood up. He said to his advisors, "Didn't we throw three men, who had been tied up, into the middle of the

fire?"

They answered the king, "Certainly, Your Majesty."

²⁵He said, "Look! I see four men, who are untied and walking around in the middle of the fire, unharmed. What is more, the appearance of the fourth is like a son of the gods."

²⁶Then Nebuchadnezzar approached the door of the blazing fiery furnace. He said, "Shadrak, Meshak, and Abednego, servants of the Most High God, come out!" Then Shadrak, Meshak, and Abednego came out from the middle of the furnace.

²⁷The satraps, the prefects, the governors, and the royal advisors gathered together and looked at these men. The fire had no power over their bodies. Not a hair on their head was singed, their robes were not damaged, and the smell of fire had not stuck to them.

²⁸Nebuchadnezzar said, "Blessed be the God of Shadrak, Meshak, and Abednego, who sent his angel and saved his servants, who trusted in God and ignored the king's command. They gave up their bodies and did not pay homage or worship any god except their God.

After the reading:

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 46

Christian Worship page 84

Second Reading

Revelation 14:6-7

God's messengers will proclaim his gospel until the end of time.

Then I saw another angel flying in the middle of the sky. He had the everlasting gospel to proclaim to those who live on the earth, to every nation, tribe, language, and people. ⁷He said with a loud voice:

Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come.

Worship him who made the sky, the earth, the sea, and the springs of water.

After the reading:

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Children's Message

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia. Rejoice in the Lord for his love and faithfulness.

Glory, praise, and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel

Mark 13:5-11

Despite persecution, the gospel must be preached to all nations.

Jesus began by telling them, "Be careful that no one deceives you. ⁶Many will come in my name, saying, 'I am he,' and will deceive many.

⁷"Whenever you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be troubled. Such things must happen, but the end is not yet. ⁸In fact, nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in various places. There will be famines. These are the beginning of birth pains. ⁹But be on your guard! People will hand you over to councils, and you will be beaten in synagogues. You will stand in the presence of rulers and kings for my sake as a witness to them. ¹⁰And the gospel must first be preached to all the nations. ¹¹Whenever they arrest you and hand you over, do not worry beforehand what you should say. Say whatever is given to you in that hour, because you will not be the ones speaking; instead it will be the Holy Spirit.

After the reading of the Gospel:

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Hymn of the Day

Lord Jesus Christ, the Church's Head

Christian Worship 536

Sermon

Mark 13:5-11

THE SPIRIT SPEAKS THROUGH YOU

Confession of Faith

Apostles' Creed

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

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, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there 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.

Prayer of the Church

For Reformation Day

Eternal Father, gracious Lord, you responded to the first sin by promising to free mankind from slavery to Satan. Throughout history you preserved a remnant of faithful people who opposed Satan's work and trusted in the promised Messiah. Now over 500 years have past from the time when you began to use your servant Martin Luther to restore the pure preaching of the gospel of salvation by grace alone through faith in Jesus Christ. You mercifully guided our synod these past 171 years to proclaim your saving truth in the face of false doctrine and physical hardship. And you blessed our local congregation here in Payson these past 41 years with your love and faithfulness. Now graciously defend us from heresy, from pride, and from fear. Oppose those who would remove Christ from his throne as ruler over your Church and your world.

**♪ Lord, keep us steadfast in your Word;
Curb those who by deceit or sword
Would seek to overthrow your Son
And to destroy what he has done.**

Dearest Jesus, God from eternity, when you entered this world to become one of us, you humbled yourself to live under law and to die an accursed death as the Substitute for every sinner. You crushed the power of Satan forever and by your resurrection gave proof that we too shall rise from the

sleep of death. Now, as our ascended Lord, you rule over all things. Graciously put an end to wars, inequity and injustice which hinder your kingdom's advance. Shelter us, your chosen brothers and sisters, as we fulfill our priestly duties of worship and praise. According to your gracious promise give us life like yours that we may adore you forever.

**♪ Lord Jesus Christ, your power make known,
For you are Lord of lords alone;
Defend your Christendom that we
May sing your praise eternally.**

Holy Spirit, divine Counselor, at Pentecost you filled the disciples' hearts with courage and their tongues with a message of repentance and faith, a message of forgiveness and hope. Fill people everywhere with the knowledge of the truth. Mercifully lead us always to repent of our sins and to cling to Jesus as our only Savior. Grant your people to be of one mind, and unite them in their confession of the truth you have revealed. Bless all our efforts to express this fellowship on earth in love, forgiveness, and encouragement. Be with all who are ill, lonely, or grieving. Especially when our hearts are troubled or when our remaining days are few, remind us of your Baptismal promise, the gracious water of life that granted us a second birth for eternity.

**♪ O Comforter of priceless worth,
Send peace and unity on earth.
Support us in our final strife,
And lead us out of death to life.**

Lord God, our hearts are moved to endless praise as we review hundreds of years of your love. You gave ministers as gifts to your Church. You sent reformers and men of vision to call your people closer to you. You have blessed our synod through your Word and Sacraments. Be with the leaders of our church--synod, district, congregations and schools--and with all its members, so that we diligently proclaim the Gospel of truth. Keep us faithful to the teaching of Holy Scripture, as stated in the Lutheran Confessions, that all who walk together in our synodical flock may confess with Luther:

The kingdom's ours forever!

Offering

Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him. Our offerings go to support the gospel ministry of our congregation and our national church body, the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. Today you may place your offering on the table by the entryway as you enter or exit.

Hymn

The Church's One Foundation
Christian Worship 538

Prayer

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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.

Blessing

Numbers 6:24-26

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

Amen.

Hymn

How Firm A Foundation
Christian Worship Supplement 768
(Printed on next page)

♪ **How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in his excellent Word!
What more can he say than to you he has said
Who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?**

**2. "Fear not! I am with you. Oh, be not dismayed;
For I am your God and will still give you aid;
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.**

**3. "The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose
I will not, I will not, desert to his foes.
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never forsake!**

**4. "When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,
My grace all-sufficient shall be your supply.
The flames will not hurt you; I only design
Your dross to consume and your gold to refine.**

**5. "Throughout all their lifetime my people shall prove
My sov' reign, eternal, unchangeable love,
And then, when gray hair shall their temples adorn,
Like lambs they shall still on my shoulders be borne."**

Acknowledgments

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Remember with Prayer

- Geri, a friend of the Barthel family; that God blesses her through her health struggles.
- *Share your requests and thanksgiving.*

Received in September \$10,022.57

Received in October \$13,367.32 (to date)

Attendance

10/14 Midweek Bible Study: 11

10/14 Youth Catechism Class: 2

10/17 Sunday Service: 45

10/17 Youth & Adult Bible Study: 22

10/17 Children's Bible Study: 5

10/24 Sunday Service: 55

Serving This Week

Flowers, Communion Setup: Sherry Friestad

Music: Keyboard, Jeni Strickland; 4 For Christ.

Presiding Minister: Tom Barthel

Ushers: Creig Solomon, Jerry Zuvich

Celebrate 1st Responders Day!

Mary Martha Ladies will be delivering cookies and bars to firefighters, police, and first responders on Monday Nov 8th. Please bring cookies and bars to church on Sunday Nov 7th.

Host Family

Contact pastor if you might like to serve as a host family June-July 2022 for our summer student teacher.

Save the Date -Wed. Dec. 15th

Ladies of the congregation Mary Martha group will have a Ladies Potluck Lunch @12:30pm. We will visit and sing Christmas carols. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex for casserole, salad, or desert. No games, no gifts.

CALENDAR

rockofages-payson.com/calendar

Sunday, October 31 *Reformation*

9:30am Service

10:30am Bible Study (all ages)

Wednesday, November 3

9:00am Elders Meeting

Thursday, November 4

9:00am Midweek Bible Class

10:10am Choir

5:00pm Youth Confirmation Class

Sunday, November 7

9:30am Service

10:30am Bible Study (all ages)

Wednesday, November 10

Martin Luther's birthday



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