# Reformation Day October 26, 2025 Be Stilled and Be Gladdened

**As We Gather -** We are blessed with many freedoms in this country. We have freedom of speech. We have freedom of religion, with the freedom to assemble. We live in the "land of the free and the home of the brave." It is easy to rely on our citizenship for proof of our freedom. In that way, we are like the Jewish people at the time of Jesus. They relied on their Abrahamic lineage for freedom, recalling the covenant God made with Abraham and his descendants. While these national freedoms are great blessings, in the Holy Gospel, Jesus points out that for true freedom, one must be free from slavery to sin. Only in Christ is anyone truly free.

**Offering and Registry of Worship Cards:** Please fill out a Registry of Worship Card found in the pew racks. We ask that you print the names of every person in your family, indicating if they take communion. One side of the card is for members and the other side for guests. As the offering is collected, pass the cards to the center aisle so our ushers can gather them.

**Saturday Worship:** Offerings and Worship Cards will be received in the offering plates at the rear of the church either upon entering or when leaving. Thank you for your gift to the work of the Lord.

**About Protecting the Healthy:** To protect yourself and others from COVID-19 and other infectious respiratory diseases, individuals may choose to mask at any time. Appropriate hand washing by everyone is encouraged. People with symptoms of an infectious illness are highly encouraged to stay home. Symptoms include fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea. Thank you for helping to keep everyone healthy as we receive God's gifts in worship.

# GENERALLY, BE MINDFUL, NOT FEARFUL.

**Prelude and Meditation:** Before worship we talk to God (see prayers on page 308 in the hymnal); during worship God talks to us; after worship we talk to one another.

#### **Prelude:**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
The Greeting and Sharing of Peace (stand)

#### PREPARATION



Text: tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978 Text and tune: Martin Luther, 1483-1546

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Tune: Public domain

#### Invocation

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the 

  → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- Amen.

# **Opening Sentences**

Psalm 46:1, 7, 10-11

- P God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
- The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.
- "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"
- The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

#### **Confession and Absolution**

Isaiah 35:10

- P Let us confess our sins to God, our Father.
- Almighty God, You are our mighty fortress. We resist this reality when we live according to the so-called wisdom of the world. We resist the reality that, in Christ, we are free indeed when we use our law-keeping as a measure of our standing with You. We resist the reality that You are with us when we celebrate Your works as our own. Still our selfish nature and forgive our sins for Jesus' sake. Gladden our hearts and set us free.
- The prophet Isaiah reminds us, "The ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away." This is our reality as Jesus forgives us and sets us free. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive You all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ♣ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- **G** Amen.

# Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 34:1–2, 11, 22; antiphon: Psalm 119:46

- P I will speak of Your testimonies before kings, O Lord, and shall not be put to shame.
- I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth.
- P My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad.
- Come, O children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

- The LORD redeems the life of His servants; none of those who take refuge in Him will be condemned.
- Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.
- P I will speak of Your testimonies before kings, O Lord, and shall not be put to shame.

Kyrie LSB 152

**P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



**P** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



## Hymn:

# Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

LSB 803

 $\Delta$  Please stand after a brief interlude.



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore Thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love! 2 All Thy works with joy sur-round Thee, Earth and heav'n re - flect Thy rays, △ 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, Ev - er bless-ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un-fold like flow'rs be-fore Thee, Prais-ing Thee, their sun a - bove. Stars and an-gels sing a-round Thee, Cen - ter of un-bro-ken praise. Well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, O - cean-depth of hap-py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad-ness, Drive the gloom of doubt a-way. Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, Flow-'ry mead-ow, flash-ing sea, Fa - ther, Son, and Ho-ly Spir - it, Foun-tain-head of love di-vine:



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad-ness, Fill us with the light of day. Chant-ing bird, and flow - ing foun-tain Call us to re - joice in Thee. Joy - ful, we Thy heav'n in - her - it! Joy - ful, we by grace are Thine!

Text: Henry Van Dyke, 1852-1933, alt.

Tune: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827; adapt. Edward Hodges, 1796–1867

Text and tune: Public domain

# **Salutation**

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **And also with you.**

# **Prayer of the Day**

**P** Let us pray.

O God, our refuge and strength, our very present help in times of trouble, still our restless souls and gladden our hearts with the joy that is ours in Your Son, Jesus, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**G** Amen.

First Reading Revelation 14:6–7

<sup>6</sup>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. <sup>7</sup>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."

- **I** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Psalm Psalm 46

- P God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
- 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.
- There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.
- God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;
- **P** God will help her when morning dawns.
- The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;
- **P** He utters His voice, the earth melts.
- The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

- P 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.
- "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"
- The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

**Epistle** Romans 3:19–28

<sup>19</sup>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. <sup>20</sup>For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

<sup>21</sup>But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— <sup>22</sup>the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: <sup>23</sup>for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup>and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup>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. <sup>26</sup>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.

<sup>27</sup>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. <sup>28</sup>For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

- This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Verse Luke 12:32

- P Alleluia.
- Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.
- P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel John 8:31–36

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

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

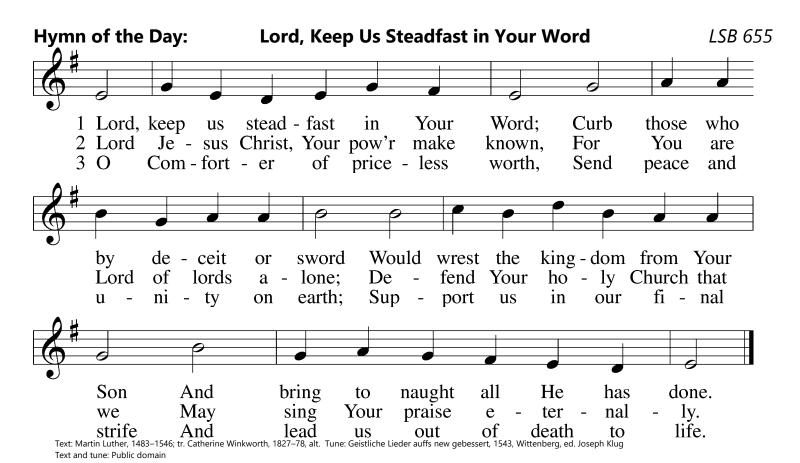
<sup>31</sup>So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, <sup>32</sup>and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." <sup>33</sup>They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?"

<sup>34</sup>Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. <sup>35</sup>The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. <sup>36</sup>So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise to You, O Christ.

#### **Children's Sermon**







# **Prayer of the Church**

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

O Lord of hosts, we give You glory and thanks for being our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble, especially on this Reformation festival. Lord, in Your mercy,

- **C** hear our prayer.
- Thank You for the gift of Your grace that alone sets us free through the blood of Your Son, Jesus. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- Faithful and forgiving God, thank You for bringing us to faith in You. It is through this faith alone that we are saved. Grow us in Your grace and guide us by Your Spirit in living our faith daily. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.

- P O Word who became flesh and dwelt among us, You have given us the Word of Life. Strengthen us by Your Word. Lead and guide us by Your truth. Give Your church on earth faithful pastors who preach and teach the Gospel in all its purity. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- Lord Jesus, You are the One who sets us free. In You alone our hope is found. You are our strength and our refuge. Remember all who face adversity of any kind, [<u>especially</u> ...]. Comfort, strengthen, and heal them by Your Holy Spirit. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- Preserve Your church, O Lord, and each of us as members of Christ's Body, that we may not surrender the true Gospel for any reason but be kept in this faith and fear throughout the days of our earthly pilgrimage, until that day when we and all Your people shall stand before the judgment seat of Christ to receive the reward You have prepared for us and all who have loved His appearing. To You alone be all glory, now and forever, for You rule and reign as one God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- Amen.

Choir Anthem: (Sunday Only) "God Is Our Refuge" by Allen Pote

**Gathering of Our Tithes and Offerings (Sunday Only)** 

**Registry of Worship Cards (Sunday Only)** – Please pass your completed cards to the center aisle

Stand

# Service of the Sacrament

#### **Preface**

- P The Lord be with you.
- **And also with you.**
- **P** Lift up your hearts.
- **W**e lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

# **Proper Preface**

It is good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, our God, for You have set us free and justified us by Your grace, as a gift through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom You put forward as a propitiation by His blood. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him are set free from the power of sin and death and will rise again to new life in the city of God, the place of Your holy habitation. Therefore with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:



# **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

P Blessed are You, O Lord of hosts, the God of Jacob, our fortress, for You have had mercy on all whom You have created by sending Your Son, Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by His blood, to be received by faith.

As we gather in Your name and the memory of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Lead us to faithfully eat and drink His body and blood. Gather us together as we celebrate the freedom we have in Christ. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

#### The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My 

→ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

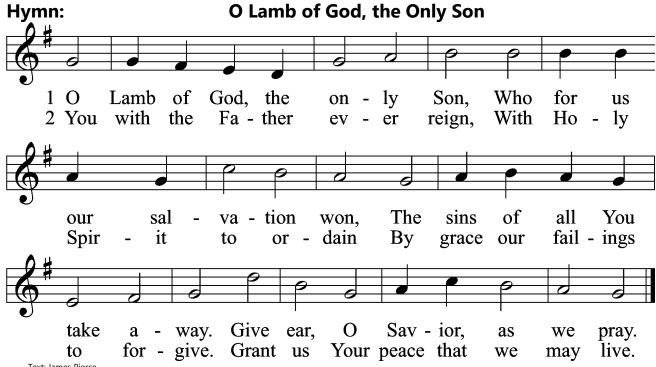
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My → blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

#### **Proclamation of Christ**

- P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- **A**men. Come, Lord Jesus.
- O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- 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.

# **Pax Domini**

- $\mathbf{P}$ The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- $\mathbf{C}$ Amen.



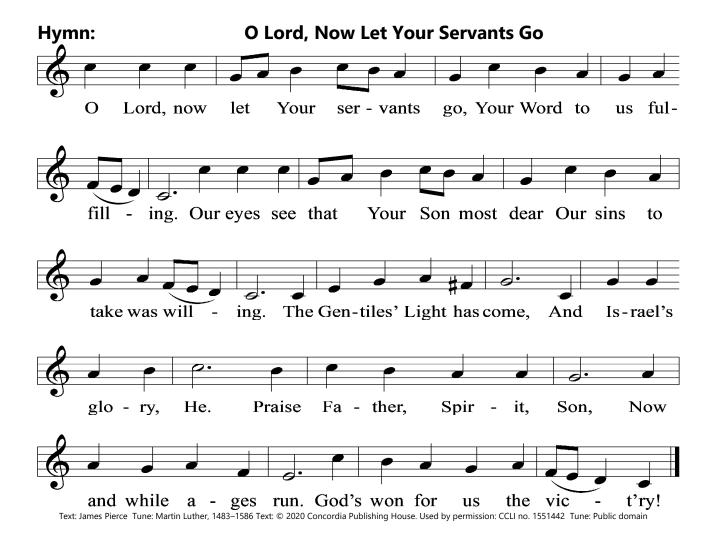
Text: James Pierce

Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois Text: © 2019 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: CCLI no. 1551442 Tune: Public domain

#### **Distribution**

**Distribution Hymns (Sunday Only)** LSB 555 Salvation Unto Us Has Come LSB 566 By Grace I'm Saved





# Post-Communion Collect (Saturday)

- P Let us pray.
- I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

# (Sunday)

- **P** Let us pray.
  - We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

# **Benediction**

Psalm 46:1, 7, 10-11; Numbers 6:24-26

- P God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
- The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.
- "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"
- The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.
- 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.

# **Closing Hymn:**

# The Lord, My God, Be Praised

LSB 794

Δ Please stand after a brief interlude.



Fa - ther, God the

And

Son.

God the

Ho - ly

Ghost.

# **Postlude:**

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#### Acknowledgments

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LEADING AND ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY	
Pastor	Rev. Dr. Victor J. Belton
Organist	Elena Miraztchiyska
Saturday	
Organist	Elena Miraztchiyska Steve West Gerie Slaten
Elder	Steve West
Lector	Gerie Slaten
Sunday	
Elder	Kieth Kallstrom
Lector	John T. Doherty, Jr.
GreeterAudio	Bob and Cheryl Langanke
Audio	Kyle Welch
Video	Video/Streaming: Kris Welch
	GFX: Andrea Hazzard
Altar Guild	Cheryl Erwin and Charlene Rosane

LEADING AND ASSISTING IN WORSHIP <u>NEXT SUNDAY</u>	
Pastor	Pastor Christopher Hazzard
Organist	Elena Miraztchiyska
Elder	Carlos Orellana
Lector	
Greeter	John T. Doherty, Jr.
Audio	
Video	Video/Streaming:
	GFX:
Altar Guild	Sandy Spanier and Janette Williams

#### ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS FROM LAST WEEK

Saturday Worship Attendance	30
Sunday Worship Attendance	
Envelope and Loose Plate Offerings	\$0
Simply Giving/Vanco	\$0
Paypal Offerings	\$0
Website (ShareFaith)	
Total of Offerings Received	
Misc. Income, Memorials and Special Gifts	

**LIFE THOUGHTS IN THE CHURCH** – Defending the lives that God created, redeemed, and called by the Gospel is a good thing! But we must be careful not to become like the Pharisee in Jesus' parable, who became so proud of his good works that he mistreated those who didn't think like him (Luke 18:11-12). Affirming the sanctity of every life also means caring about those who disagree with us, treating them with compassion and sharing the forgiveness of Christ with them, that they, too, might receive the "crown of righteousness" on the Last Day (2 Timothy 4:8).



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**FLOWER SPONSOR** - There is no Flower Sponsor this week.

**BULLETIN SPONSOR** – There is no Bulletin Sponsor this week.

<u>GUEST PASTOR</u> – Rev. Dr. Victor J. Belton will be our guest pastor today. The Winter Haven Circuit Reformation Service will take place at St. Paul Lutheran, 4450 Harden Blvd, Lakeland, with Pre-service music at 3:30 p.m. and Festival service at 4:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend.

<u>MARY MARTHA QUILTERS</u> - Mary Martha Quilters meet each Wednesday at 10 am. All Ladies from the congregation are invited to come. You don't have to be a quilter or know how to sew as we need people who can cut, arrange, and tie.

**FELLOWSHIP HOUR (SUNDAY)** – Coffee and cookies are being served today; the New Member Picnic will take place next week. Everyone is invited! There is no charge, and a freewill offering is voluntary. Our Fellowship offerings for this Fall will be: <u>October</u> - South American Mission <u>November</u> - Gideons <u>December</u> - Top Button.

<u>COMMUNITY GARDEN</u> – Check out our community garden! Help yourself to herbs and flowers, right outside the kitchen door! Lori Wacker

<u>THRIVENT CHOICE</u> - Did you know? If you have a Thrivent Life Insurance policy, you can donate "Choice Dollars" to our church. This gift doesn't affect your policy in any way, but is a wonderful way to support the church financially! Follow this link for more information: <u>Thrivent Charitable Impact & Investing - Thrivent Charitable</u>.

**AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE CLASSES** - Classes continue with Maddie Block for the American Sign Language for Beginners course on Mondays from 6:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. through November 24th. This fun learning experience will help prepare you to better communicate with our deaf neighbors. Bring a friend!

**BLESSING BOWL** – Please remember to drop your gift-giving form into the Blessing Bowl by November 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**NEW MEMBERS PICNIC** – Everyone is invited to our New Member picnic, on Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> after service. Let's share hamburgers, hot dogs and all the fixins' with are members, both old and new. See you then!

<u>WINTER HAVEN ZONE OF LWML</u> - Christ Lutheran and Mary Martha will be hosting the Winter Haven Zone of LWML on Saturday, November 8th beginning at 9:00 am. The theme will be "Seeds of Hope" Luke 8:11; The Seed is the Word of God.

**<u>VOTER'S CONGREGATIONAL MEETING</u>** – The Voter's Congregational Meeting will take place on Sunday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, after service.

**THANKSGIVING DINNER - NOVEMBER 16TH** - Please join us on Nov 16 for Thanksgiving dinner, after Sunday Service, before the voter's meeting. Turkey and ham will be provided but we need help with the sides. Here are a few suggestions....

Last name A-H: Veggies - sweet potatoes, green beans, corn, squash, salads...

Last name J-P: Starches - mashed potatoes, dressing, mac & cheese, rice, dinner rolls,

Cornbread...

Last name R-Z: Desserts: pumpkin pie, apple pie, pecan pie, fresh fruit, Jello...

This will be a great afternoon. Hope to see you there!

<u>ALTAR FLOWER SIGN-UP</u> – Sign-up sheets through August 2026 are now posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Each sheet will now be posted quarterly, by season, so that as a season passes, a new sheet will be put up, rather than one sheet used for the entire year. There are still some spaces open for the remainder of 2025. It would be a blessing to see those filled! Additional information is available on the poster, immediately next to the signup sheets. Specially designated envelopes are available below the poster. Altar flower offerings go toward our Christmas and Easter live flowers, as well as toward the proper upkeep and refreshing of our silk arrangements used throughout the year.



**HELP WANTED** - The Church is in need of workers in several positions around the Church. These include Ushers, Offering Counters, Altar Guild, Lectors, Sound Board, Video Assistance, Elders (requires one year

membership), and many other opportunities to serve. Please consider using your time and talents in some way here at Christ Lutheran.

<u>ADOPT-A-BLOCK</u> – **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** – To reserve your spot on the team or if you have questions, please contact either Robin Fox or Pastor Chris.

**TRUSTEE WORKDAY** - The Trustee Workday is each Wednesday from 9am – 1pm. If you would like to help with the various needs of the church, come join us. A job, whether large or small can be found to help with. If you notice something you think needs attention, come let us know. Thanks for helping.

<u>DREAM CENTER VOLUNTEERS</u> – Volunteers are needed to help check-in and sort items here at Christ Lutheran for the Dream Center. Please see or contact Robin Fox at 863-513-4774 to schedule a day and time to volunteer.

**CHECK YOUR MAILBOX** - Please check your mailbox in the Narthex.

<u>CHURCH DIRECTORY</u> – For those that are not aware, our church member directory is now available online. Please see the flyer sheets in the Narthex for more information or email <u>stewardship@clclakeland.org</u>.

**NAMETAGS** – We would like to encourage all our members to please wear their nametags to church. If you can't find your nametag or don't have one, please sign-up for one on the bulletin board in the Narthex of the church.

### STEWARDSHIP CORNER

Revelation 14:6 – "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." During the Reformation, this text was used to refer to Luther's ministry and the Lutheran message. We have an eternal Gospel to proclaim. Christ has freed us from our sins without any works on our part. We are saved by grace alone! And, ironically enough, Luther said this should make him the "apostle of works." Once we are freed by grace, we are truly free to serve God in works that flow from thankfulness and praise.





# THIS WEEK AT CHRIST LUTHERAN

Adopt-A-Block @ 11 am
Dream Center @ Christ Lutheran
Trustee Workday @ 9 am
Quilters @ 10 am
Individual Communion 1:30 – 2:30 pm
Choir Practice @ 5:30 pm
Bible Study @ 10 am
Church Office closed
Pastor's day off
Worship @ 5:30 pm
Bible Study @ 8:30 am
Worship @ 10 am
Elders Meeting after Service
New Member Picnic after Service