

Reformation Sunday

October 28, 2018

On this day we celebrate the heart of our faith: the gospel of Christ—the good news—that makes us free! We pray that the Holy Spirit would continue to unite the church today in its proclamation and witness to the world. In the waters of baptism we are made one body; we pray for the day that all Christians will also be one at the Lord's table.

- Gathering -

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

Musical Meditation, Welcome and Announcements

Reformation Day Call to Worship

As we gather on this Reformation Sunday, we celebrate the witness of our forefathers and foremothers and the courage that gave birth to the Reformation.

We honor reformers who came ahead of us, who are right now among us, and who are yet to come.

In the waters of Holy Baptism, the conviction of God's grace was written on our hearts.

We affirm today that God's grace continues to reform the church and the world through each of us.

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the ☩ holy Trinity, the one who fashions us, heals us, and reforms us again and again. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sins, calling for freedom from our slavery to sin. *(Silence for reflection)*

○ God, **we long to rest in you and to trust in your freedom. But we don't know how to rest. And we have forgotten how to trust. We seek material goods we don't really need. We befriend people not always out of love. We ask questions only to prove our point, not to grow in understanding of your desires for us. Slow us down. Show us that you are our salvation and our resting place. Amen.**

Listen to this news of freedom. You have been joined to Christ in the waters of baptism. You belong in the community of the forgiven. Rest in the promise that you are God's beloved child, strengthened and made new by the grace of the Father, the ☩ Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Processional Hymn – #641 All Are Welcome (V. 1, 3, & 5)

Greeting and Prayer of the Day

- Word -

God speaks to us in Scripture, reading, preaching and song.

Scripture Readings (*Response: Thanks be to God.*)

Gospel Acclamation – **#512 Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil**

Gospel (*before reading: Glory to you, O Lord. after: Praise to you, O Christ!*)

Sermon

Hymn of the Day – Christ Has No Hands But Ours

(8:00 a.m.) Nicene Creed and Prayers of the People – Page 104

(10:30 a.m.) Affirmation of Baptism

Sharing the Peace (*Response: And also with you.*)

- Meal -

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering “**God’s Work. Our Hands.**” *Sunday video (Sept. 30th, 2018)*

Offertory Hymn – #801 Change My Heart, O God

Offering Prayer, Words of Institution and The Lord’s Prayer

**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.**

Distribution of Bread and Wine

All who believe in the redeeming power of Christ’s love are welcome at the Lord’s Table.

Hymns – #574, #732, #595

Blessing and Post-Communion Prayer

- Sending -

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Closing Blessing

Sending Hymn – #583 Take My Life, That I May Be

Dismissal (*Response: Thanks be to God.*)

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Dickinson, North Dakota
www.stjohnelc.org (701)225-6747

Mission Statement: “Living in Service to Christ”

Welcome to Worship at St. John!

Maybe this is one of your first experiences worshipping in a church. Maybe you have been around churches, but have never been to this one. Maybe you are looking for a church to call *home*. Maybe you hope to discover an answer to some of life's big questions. Whatever has brought you to St. John today, *welcome*. As Christians who are Lutheran, we believe worship is a feast of God's Word and Holy Meal. The Word fills you with faith. The Meal fills you with Jesus Christ. St. John began in 1903 when a few people gathered for the Word and the Meal. Today, 115 years later, we gather for the same feast.

To learn more about worship and St. John's story,
click on the GET TO KNOW US page at www.stjohnelc.org

~ To Assist You at Worship ~

- *If you are considering becoming a member at St. John*, we ask that you begin by visiting with a pastor and attending a *new member coffee or meal*, held four times each year. For details, click on the MEMBERSHIP link on the GET TO KNOW US page at www.stjohnelc.org.
- *Personal amplifiers for the hearing impaired are available*. Please ask an usher.
- *Children's worship bags* are in the narthex and the Commons Area.
- *Childcare*: Children are always welcome in worship. The nursery is available for you, but not staffed during the summer. There is an audio feed of the service in the nursery. If a child needs a shorter break, there is wiggle room and a glider chair in the back of the church.
- *Holy Communion* is celebrated at each worship service. The table is open to all who believe in the redeeming power of Christ's love. You may stand or kneel and receive the bread and wine. If you prefer a gluten-free wafer or grape juice, simply ask the person serving.
- *The decision about when a child should commune is made by the parent*. We encourage families to visit with a pastor to learn about the sacrament before communing for the first time. Children communing should extend their hands. Children not communing are invited to fold their hands.
- *Coffee is served* in the Commons Area before Sunday worship services.
- St. John is a member congregation of the **Evangelical Lutheran Church in America** and part of the **Western North Dakota Synod**. St. John is a corporate member of Badlands Ministries Bible Camp and St. Luke's Nursing Home. ELCA and LCMS congregations in western and eastern North Dakota own Lutheran Social Services of N.D., a private, nonprofit social services agency.

~ Introductions to the Reading ~

Jeremiah 31:31-34- The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the Lord means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the Lord will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.

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.

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.

~ Worship Leaders ~

Preaching	Pastor Lisa Lewton	
Presiding Minister.....	Pastor Joe Natwick	Sunday
Assisting Ministers.....	Gayle Homiston	Thursday
	Suzanna Moberg	8:00 AM Sunday
	Cheryl Lantz	10:30 AM Sunday
Deacons.....	Darlene Pelton	8:00 AM Sunday
	Susan Moberg	10:30 AM
Organist.....	Barb Arneson	Thursday
	Barb Arneson	Sunday
Servers	Burkley Luchi	Thursday
	Damon Glasser & Sofia Mackey	8:00 AM
	Matthew Schmitt & Owen Bittner	10:30 AM



THE REFORMATION

Martin Luther posted his "Ninety-Five Theses" in Wittenberg on Oct. 31, 1517, and the resulting debate about Christian teaching and practice led to changes that have shaped the course of Western Christianity for 500 years. At the heart of these wide-reaching changes was a deep conviction that God's mercy or grace in Jesus is given freely to all. When Luther and others learned to trust God's mercy with "a living, daring confidence," they discovered in that faith the freedom to give themselves generously, lovingly in all of life's undertakings with everyone they met.

The changes began with a critical look at confession and forgiveness, preaching and the sacraments — what Luther called the "means of grace." The sale of indulgences, the practice of penance, the content of preaching, the administration of Baptism and the Lord's Supper — all the restrictions that impeded the message of God's mercy from being heard and received fully by all came under close scrutiny. Repeatedly, Luther made changes and took initiatives to give full and free expression to the gospel, the message of God's liberating mercy in Jesus Christ. He translated the Scriptures into German so that ordinary believers could hear the Word of God in their everyday language. He composed many hymns including "A Mighty Fortress" (based on Psalm 46) that put the Word of God to music, the language of the heart. He preached for the people in Wittenberg in simple, everyday terms, and he used those sermons as the basis for teaching resources that parents and local pastors could use — his Small and Large Catechisms.

~ This Week at St. John ~

Monday, Oct 29	4:30 PM	Lutheran Social Services
	5:00 PM	Scouts
	7:00 PM	Scouts
Tuesday, Oct 30	8:30 AM	Lutheran World Relief Quilting
	6:00 PM	Badlands Facilities Ministry Team Meeting (basement)
	7:00 PM	Financial Peace University Theology on Tap
Wed, Oct 31	10:30 AM	Staff Meeting
	4:30 PM	Fall Festival
	6:00 PM	Fellowship Meal Worship
Thurs, Nov 1	5:00 PM	Trust Fund Executive Committee Meeting
	6:00 PM	Backpacks Prep
	7:00 PM	Worship
Friday, Nov 2	6:30 AM	Men's Bible Study/Breakfast at Perkins
	9:00 AM	Backpack Delivery
Saturday, Nov 3	9:00 AM	Altar Guild
Sunday, Nov 4	8:00 AM	Worship-All Saints Day service
	9:15 AM	Adult Education- <i>Learning in Service to Christ</i> Senior Choir
	10:30 AM	Worship-All Saints Day service
	3:15 PM	Handbells
	7:00 PM	Sr. High Youth

WORSHIP LIFE

At worship services this past week, these numbers reflect how many people were sent to *Live in Service to Christ*. Wednesday **161** Thursday, **34** and Sunday **312**.

CONFIRMATION FAITH STATEMENTS

As students complete their confirmation journey, they are asked to write their "faith statement". We invite you to read their statements as they are shown on the screen prior to worship service.

Those affirming their baptism on Sunday are ~

Natalee Tangen's Mentor Group – Magdalena Hanson, Mataya Mortensen, Lauryn Ollerman, Jordan Reger, Ashley Richey & McKenzie Swisher.

Becca Natwick's Mentor Group – Jayne Krank, Taylor Reap, Emily Schmidt, Annabella Semerad & Alexandra Smith.

Trevor Conrad's Mentor Group – Grant Bittner, Ian Graves, Jack Kovash & Jason Warwick.

Jordan Bloomgren's Mentor Group – Tanner Anderson, Austin Barnhart, Justin Moore & Jackson Steiner.

Jesse & Kayla Kilwein's Mentor Group – Houston Crimmins, Aiden Healy, Dawson Heiser, Jack Homiston, Dawson Moore & Kaden Selle.

~ SERVE & CONNECT ~

THEOLOGY ON TAP

Tuesday, October 30th @ 7:00 pm

Theology on Tap is a night for great conversation! With carefully crafted conversations in a small group setting, we dive deep into topics that affect faith, life, and the world. This month, Theology on Tap returns to **Player's Bar and Grill**. The private room is reserved at 6:00pm, so come early and grab a bite to eat. You are invited to taste and experience what this night is all about!



FAMILY FALL FESTIVAL

October 31st @ 4:30 – 7:00 pm

Join us for an evening of Halloween fun!

4:30 - 6:00 pm Enjoy Sloppy Joes!

5:00 - 6:00 pm Crafts, Games & Trick-or-Treating! (No Adult Class)

6:00 - 6:30 pm Worship

This is a family event – bring your friends! Everyone is welcome! You are welcome to “come & go” as you wish!

CHURCH ROOF UPDATE

The 68-year old clay tile roof above the sanctuary is currently being repaired. Last year, the Council wondered if the roof would need to be replaced by shingles as the tiles are no longer available. After considerable research by Jerry Schwartz, replacement tiles were located in Washington and in the church attic! The church's insurance company is covering the cost of repair.

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN!

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS is next Sunday (Nov. 4)!

Don't forget to set your clocks back an hour before you go to bed on Saturday night so you make it to worship at the right time!



ALL SAINTS DAY

Thurs., Nov. 1ST & Sun., Nov. 4TH

Each year, we honor the saints who have died in the faith. Names are read to remember each person, and to remember that in baptism, we are clothed with Christ and citizens of God's eternal kingdom. We also recognize the ministry of the saints who have supported the St. John Trust Fund, with a special preacher on Nov. 4 and a celebration at 9:15 a.m.

WEEKLY E-NEWS

Are you receiving weekly emails with a breakdown of activities happening at St. John each week? There are also links to other great articles, events and community events you may be interested in! If you are not receiving these emails, and would like to “read all about it”, go to www.stjohnelc.org and click on “Sign up for our E-News” on the homepage.

MILESTONE MINISTRY in NOVEMBER

Milestone Ministry is an intentional ministry that connects households to each other & to the congregation, as we recognize and learn about God's presence throughout the different stages of life. Parents accompany their child(ren) for a time to gather, share & practice your faith.

*Nov. 7 & 14 @ 6:30 pm – “The Lord's Prayer”
(Kindergarten & parents)*

RETURNING YOUR 2019 PLEDGE CARD

You can still return your pledge card for 2019 by:

- leaving your pledge card in the offering plate,
- mailing or dropping off your card to the church office, or
- completing your pledge online at www.stjohnelc.org / GIVE

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