

REFORMATION SUNDAY

8:30 AM

October 27, 2024



Faithful Christians in a Contentious World

AS WE GATHER

Martin Luther paraphrased the words of David in Psalm 12, 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!

We are not here for hero worship of a man but to give thanks to God for Luther and those of every generation whose voices have been raised in faithful witness to the Gospel. This Gospel remains under threat from both within and outside the Church. So we must **take up in our own generation the call to renew the careful distinction between Law and Gospel, to affirm the authority of God’s Word.**

PRELUDE

WELCOME – Pastor Christopher Fairbairn

PROCESSIONAL HYMN (Please rise to follow the cross)**A Mighty Fortress is Our God****Verse 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.

Verse 2

Women: *Did we in our own strength
 confide, Our striving would be losing;*
Men: Were not the right Man on our
 side, The Man of God's own choosing.
Women: *Dost ask who that may be?
 Christ Jesus, it is he;*
Men: Lord Sabaoth is his name, From
 age to age the same,
Both: And He must win the battle.

Verse 3

Men: 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.
Women: The Prince of Darkness
 grim,—We tremble not for him;
 His rage we can endure,
 For lo! His doom is sure,—
Both: One little word shall fell him.

Verse 4

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 for ever.

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 41:13; 79:9, 13; 125:1–2*

Pastor: Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,

People: from everlasting to everlasting!

Pastor: 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!

People: We Your people, the sheep of Your pasture, will give thanks to You forever; from generation to generation we will recount Your praise.

Pastor: Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved, but abides forever.

People: As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the Lord surrounds His people, from this time forth and forevermore.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Psalm 130*

Pastor: Beloved in the Lord, as together we make our confession this day, we use words of a confessional hymn text based on Psalm 130, written by Martin Luther more than five hundred years ago in 1523. In confidence, let us come before our gracious Lord to confess our sins and to receive His gracious absolution. We speak the words of the psalm and then sing the stanzas penned by the great reformer.

ALL: Out of the depths I cry to You, O Lord! O Lord, hear my voice! Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy!

People: If You, O Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? But with You there is forgiveness, that You may be feared. I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in His word I hope; my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning.

ALL: O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with Him is plentiful redemption. And He will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

Pastor: God has promised His forgiveness of sins to those who repentantly confess their sins, imploring His grace and mercy for the sake of His beloved Son, Jesus Christ. In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, as His called and ordained servant, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

PSALM *Psalm 46*

People: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Men: Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

Women: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

Men: God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns.

Women: The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; He utters His voice, the earth melts.

People: The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Men: Come, behold the works of the Lord, how He has brought desolations on the earth. He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; He burns the chariots with fire.

Women: "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"

People: The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen

To God Be the Glory

St Paul's Choral Ensemble

FIRST READING *Romans 3:19–28*

(By grace are you saved through faith and not of yourselves.)

Reader: ¹⁹ Obviously, the law applies to those to whom it was given, for its purpose is to keep people from having excuses, and to show that the entire world is guilty before God. ²⁰ For no one can ever be made right with God by doing what the law commands. The law simply shows us how sinful we are.

²¹ But now God has shown us a way to be made right with him without keeping the requirements of the law, as was promised in the writings of Moses and the prophets long ago.

People: ²² We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. And this is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are.

Reader: ²³ For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard. ²⁴ Yet God freely and graciously declares that we are righteous. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins. ²⁵ For God presented Jesus as the sacrifice for sin. People are made right with God when they believe that Jesus sacrificed his life, shedding his blood.

This sacrifice shows that God was being fair when he held back and did not punish those who sinned in times past, ²⁶ for he was looking ahead and including them in what he would do in this present time. God did this to demonstrate his righteousness,

People: **for he himself is fair and just, and he declares sinners to be right in his sight when they believe in Jesus.**

Reader: ²⁷ Can we boast, then, that we have done anything to be accepted by God? No, because our acquittal is not based on obeying the law. It is based on faith.

²⁸ So we are made right with God through faith and not by obeying the law.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.



Children's Message

GOSPEL **John 8:31–36** (*If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.*)

Reader: ³¹ Jesus said to the people who believed in him, "You are truly my disciples if you remain faithful to my teachings. ³² And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

People: ³³ **"But we are descendants of Abraham," they said. "We have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean, 'You will be set free'?"**

Reader: ³⁴ Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave of sin. ³⁵ A slave is not a permanent member of the family, but a son is part of the family forever. ³⁶ So if the Son sets you free, you are truly free.

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

Great Is the Lord

St Paul's Choral Ensemble

THE APOSTLES CREED

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.

655 Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word



1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in Your Word; Curb those who
 2 Lord Je - sus Christ, Your pow'r make known, For You are
 3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, Send peace and



by de - ceit or sword Would wrest the king - dom from Your
 Lord of lords a - lone; De - fend Your ho - ly Church that
 u - ni - ty on earth; Sup - port us in our fi - nal

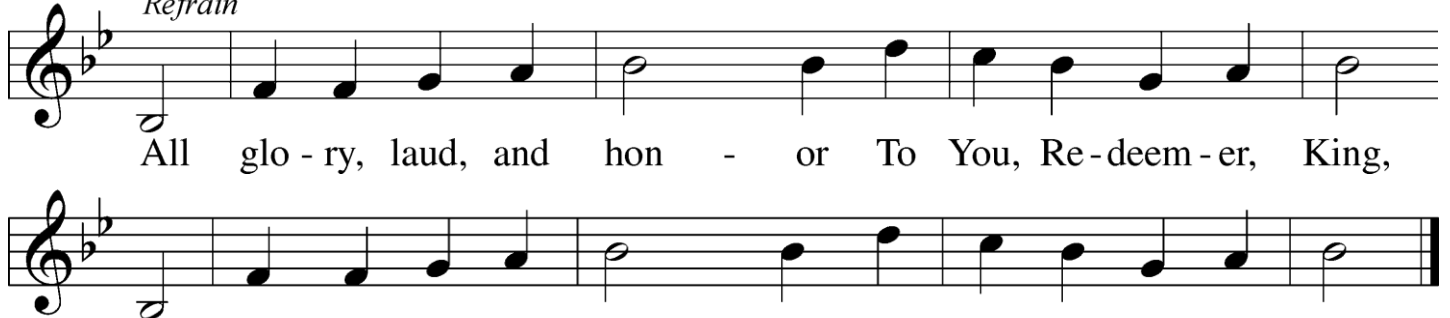


Son And bring to naught all He has done.
 we May sing Your praise e - ter - nal - ly.
 strife And lead us out of death to life.


MESSAGE – *Pastor Christopher Fairbairn*

442 All Glory, Laud, and Honor

Refrain




All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or To You, Re - deem - er, King,
To whom the lips of chil - dren Made sweet ho - san - nas ring.



1 You are the King of Is - rael And Da - vid's roy - al Son,
2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels Is prais - ing You on high,
3 The mul - ti - tude of pil - grims With palms be - fore You went;
4 To You be - fore Your pas - sion They sang their hymns of praise;
5 As You re - ceived their prais - es, Ac - cept the prayers we bring,

Refrain



Now in the Lord's name com - ing, Our King and Bless - ed One.
And we with all cre - a - tion In cho - rus make re - ply.
Our praise and prayer and an - thems Be - fore You we pre - sent.
To You, now high ex - alt - ed, Our mel - o - dy we raise.
O Source of ev - 'ry bless - ing, Our good and gra - cious King.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Luther's Paraphrase of the Lord's Prayer

Pastor: Friends in Christ, I urge you all to lift up your hearts to God and pray with me as Christ our Lord has taught us and freely promised to hear us.

God, our Father in heaven, look with mercy on us, Your needy children on earth, and grant us grace that Your holy name be hallowed by us and all the world through the pure and true teaching of Your Word and the fervent love shown forth in our lives. Graciously turn from us all false doctrine and evil living whereby Your precious name is blasphemed and profaned. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: May Your kingdom come to us and expand. Bring all transgressors and those who are blinded and bound in the devil's kingdom to know Jesus Christ, Your Son, by faith that the number of Christians may be increased. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Strengthen us by Your Spirit according to Your will, both in life and in death, in the midst of both good and evil things, that our own wills may be crucified daily and sacrificed to Your good and gracious will. Into Your merciful hands we commend [name(s)] and all who are in need, praying for them at all times: Thy will be done. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Grant us our daily bread, preserve us from greed and selfish cares, and help us trust in You to provide for all our needs. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Forgive us our sins as we also forgive those who sin against us so that our hearts may be at peace and may rejoice in a good conscience before You, and that no sin may ever frighten or alarm us. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lead us not into temptation, O Lord, but help us by Your Spirit to subdue our flesh, to turn from the world and its ways, and to overcome the devil with all his wiles. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: And last, O heavenly Father, deliver us from all evil of both body and soul, now and forever. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

If you brought your offering today, you are welcome to leave it in the offering plates you will find at the front and back of the church. **Thank you.**

We invite our guests and members to fill out our Friendship Card during worship, which is found on the back of the pew. Please leave your card at the end of the pew near the center aisle as you leave.

THE 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.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord has wiped our slates clean. In Him we know true freedom! Let us go forth into the world with His blessing. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the ✠ fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you always.

People: **Lord Jesus, You are my Lord and King! I stand on Your Word alone. Amen.**

INVITATIONS

The Church's One Foundation



V1: All

V2: Women

V3: All

V4: Men

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 The world sees her op - pressed,
 4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion And tu - mult of her war



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 - sun - der, By her - e - sies dis - tressed,
 She waits the con - sum - ma - tion Of peace for - ev - er - more



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,



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.



Need some PRAYER? Anyone who desires special private prayer with a pastor or a Stephen Minister may do so by coming forward after service to one of the front pews.

Our Vision — a place to come for comfort, support, answers, opportunities to serve, and to strengthen a salvation relationship with Jesus





WHERE WE SERVE

Preacher

Officiant

Family Life Director

Music Director

Pastor Christopher Fairbairn

Pastor James Frusti

Jeanette Koch

Paul Ventimiglia

Musicians

Charlie Miller / Trumpet

Anthony Stanco / Trumpet

St Paul's Choral Ensemble

Lisa Fairbairn

Cheryl Bailey

Nancy Berg - Crenshaw

Anne Burgess

Chris Burgess

John Hasse

Barbara Hoffmeier

Will Hoffmeier

Linda Johnson

Rich Johnson

Chris Englert

Sue Roman

Elder

Bob McGuigan

Ushers

John Hasse

Charleen Hill

Bob McGuigan

Pat McGuigan

Counters

Katie Helmick

Carole Crete

Ruth Fisher

Welcome Center

Pat McGuigan

Greeters

Austin Family

Reader

Karen Frusti

Tech Team

Steve Martens

Coffee Hour

Elders

Acolyte

Matthew Hibbard

Bible Study and Small Group Opportunities

SUNDAYS: Join us for bible study and fellowship @ 9:45am in the church Parish Hall.

SATURDAYS: Men’s Bible Study – Every 1st and 3rd Saturday @ 9:00am – Parish Hall

THURSDAYS – **Bible Quizzing** - practices Thursdays @ 3:30-4:45PM JV/Varsity or 6:45-8:00PM Little League Practice

Attendance Last week: 10.20.2024.– Attendance - 8:30am - 88 + 11:00am – 78 = 166

Communion - 118

Donations needed each week for Church and School – \$9,808,

Received week of 10.20.2024- for Church (Envelopes plus loose plate)- \$11,475- total includes online giving
School – \$369.97

Remember Our Shut-Ins

Christina Rohn

Waltonwood #240

27475 Huron Circle

Novi, MI 48377



Altar Flowers.

Two vases in honor of the 55th birthday of their father Christopher from Jacob, Emily and Joey Fairbairn.

Please arrange to pick up your flowers after the 11 am service



Some of the most beautifully written passages in the Bible are found in Isaiah. Of the 66 chapters in Isaiah, 47 have direct quotes or are alluded to by Christ and the apostles. The women’s bible study will be delving into Isaiah this year. Please join us on Wednesday mornings at 9:30 in the Parish Hall.

27	OCT, SUN	●	8:30 – 9:30am	Worship
		●	8:30 – 9:30am	Worship w/ Communion
		●	9:45 – 10:45am	Sunday School & Youth Bible Study
		●	11am – 12pm	Worship
		●	7 – 9pm	Adult pick up basketball school gym
28	OCT, MON	●	3:45 – 5:15pm	School Early Childhood Meeting
		●	6:30 – 7:30pm	Council Mtg PH Parish Hall
30	OCT, WED	●	9:30 – 11am	Women's Bible Study - Parish Hall
		●	5:45 – 7pm	Handbell Practice -narthex
31	OCT, THU	●	All day	1/2 DAY PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCE
		●	3 – 5pm	Bible Quizzing-JV/Varsity Parish Hall
		●	4:30 – 5:30pm	Choir Practice
		●	6:45 – 8pm	Bible Quizzing- Little League Parish Hall
1	NOV, FRI	●	All day	NO SCHOOL -PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCE
		●	7 – 9pm	AA Mtg. church parish hall
2	NOV, SAT	●	9 – 10:30am	Men's Bible Study parish hall

The Family of God meal on Wednesday, October 16th, had a different approach. Many thanks to Marcy & Matt Treder who stepped up to prepare and serve the meal to about 70 people. Helping to serve were Chuck Hempel & Will Hoffmeier. We had two volunteers from Salem Lutheran, Westland, join us again and they provided bags of chips, cookies, and some Halloween candy. Thank you David Sonak and his mother in law Tracey. "Everyone thought the food was really good and they look forward to us coming to serve a warm meal. They are so gracious and thankful." says Marcy. The Deacon has been doing a short devotion BEFORE seconds are served, which is a blessing to feed them the word of God. Our menu was pulled pork BBQ sandwiches, baked beans, cabbage slaw, brownies, bananas and beverages. Barbara Hoffmeier prepared the meat ahead of time with 30 pounds of pork to make 120 servings. The Treder's always prepare the paper products ahead of time. Chris & Daniel Henning did the shopping for us which is always done so well. Our brownie bakers were Carole Crete, Gretchen Hasse, Beth Hempel, Charleen Hill, and Lindsay Pennington. If you can help on Wednesday, November 20th, please let Nancy Berg & Linda Johnson know, because they are in charge of that meal. And of course, THANK YOU to those who financially support this ministry!

St. Paul's preschool program is looking for a preschool aide! If you are looking for some part time work, and love working with children, contact Melissa Towner directly at MTowner@stpaulnorthville.org. The position is 8 hours a week, with the possibility for more.

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League supports a large number of national grants and Michigan grants through the MITEs we collect every year. October is one of the four times a year that MITE boxes are collected. For the month of October, Women in Christ is featuring a grant of \$15,000 for the Concordia Theological Seminary Food and Clothing Co-op (CTSFW Food Co-op). The co-op provides free clothing, food, and household items to students at the seminary in Fort Wayne. Students enrolled in classes leading to ordination or certification as a deaconess are eligible to use the co-op. Please help LWML reach their goal by placing your MITE box in the large MITE collection box in the Narthex. Don't forget to pick up an empty box to fill for January!

\$\$\$\$ Endowment Fund News \$\$\$\$

The second half of the grant application window for 2024 is now open from October 1st to November 30th! We have \$1500 in remaining grant dollars available for 2024. We are headed into our third year of grants and here is a re-cap of what the Endowment Fund has done thus far:

- \$1600 St Paul's National Youth Gathering in Texas
- \$450 Belize mission trip
- \$1200 Protect Young Eyes Tech talk 101 event
- \$470 Hand Bell Choir storage cases
- \$3365 Church administration office space construction
- \$2000 Church Roof
- \$450 VBS T-Shirts
- \$500 Bible Quizzers



Grant applications are available in the school office, the bulletin board in the narthex, or on St. Paul's website.

 **bigboy LIVONIA**

DINE TO DONATE!

20% WILL BE DONATED TO:

October 28, 2024 - ALL DAY Dine in & Carry-out!
Mention St. Paul Northville



37123 SIX MILE RD, LIVONIA, MI 48152  **(734) 464-6670**

ST PAUL LUTHERAN
CHURCH

17TH NOVEMBER @ 12:30

**AFTERNOON
CHRISTMAS
TEA**

*Tea sandwiches,
desserts & games*

Bring your favorite tea cup

\$15 - 2 people

**Fun filled afternoon with
family.**

RSVP REQUIRED, PLEASE TEXT OR CALL
248-974-3323
BY NOVEMBER 10TH

ST PAUL YOUTH GROUP

**CHRISTMAS
Wreath
YOUTH GROUP
FUNDRAISER**

Month of October

Wreaths will be delivered the week of Nov 18th

Help the youth raise funds
for upcoming trips!!!!

QUESTIONS 248-349-3146