

FIRST SUNDAY OF END TIME

Reformation Sunday

October 28 & 31, 2021

At the Festival of the Reformation, we give thanks that by God's grace alone and through his Word alone we have been rescued from the false ways of salvation that could only lead us to ruin and doom.

Opening Hymn239, "Glory Be to God the Father"

Order of Service..... Common Service, Page 15

Prayer of the Day: Gracious Lord, our refuge and strength, pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your Word, protect and comfort them in all temptations, defend them against all their enemies, and bestow on 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.

FIRST LESSON

Psalm of the DayPsalm 46 (page 84)

SECOND LESSON

Verse of the Day: Alleluia. *If you continue in my Word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.* Alleluia.

Response to the Verse Page 18

GOSPEL LESSON

Apostles' Creed Page 19

Hymn of the Day 204, "O God, Our Lord, Your Holy Word"

SERMON..... "Life in Christ is an Ongoing Reformation" Jeremiah 18:1-11

Hymn 203, "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word"

Closing Liturgy Page 25

Closing Hymn 293, "God's Word Is Our Great Heritage"

FIRST LESSON: Jeremiah 18:1-11

The Jews of Jeremiah's day trusted in outward forms that had become empty formalism. They no longer listened to the Word of the Lord which rebuked them for their sins, and thus no longer lived on the forgiveness pictured in the forms. Separated from the Word, they were separated from grace so that their lives were ruled by the evil that flows from unbelief. Only the reformation that comes from the Word, that comes by grace, that comes through faith could save them from the doom promised by God.

This is the word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: "Get up, and go down to the potter's house, and there I will reveal my words to you." So I went down to the potter's house, and he was making something on the wheel.

But the pot he was forming out of the clay was ruined as he shaped it with his hands, so the potter formed it into a different pot, whatever he saw fit to make. Then the word of the LORD came to me. House of Israel, can I not do with you as this potter does? declares the LORD. See, like clay in the potter's hands, that is what you are in my hands, house of Israel. One time I may say that a nation or a kingdom is to be uprooted, torn down, and destroyed, but if that nation I spoke about repents of its evil, then I will relent and not bring the disaster I had planned to bring against it. Another time I may say that a nation or a kingdom is to be built and planted, but if they do what is evil in my sight by not listening to my voice, then I will not bring about the good I said I would do for them. Now therefore say this to the men of Judah and to those who live in Jerusalem. This is what the LORD says. Look! I am forming a disaster against you. I am devising a plan against you. Turn from your evil ways, each of you, and reform your ways and your actions.

SECOND LESSON: Revelation 14:6,7

This standard Reformation Epistle lesson (used at Luther's funeral) extols both the grace of God and the true glory of the preaching ministry.

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. He 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.

GOSPEL LESSON: Mark 13:5-11

It should not surprise us that error runs rampant through the world and that both nature and nations are so often in chaos. For that is exactly what our Savior has foretold. Each error, each natural disaster, each country in turmoil should drive us to cling all the more tenaciously to his Word by which alone we are saved in the hour of judgment.

Jesus began by telling them, "Be careful that no one deceives you. Many will come in my name, saying, 'I am he,' and will deceive many. "Whenever you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be troubled. Such things must happen, but the end is not yet. In 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. But 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. And the gospel must first be preached to all the nations. Whenever 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."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HEAD USHERS: Ronald Knueppel/Bill Keller, Jr.; next Sunday: Mike Pamperin/Dean Ebert

FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY: Today is Fellowship Sunday! All are invited to stay for the refreshments being served immediately following Sunday's worship service. We thank the Kanas Family for hosting this fellowship hour!

ORGANISTS!! The **November** schedule is hanging on the **SCHOOL** bulletin board. Please look at your calendars in the near future and sign up for the date(s) you are willing to play for us. Thank you!

MR. LORGE RECEIVES CALL: For those of you who have not heard, Mr. Lorge has received a Divine Call to serve at Shepherd Lutheran School in Albuquerque, New Mexico, as Principal and teacher. Please keep Mr. Lorge in your prayers as he deliberates this call as well as his current call here at St. Matthew's. He also welcomes any input you may have for him in making his decision.

PIZZA-MAKING/ORDER PICK-UP TIMES: We are still looking for volunteers to help make the pizzas from our recent PTL sale. This will be done on **Friday, November 5, from 3:15 PM – 9:00 PM** -and- **Saturday, November 6, from 7:30 AM – until done** (est. 2:00 PM). If you would be willing to help, please sign up on the sheets posted on the **SCHOOL** bulletin board in the school hallway. Any questions about this sale may be directed to **Brian Youngbeck (920) 296-1128**. Thanks, in advance, to everyone who helps with or supported this sale!

For those who have ordered pizzas, your orders will be ready to be picked up at the school on **Saturday, November 6, from 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM**. We ask that you make every effort to pick up your pizza orders during those times!

WLA CAPITAL CAMPAIGN: Thank you from Winnebago Lutheran Academy for having us visit your church services recently. It was a privilege to share with you some WLA Association news along with our plans to build a new high school campus. Please contact **Kevin Ehlike** with any questions you may have at **920-539-4041** or **kehlke@wlvikings.org**. If you would like to give in support of our current capital campaign, please use the brochures provided at your church or go to our website **forward.wlvikings.org/donate**. Gifts can be mailed to WLA or given online at our website. Thank you for your continued support of WLA!

JOINT REFORMATION SERVICE: After a year's hiatus, the WLA Association Joint Reformation Service will be held on **Sunday (TODAY), October 31, at 3:00 PM** at **St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 1600 South Main Street, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin**. The WLA Traveling Choir will be bringing God's Word to us in song under the direction of Mr. Dale Witte, who will also serve as organist. Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary's Dean of Chapel, Rev. Aaron Christie, will be our guest preacher. The presiding minister will be St. Peter's new pastor, Rev. Luke Boehringer. We pray you will come and praise God for allowing our congregations to build on the three pillars of the Lutheran Reformation—that we are saved: *Sola Gratia* (by Grace Alone), *Sola Fide* (by Faith Alone), and *Sola Scriptura* (by Scripture Alone).

MOVIE NIGHT: Everyone is invited to attend St. Matthew's movie night. This event is scheduled for **Friday, November 12, beginning at 6:30 PM** in the **gym**. The movie selection is **Luca** (a story about an unlikely but strong friendship which grows between a human being and a sea monster disguised as a human). Popcorn and beverages will be provided, but please feel free to bring any other refreshments you may like for the movie. Please also bring along comfortable seating for you and your family. You are welcome to invite your friends, relatives, and neighbors to attend as well!

ALTAR FLOWERS: The flowers on the altar this week are given to the glory of God by the Kanas family in loving memory of Clarence Kanas.

OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD

Attendance: Thursday: 18; Sunday: 118

Offerings: \$3,612.00

(Budget Amount Needed Each Week: \$6,661.00)

Special Funds: Christian Aid & Relief: \$16.00

OUR WEEK AT ST. MATTHEW'S

Sunday: Worship Service (**Fellowship Sunday**) 9:00 AM

Tuesday: School Board Meeting 6:00 PM

Thursday: Parent-Teacher Conferences 3:20 – 8:00 PM
Communion Worship Service 7:00 PM
Adult Choir..... 8:00 PM

Friday: **NO SCHOOL**
Parent-Teacher Conferences 8:00 AM – Noon
Pizza-Making..... 3:15 PM – 9:00 PM

Saturday: **Pizza-Making..... 7:30 AM – Until Done (est. 2:00 PM)**
PIZZA ORDER PICK-UP TIMES: 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Sunday: Communion Worship Service 9:00 AM
Adult & Teen Bible Class/Sunday School 10:15 AM

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS!!

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