PLATTVILLE LUTHERAN CHURCH
5475 Bell Road
Minooka, Illinois 60447

October 25, 2026
9:15 a.m.
Reformation Sunday

O, COME LET US WORSHIP THE LORD!

* Indicates that the congregation will stand.

PREPARATION Enter to worship
THE PRELUDE/BELL RINGING
Announcements
*The CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS p. 94
*The OPENING HYMN
"A Mighty Fortress is Our God" #504
*The APOSTOLIC GREETING p. 98
*The KYRIE p. 98

PRAYER AND PRAISE
* The HYMN OF PRAISE p. 99
*The PRAYER OF THE DAY *Celebrate insert*

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD
The FIRST LESSON Jeremiah 31:31-34
The PSALM Psalm 46 *Celebrate insert*
The SECOND LESSON Romans 3:19-28
The ALLELUIA VERSE p. 102
*The HOLY GOSPEL John 8:31-36
SERMON
*The HYMN OF THE DAY
"Lord, Keep Us Steadfast In Your Word" #517
*The APOSTLES' CREED p. 105
*The PRAYERS
*The SHARING OF THE PEACE
The OFFERING
*The OFFERTORY "Create in Me" *Insert in pew*
*The OFFERTORY PRAYER p. 107
*The LORD'S PRAYER p. 112

BACK INTO THE MAINSTREAM OF LIFE

*The BENEDICTION
*The CLOSING HYMN
"How Firm A Foundation" #796
*The DISMISSAL/POSTLUDE
Depart to serve

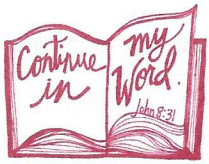
Minister
Henrik Christopherson

Ministers
All Members

Lector
Elsie LeRoy

Head Ushers
Darrell Hansen
Bob Bols
Bruce Knudson

Church Office
475-7220



Celebrate

Reformation Sunday
October 25, 2026

Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

Prayer of the Day

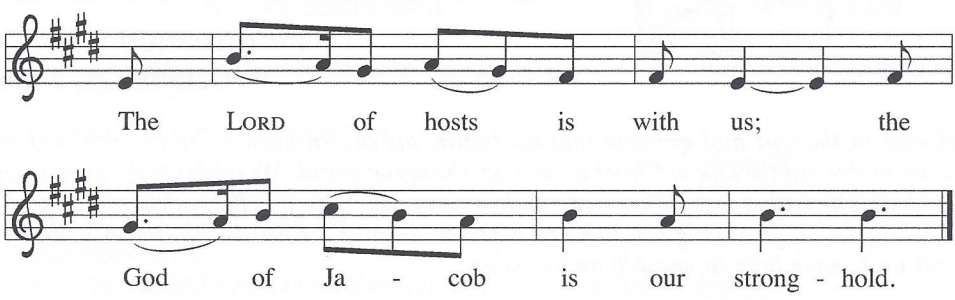
Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

First 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.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. [32]It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. [33]But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says 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. [34]No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.



God is our ref- | uge and strength,
a very present | help in trouble.
2**Therefore we will not fear, though the | earth be moved,**
and though the mountains shake in the depths | of the sea;
3though its waters | rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble | with its tumult.
4**There is a river whose streams make glad the cit- | y of God,**
the holy habitation of | the Most High.
5God is in the midst of the city; it shall | not be shaken;
God shall help it at the | break of day.
6**The nations rage, and the | kingdoms shake;**
God speaks, and the earth | melts away. **R**
7The LORD of | hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.
8**Come now, regard the works | of the LORD,**
what desolations God has brought up- | on the earth;
9behold the one who makes war to cease in | all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear,
and burns the | shields with fire.
10**"Be still, then, and know that | I am God;**
I will be exalted among the nations;
I will be exalted | in the earth."
11The LORD of | hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob | is our stronghold. **R**

Second Reading — 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.

Now we know that, whatever the law
says, it speaks to those who are under
the law, so that every mouth may be
silenced and the whole world may be
held accountable to God. [20]For no
human will be justified before him
by deeds prescribed by the law, for
through the law comes the knowledge
of sin.

[21]But now, apart from the law, the
righteousness of God has been dis-
closed and is attested by the Law and
the Prophets, [22]the righteousness of
God through the faith of Jesus Christ
for all who believe. For there is no dis-
tinction, [23]since all have sinned and
fall short of the glory of God; [24]they
are now justified by his grace as a
gift, through the redemption that is
in Christ Jesus, [25]whom God put for-
ward as a sacrifice of atonement by his
blood, effective through faith. He did
this to demonstrate his righteousness,
because in his divine forbearance he
had passed over the sins previously
committed; [26]it was to demonstrate at
the present time his own righteous-
ness, so that he is righteous and he
justifies the one who has the faith of
Jesus.

[27]Then what becomes of boasting?
It is excluded. Through what kind
of law? That of works? No, rather
through the law of faith. [28]For we hold
that a person is justified by faith apart
from works prescribed by the law.

Gospel — 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.

Jesus said to the Jews who had believed
in him, "If you continue in my word,
you are truly my disciples, [32]and you
will know the truth, and the truth will
make you free." [33]They answered him,
"We are descendants of Abraham
and have never been slaves to anyone.
What do you mean by saying, 'You will
be made free'?"

[34]Jesus answered them, "Very truly,
I tell you, everyone who commits sin is
a slave to sin. [35]The slave does not have
a permanent place in the household;
the son has a place there forever. [36]So
if the Son makes you free, you will be
free indeed."

Prayers of Intercession

The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.

Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

A brief silence.

As we celebrate Reformation Sunday, we remember the witness of Martin Luther and the reformers of the church in every generation. Empower us to continue the work of reform and renewal in our own day. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

We pray for the healing of natural places despoiled by pollution and human greed (*local places may be named*). Give all living creatures access to safe land, water, and air. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

We pray for our criminal justice systems and all those whose lives are affected by them. Give wisdom and discernment to police, probation officers, judges, and attorneys; give courage and peace to prisoners and the formerly incarcerated. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

We ask your blessing upon all people who have been harmed by the church and its leaders, that the truth may make them free. We pray for the relief of all those who are sick or suffering, (*especially*). Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

We give thanks for those exploring or returning to a life of faith. Encourage and guide them, that they may find their hope in you. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

With gratitude, we remember those disciples who paved the way for us and all of our beloved dead. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Preparing for Next Week

Monday (commemoration of Philipp Nicolai, died 1608; Johann Heermann, died 1647; Paul Gerhardt, died 1676; hymnwriters) Psalm 119:41-48. **Tuesday** James 2:14-26. **Wednesday** (Simon and Jude, Apostles) John 14:21-27. **Thursday** Psalm 43. **Friday** 2 Peter 2:1-3. **Saturday** (Reformation Day) John 8:31-36. **All Saints Day** Revelation 7:9-17; Psalm 34:1-10, 22; 1 John 3:1-3; Matthew 5:1-12 *or* **Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost** Micah 3:5-12; Psalm 43; 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13; Matthew 23:1-12.

CELEBRATE (ISSN 1083-3242, USPS 763-460) is published quarterly by Augsburg Fortress, 411 Washington Avenue North, Third Floor, Minneapolis, MN, 55401. Periodicals postage paid in St. Paul, MN and additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send address changes to Celebrate, Augsburg Fortress Publishers, P.O. Box 1553, Minneapolis, MN 55440-1553. Printed in U.S.A. Price per weekly part $5.79 per 100 copies; price in Canada subject to exchange rates. Minimum order 50 copies of each issue; all orders must be in multiples of 50. Copyright © 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. May not be reproduced. Revised Common Lectionary © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts. Readings from the New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition. Copyright © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. Prayer of the day, psalm, and readings during the week from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* © 2006, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Refrain music by Aaron David Miller. Refrain accompaniment is in *Psalter for Worship, Year A* (Augsburg Fortress, 2007). Please visit our website at augsburgfortress.org. Lectionary year A.
CELEBRATE is protected through trademark registration in the U.S.A. and Canada.

ITEM014667 Tracks 1 and 2

PARISH CALENDAR

Today 9:15 Worship

Wednesday, October 28th 9:30 am Quilting

Kringla baking day: November 11, 2026. Order forms are in church entryway (or see Jean Homerding); order deadline is November 1st. $10.00 per dozen.

November 1st - Change your clocks! Move your clocks back 1 hour. You get an extra hour of sleep, no excuse not to be in church!

2026 LSSI Holiday Hope Chest - We will once again collect money for Christmas gift cards for the children in the care of LSSI. We will collect on November 1st, 8th and 15th. By cash, please put in an envelope marked for LSSI gifts. By check please make payable to PLC and on memo line mark - LSSI gifts. One check will be mailed for the Holiday Hope Chest on Nov. 16th, 2026. For some children this will be the only Christmas gift they will receive. God's Work - Our Hands. Thank you!

Want to hear and sing your favorite hymn? There is a box in the entryway – fill out a sheet with what you want to hear.

October 18th offering: Current $475.00 Mission: $120.00
Thank you for your support!

"My conscience is captive to the Word of God. I cannot and I will not recant anything, since it is neither safe nor right to go against conscience. Here I stand. I can do no other. God help me. Amen." - Martin Luther

Always Reforming

A core teaching for Martin Luther and other church reformers in the sixteenth century was that God grants us salvation not because of our good works but by God's grace through faith. Our good works flow out as our response to God's great gift.

The work begun by Luther and others has continued through the years. The church in North America may appear to be in decline today, but do not lose heart. The church is always in the process of reformation, and the Holy Spirit is always at work in the church.

The church's mission to bring good news to all also continues. Out of gratitude for God's gifts to us, we go out to proclaim the gospel, work for justice and peace, and love our neighbors in all parts of the world. For some, good news comes in the form of word and sacrament. For others, good news is food, clothing, housing, advocacy, disaster relief, caring conversations, and much more. Wherever we go, we meet people where they're at.

On this Reformation Day, take time to pray for the church, for its ongoing reformation, for the healing of divisions, for the renewal of faith and mission, and for the strength to persevere in these efforts. How might you or your congregation support or participate in this important work?

Cover: Red paint on white space. Photo by Sean Gladwell. Copyright © 2025 Getty Images Plus via Getty Images/Moment Collection. Used by permission.
Scripture quotations from the New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition. Copyright © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. Revised Common Lectionary copyright © 1992 by the Consultation on Common Texts (CCT), admin. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Please visit our website at www.augsburgfortress.org.
Tracks 1 and 2
Copyright © 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. May not be reproduced. Printed in U.S.A.
20261025-REF ITEM014723 ELCA-E