



“[We] are justified by His grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.”

Romans 3:24

Ascension Lutheran Church

“A Church for Families and a Family for Everyone”

October 30, 2022

REFORMATION DAY (Observed)

October 30, 2022

Welcome to all who are attending our service today. We are glad you are with us! To all guests and visitors, we especially extend our hands of friendship. May God bless the worship time for each one of you. Please come again!

NURSERY AVAILABLE We have an unstaffed nursery for your convenience and privacy. The nursery has audio and video so you may hear and see the worship service while attending to your child.

Holy Communion is celebrated at the 8:30 service on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month, and at the 11:00 service on the 2nd and 4th Sundays.

For those wishing to commune at the Lord's Table with us today: The Lutheran practice of close Communion attempts to prevent a person from eating and drinking judgment on himself (1 Corinthians 11:23–30). Thus, attendance at the Lord's Supper implies a four-level commitment to Christ. We believe that communicants must: (1) be baptized Christians; (2) accept the real presence of Christ's body in the bread and His blood in the wine; (3) confess and repent of one's sins and trust that God offers complete forgiveness of those sins in this Sacrament; and (4) share oneness of faith, doctrine and practice among those who commune. Those wishing to commune with us today who have not done so previously, please see the pastor or an elder before the service begins. (*Grape juice is available for those who do not drink alcohol, and gluten-free wafers are available upon request.*)

Para aquellos que desean participar en la Santa Cena con nosotros hoy: *La práctica luterana de la comunión intenta evitar que una persona coma y beba el juicio de Dios sobre sí mismo (1 Corintios 11:23–30). Por lo tanto, la asistencia a la Cena del Señor implica un compromiso de cuatro niveles con Cristo. Creemos que los comulgantes deben: (1) ser bautizados como cristianos; (2) aceptar la presencia real del cuerpo de Cristo en el pan y Su sangre en el vino; (3) confesar y arrepentirse de sus pecados y confiar en que Dios ofrece el perdón completo de esos pecados en este Sacramento; y (4) compartir la unidad de fe, doctrina y práctica entre los que comulgan. Aquellos que desean comulgan con nosotros hoy que no lo han hecho anteriormente, por favor vean al pastor o un anciano antes de que comience el servicio. (El jugo de uva está disponible para aquellos que no beben alcohol, y hostias libres de gluten están disponibles bajo petición.)*

(**P**) = Pastor, (**C**) = Congregation, (**A**) = Reader/Assisting)

✠ PREPARATION ✠

Theme: “The Reformation Is Important!”

AS WE GATHER: It is easy to underestimate the darkness of that time prior to the Reformation. It is just as easy to underestimate the darkness in our own day. On this day, we do not simply recall an event but the work of God recalling His Church to the eternal Gospel. We proclaim with clarity that justification by grace through faith is not some Lutheran quirk but is the message of Christ, affirmed by Paul and kept in trust by the Church down through the centuries as our greatest treasure. Just as the world long ago needed to hear the Church proclaim in an unwavering voice Jesus Christ and His payment for our sin, so does our world long for the true freedom bestowed by grace and grasped by faith.

PRELUDE

“Reformation Song” T. Chester and B. Kauflin Praise Team

*Your Word alone is solid ground; The mighty rock on which we build.
In every line the truth is found, And every page with glory filled.*

*Through faith alone we come to You. We have no merit we can claim.
Sure that Your promises are true, We place our hope in Jesus' name.*

Chorus

Gloria, gloria, glory to God alone. Gloria, gloria, glory to God alone.

*In Christ alone we're justified. His righteousness is all our plea,
Your law's demands are satisfied. His perfect work has set us free. (chorus)*

*By grace alone we have been saved. All that we are has come from You.
Hearts that were once by sin enslaved, Now by Your pow'r have been made new.
(chorus)*

*And on this Reformation day, We join with saints of old to sing.
We lift our hearts as one in praise: Glory to Christ our gracious King. (chorus)*

(11:00)

“God Is Our Refuge”
(see “Tithes and Offerings” for text)
(based on Psalm 46)
Music by Allen Pote/Text by Jay Johnson
Ascension Choir

WELCOME

HYMN

“Salvation Unto Us Has Come”

Salvation unto us has come
By God's free grace and favor;
Good works cannot avert our doom,
They help and save us never.
Faith looks to Jesus Christ alone,
Who did for all the world atone;
He is our one Redeemer.

Since Christ has full atonement made
And brought to us salvation,
Each Christian therefore may be glad
And build on this foundation.
Your grace alone, dear Lord, I plead,
Your death is now my life indeed,
For You have paid my ransom.

Faith clings to Jesus' cross alone
And rests in Him unceasing;
And by its fruits true faith is known,
With love and hope increasing.
For faith alone can justify;
Works serve our neighbor and supply
The proof that faith is living.



All blessing, honor, thanks, and praise
To Father, Son, and Spirit,
The God who saved us by His grace,
All glory to His merit.
O triune God in heav'n above,
You have revealed Your saving love;
Your blessed name we hallow.

INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP

P O Lord, You are our refuge and our strength,
C **A very present help in times of trouble, therefore we will not fear.**

P O God, You made an everlasting covenant with us.
C **Help us to be Your people in this world of trial and trouble.**

P O God, we have embraced the freedom You offer us.
C **We embrace the Son who makes us free.**

P O God, You gave us the living Word.
C **Help us to listen to it, to live it, and to be bold enough to let it change our lives, and the lives of those around us. Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P Let us reflect on these questions as suggested by Martin Luther:

Do you believe that you are a sinner?
C **Yes, I believe it; I am a sinner.**

P How do you know this?
C **From the Ten Commandments; these I have not kept.**

P Are you sorry for your sins?
C **Yes, I am sorry that I have sinned against God.**

P What have you deserved of God by your sins?
C **His wrath and displeasure, temporal death, and eternal damnation.**

P Do you hope to be saved?

C **Yes, such is my hope.**

P In whom do you trust?

C **In my dear Lord Jesus Christ.**

P What has Christ done for you that you should trust in Him?

C **He died for me and shed His blood for me on the cross for the forgiveness of sins.**

P What does Christ give you in the Sacrament?

C **His true Body and Blood for the assurance of my forgiveness.**

P What do you owe Christ for all this?

C **Such love demands my love, my life, my all.**

P Let us pray and confess:

C **Holy and gracious God, I confess that I have sinned against You this day. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deed of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to You. In the name of Jesus Christ I ask forgiveness. Deliver and restore me that I may rest in peace.**

P Rejoice! I declare to You that because of Jesus' work on the cross and His promise given in His Word, Your sins are forgiven and You are made right with God. Give thanks and go forth in His name, full of His peace and joy because of the free and precious gift He has given You, in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

“All Glory Be To God On High”

All glory be to God on high and thanks to Him forever!
Whatever Satan's host may try, God foils their dark endeavor.
He bends His ear to every call and offers peace, goodwill to all,
And calms the troubled Spirit.

O Father, for Your Lordship true we give You praise and honor;
We worship You, we trust in You, we give You thanks forever.
Your will is perfect, and Your might relentlessly confirms the right;
Your Lordship is our blessing.

Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, creation's author,
Redeemer of Your wandering ones, and source of all true pleasure:
O Lamb of God, O Lord divine, conform our lives to Your design,
And on us all have mercy.

O Holy Spirit, perfect gift, Who brings us consolation:
To men and women saved by Christ, assure Your inspiration.
Through sickness, need, and bitter death,
Grant us Your warm, life-giving breath;
Our lives are in Your keeping.

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P 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.

C Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE OF THE LORD

P The peace of the Lord be with you all.
C And also with you.

✠ THE WORD ✠

FIRST READING

Revelation 14:6–7 (ESV)

(John describes the eternal Gospel, which is to be proclaimed to every people in every corner of the earth.)

⁶ Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people. ⁷ And he said with a loud voice, “Fear God and give Him glory, because the hour of His judgment has come, and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

Romans 3:19–28 (ESV)

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

¹⁹ Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰ For by works of the law no human being will be justified in His sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin. ²¹ But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— ²² the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and are justified by His grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a propitiation by His blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God’s righteousness, because in His divine forbearance He had passed over former sins. ²⁶ It was to show His righteousness at the present time, so that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. ²⁷ Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸ For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL

John 8:31–36 (ESV)

(If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter.

G **Glory to You, O Lord.**

³¹ So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed Him, “If you abide in My word, you are truly My disciples, ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” ³³ They answered Him, “We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that You say, ‘You will become free?’” ³⁴ Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵ The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. ³⁶ So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

G **Praise to You, O Christ.**

PRAYER / LOVE IN ACTION REQUESTS GATHERED

HYMN

“Preserve Your Word, O Savior”

(tune: *MUNICH*)

Preserve Your Word, O Savior,
To us this latter day,
And let Your kingdom flourish;
Enlarge Your Church, we pray.
Oh, keep our faith from failing;
Keep hope’s bright star aglow.
Let nothing from truth turn us
While living here below.

Preserve, O Lord, Your honor,
The bold blasphemer smite;
Convince, convert, enlighten
The souls in error's night.
Reveal Your will, dear Savior,
To all who dwell below,
Great light of all the living,
That all Your name may know.

Preserve Your Word and preaching.
The truth that makes us whole,
The mirror of Your glory,
The power that saves the soul.
Oh, may this living water,
This dew of heavenly grace,
Sustain us while here living
Until we see Your face.

SERMON **“THE GREAT BUYBACK”** **Romans 3:19–28**
Pastor Jim Sprengle

CREED (sung) “We All Believe In One True God”

We all believe in one true God, Father, Son and Holy Ghost,
Ever-present help in need, Praised by all the Heav'nly host;
All He made His love enfolds, All creation He upholds.

We all believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Mary's Son,
Who descended from His throne And for us salvation won;
By Whose cross and death are we Rescued from all misery.

We all confess the Holy Ghost, Who from Both in truth proceeds,
Who sustains and comforts us In all trials, fears and needs.
Bless-éd, holy Trinity, Praise forever be to Thee!

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

(8:30)

“God Is Our Refuge”

(based on Psalm 46)

Music by Allen Pote/Text by Jay Johnson

Ascension Choir

*God is our refuge and strength;
A present help in time of trouble
Though the mountains shake In the heart of the sea,
Though the waters roar and foam,
We will not fear.*

*Come and behold the work of the Lord,
The awesome acts of God.
He is in the midst of His people,
In all the earth.
He is the Word, we are His hands,
He will lead us.
He is the air, we are His song,
We will celebrate His presence
All the day long.*

*Come and behold the work of the Lord
The awesome acts of God.
He is in the midst of His people,
In all the earth.
He is the rain, we are the stones,
He will cleanse us.
He is the air, we are His song,
We will celebrate His presence
All the day long.*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Gracious God, You have renewed Your Church in every age with the voices of those who recall Your people to the Gospel and who speak Your Word in all circumstances. Receive our thanks for Martin Luther and those with him who contended for the Gospel against many and great enemies. Make us bold, that we would also contend for the faith against those who would silence our voices or distract Your people from the one true Gospel of the crucified and risen Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P O Lord, guard and defend us and Your Holy Christian Church throughout the world, that we may be protected from the temptations of the devil, the world and our own sinful nature. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord, make us truly Your disciples. Keep us in Your Word, free us from all errors, and make our homes and families peaceful. Preserve all fathers and encourage them for their godly task, that children would be brought up in the fear and instruction of the Lord. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Have mercy on our nation. Give us good and faithful rulers who will govern after Your good pleasure. Give us comfort and a right understanding of Your rule in this world, that we would not be deceived to think earthly powers will last forever, but have confidence in You alone. Your kingdom come! Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P God of grace, do not let Your people fear though the earth gives way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea. Rescue all people in need...and comfort them with the promise that You are with them. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P We thank You for the joys and blessings You bestow each day, and we rejoice with those celebrating...May these gifts bring witness to Your goodness and Your desire for all to partake in the abundant life filled with righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank You that You have brought us by Your Word out of the darkness of error and into the light of Your grace. Mercifully help us to walk in that light. Guard us from error and false doctrine, and grant that we would not become ungrateful and despise Your Word, but receive it with all our heart, conduct our lives according to it and put our trust in Your grace; through the merits of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- P** Taught by our Lord and trusting in His promises, we are bold to pray:
- C** **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 *Numbers 6:24-26*

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
- C** **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please read the FYI in your bulletin for additional announcements and information.)

HYMN **“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”**

A mighty fortress is our God,
A sword and shield victorious;
He breaks the cruel oppressor's rod,
And wins salvation glorious.
The old satanic foe,
Has sworn to work us woe!
With craft and dreadful might,
He arms himself to fight.
On earth he has no equal.

No strength of ours can match his might!
We would be lost, rejected.
But now a champion comes to fight,
Whom God Himself elected.
You ask who this may be?
The Lord of hosts is He!
Christ Jesus, mighty Lord,
God's only Son, adored.
He holds the field victorious.

Though hordes of devils fill the land,
All threat'ning to devour us,
We tremble not, unmoved we stand;
They cannot overpower us.
Let this world's tyrant rage;
In battle we'll engage!
His might is doomed to fail;
God's judgment must prevail!
One little word subdues him.

God's Word forever shall abide,
No thanks to foes, who fear it;
For God Himself fights by our side,
With weapons of the Spirit.
Were they to take our house,
Goods, honor, child, or spouse,
Though life be wrenched away,
They cannot win the day.
The Kingdom's ours forever!

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God!**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Scripture taken from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*, Copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Capitalization of pronouns referring to the Deity has been added and is not part of the original English Standard Version text.

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† WOMEN'S RETREAT ON NOV. 6

"WHERE LOVE ABIDES." Registration is open until Nov 6th. It's a one-day event at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, on Saturday, Nov. 19, 2022, from 9:00am to 3:30pm. For more information contact MAE Smith or to register go to: www.bslc.com/women.html

† THE HUMAN CARE BOARD FOOD COLLECTION

We are once again collecting nonperishable food for SnowCap on Thanksgiving Eve. If you need one, blue Walmart bags are available on the table next to the front door for your use. If you give a monetary donation that night, it will be used to benefit the benevolence fund.

† FLOWER CHART OPENINGS

Look at the flower chart and see if there are any special dates for which you might want to bring flowers. There are still dates left for this year.

† THE CHOSEN SEASON 2 CONTINUES

Our next class is Saturday, November 12 at 10:30am.

† SECURITY GUIDELINES FOR OUR PREMISES

This important document will be posted in the Narthex. Please review so you will be aware of these procedures.

† CRAFTING CONTINUES each Wednesday at 2:00pm

† PRAYER NEEDS?

Contact the church office with any requests call: 503-665-8821 or e-mail: office@alcportland.org

ASSISTING IN SERVICE SUNDAY, OCT. 30, 2022

	8:30am	11:00am
Elder:	Dave Oswald	John Hazen
Acolytes:		
Ushers:	Stan Chapulis Needed	John Knoke Marcus Young
Audio/Visual:	Laura Potter	Michele Sprengle
PowerPoint:	Jenny Schuldheisz	Jessica Brown
Greeters:	Carlyn Staudt	Riki Neagle
Readers:	Carlyn Staudt	Julie Williamson
Altar Circle:	Both Services	Jan Oswald
Flowers:	Both Services	
Counters:	Both Services	Dave and Jan Oswald

ASSISTING IN SERVICE NEXT SUNDAY, NOV. 6, 2022

	8:30am	11:00am
Elder:	Randy Schroeder	Dan Parshall
Acolytes:		
Ushers:	Stan Chapulis Bob Rekdahl Jim Eckart NEEDED	Matthias McInaney Marcus Young
Audio/Visual:	Laura Potter	Michele Sprengle
PowerPoint:	Wanda Cassetty	Rebecca Williamson
Greeters:	Margo Bachhuber Elizabeth Alvarado	Riki Neagle Carrie Graham
Readers:	Randy Schroeder	Julie Williamson
Altar Circle:	Virginia Jacobs and Margo Bachhuber	
Flowers:	Both Services	Lottie Guericke
Counters:	Both Services	Dave and Jan Oswald

EVENTS THIS WEEK – Sunday, Oct. 30 – Sat., Nov. 5

Sunday, Oct. 30	8:30am	Worship
Reformation Day Obs.	9:45am	Education Hour
	11:00am	Worship
	6:00pm	Online Worship Posted
Tuesday Nov. 2	6:00pm	Elder Meeting
Wednesday Nov 2	11:00am	CareConnect
	2:00pm	Crafting Get-Together
Thursday, Nov. 3	6:00pm	Praise Team
	7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
Friday, Nov. 4	6:30pm	Noche Familiar
Saturday, Nov. 5		Daylight Saving Ends
		Fall Back 1 Hour

EVENTS NEXT WEEK – Sunday, Nov. 6 – Sat., Nov. 12

Sunday, Nov. 6	8:30am	Worship w/ comm.
All Saints Day	9:45am	Education Hour
	11:00am	Worship
	6:00pm	Online Worship Posted
Tuesday Nov. 8	6:00pm	Council Meeting
Wednesday Nov. 9	2:00pm	Crafting Get-Together
		Council Meeting
Thursday, Nov. 10	6:00pm	Praise Team
	7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
Friday, Nov. 11	6:30pm	Noche Familiar
Saturday, Nov. 12	10:30am	The Chosen Bible Study

† MILESTONES

BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS

Gaby Alvarado	10/30	Ron Barendse	10/30
Jaden Mundo	10/30	Barbara Nelsen	10/30
Sherry Porath	11/1	Luke Arronson	11/5

BIRTHDAYS

Senai Lavadores 11/5

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES:

Gordon and Donna Strutz Oct. 31, 1971

† PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR:

Gina Kreps, Judy Blubaum, Cindy Linnemann, Brian Laxton, George and Carlee Metteer, Rev. Travis Leslie, Emily Kohnke (member of the Webber Family), Alondra (a friend of Gina Kreps), Rich Zahursky, MaryLou May, Mike Hatley, Lorraine Haggard, Andrew May, Esperanza Gutierrez, Kim Laxton, Antonia Martinez (mother of Esperanza Gutierrez), Ava Wentela (Sue Wentela's granddaughter), Carol Santorufo (sister of Sue Wentela), Mike Fogarty, Members and friends with Covid, The people of Ukraine, *Barbara Schrader, *Larry Hart, *Dale Porath. *Home Bound.

† PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY:

Marie Cassetty Brown, Air Force — Little Rock, Arkansas (sister-in-law of Wanda Cassetty);
Dakota Saunders, US Navy — Based in Cecilia Italy (godson of Carrie Graham);
Alex Williamson, Air Force, Reserve — Washington (grandson of Rebecca Williamson);
Michael Williamson, Air Force, Reserve — Texas (grandson of Rebecca Williamson);
Jamie Wong-Lopez, Marines — Annapolis MD (nephew of Kevin and Merci McInaney);
Clayton Wright, Air Force — Yokota AFB Japan (grandson of Virginia Jacobs);
Colton Wright, Navy — (grandson of Virginia Jacobs);
Tyler Young, Navy — Deployed (nephew of Karen Arronson).

Ascension Lutheran Church

1440 SE 182nd Avenue, Portland, OR 97233
Church: 503-665-8821 · Web Site: www.alcportland.org
Church Office Hours: Monday–Friday 9am to 3pm

Our Mission Statement:

~Go and Share Jesus Christ~

Our Vision Statement:

“Take part...Join Jesus on His mission”

The members of Ascension Lutheran Church are committed to being God ‘s witnesses in Gresham, and in all of Portland and the Northwest, and to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8):

With the universal Christian Church, we believe, teach and respond to the love of the Triune God— the Father, Creator of all that exists; the Son Jesus Christ, Who left His home in Heaven to become flesh and blood, to suffer and die for the sins of all peoples of the world, and Who rose from the grave, victorious over sin, death and the devil, that we too might live with Him in Heaven; and the Holy Spirit, Who creates faith in our hearts in Christ Jesus through God ‘s Word and Sacrament. The three Persons of the Holy Trinity are one God, co-equal and co-eternal. The core teachings of our faith from the Lutheran perspective can be summarized in three short phrases: Grace alone, Scripture alone, Faith alone.

STAFF

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