

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
120 West Gano Chance Road
Centralia, Missouri 65240
Reformation Day Observed w/Holy Communion
October 26, 2025
Theme: True Freedom

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.

WELCOME

Pastor James Lanning

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN – “Built on the Rock”

LSB 645

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 46:1, 7, 10–11*

Pastor: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

People: The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Pastor: “Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!”

People: The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Isaiah 35:10*

Pastor: Let us confess our sins to God, our Father.

People: 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.

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

† WORD †

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

Pastor: I will speak of Your testimonies before kings, O Lord, and shall not be put to shame.

People: I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth.

Pastor: My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad.

People: Come, O children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

Pastor: The LORD redeems the life of His servants; none of those who take refuge in Him will be condemned.

**People: 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.**

Pastor: I will speak of Your testimonies before kings, O Lord, and shall not be put to shame.

KYRIE

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HYMN OF PRAISE

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SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

FIRST READING *Revelation 14:6-7*

Lector: Danny Nadler

Lector: 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. And he said with a loud voice,

People: “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.”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalms 46

Pastor: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

People: 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.

Pastor: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

People: God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;

Pastor: God will help her when morning dawns.

People: The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;

Pastor: He utters His voice, the earth melts.

People: The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Pastor: Come, behold the works of the LORD, how He has brought desolations on the earth.

People: He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; He burns the chariots with fire.

Pastor: “Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!

People: The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

EPISTLE *Romans 3:19–28*

Lector: Danny Nadler

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.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

VERSE *Luke 12:32*

Pastor: Alleluia.

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

Pastor: Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL *John 8:31–36* (It is only through Jesus that we become free.)

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

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

Pastor: So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in Him, "If you abide in My word, you are truly My disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

People: 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'?"

Pastor: Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin.

The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

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HYMN OF THE DAY – "A Mighty Fortress is Our God"

LSB 657

SERMON -

Pastor James Lanning

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: 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,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Thank You for the gift of Your grace that alone sets us free through the blood of Your Son, Jesus. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: 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,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: 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,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: 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, [*especially* . . .]. Comfort, strengthen, and heal them by Your Holy Spirit. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: 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 judgement 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.

People: Amen.

† SACRAMENT †

PREFACE *2 Timothy 4:22*

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, our God, our refuge and strength, for You are with us. O God of Jacob, You are our fortress. You still our souls and gladden our hearts as You forgive our sins with the body and blood of Your Son. Lead us to Your holy habitation, where we will see the river of life that flows through Your holy city. Therefore with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

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PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, O Lord of hosts, the God of Jacob, our fortress, for You are with us so that we will not fear, though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved in the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling. In Your righteous judgment, You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, which has enslaved the human race. In Your mercy, You sent a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who set us free from the power of sin through the cross and the empty tomb. We thank You for rescuing us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood. In Jesus' name, we pray.

People: Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

Pastor: 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 *1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20*

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Pastor: 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:

LORD’S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

People: 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

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

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DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“Thy Word Is a Lamp”

Refrain Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path.
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path.

- 1 When I feel afraid, think I’ve lost my way,
Still You’re there right beside me.
And nothing will I fear as long as You are near.
Please be near me to the end. Refrain
- 2 I will not forget Your love for me, and yet
My heart forever is wandering.
Jesus, be my guide and hold me to Your side;
And I will love You to the end. Refrain

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“My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

LSB 702

“Thy Strong Word”

LSB 578

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

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POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray. O God of Jacob, we give You glory for sending Your Son to set us free. We thank You for setting this feast of forgiveness before us. Empower us to proclaim Your eternal Gospel to all who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION *Psalm 46:1, 7, 10–11; Numbers 6:24–26*

Pastor: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

People: The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Pastor: “Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!”

People: The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

SENDING HYMN – “Fight the Good Fight”

LSB 664

NEXT SUNDAY

Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

Adult Bible Study: 9:00 a.m. “Anchored in Faith” - led by Pastor Lanning

Worship Service: 10:00 a.m.

BIRTHDAYS – Jon Hoek – October 26; Ed Ramsey – October 30; Vickie Chism – October 31

ANNIVERSARIES – no anniversaries this week

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER EVENTS

10.26 Quarterly Congregational Voters Meeting

10.29 Adult Bible Study – 10 am

10.29 ZOOM Prayer Group – 8 pm

10.31 Trunk or Treat – 5 pm to dusk

11.01 Women’s Guild Craft Fair

11.04 Mission Planning – 7 pm

11.05 Adult Bible Study – 10 am

11.05 ZOOM Prayer Group – 8 pm

11.09 OCC PACKING PARTY w/lunch

11.10 Women’s Guild – 1 pm

11.11 Heritage Hall – 10 am

11.12 Adult Bible Study 10 am

11.12 ZOOM Prayer Group – 8 pm

11.18 **OR** 11.20 Worship Committee – 4:30 pm

11.19 Adult Bible Study 10 am

11.19 ZOOM Prayer Group – 8 pm

11.20 Worship Committee 4:30 pm

11.26 NO Adult Bible Study – 10 am

11.26 Thanksgiving Eve Service – 7 pm

11.30 First Sunday in Advent

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Quarterly Voters Meeting following lunch after the service **today**.

Items for the November Newsletter are due by 9 am on Wednesday, October 29th.

GLSC TRUNK OR TREAT is Friday, October 31st from 5 to dusk.

WOMEN’S GUILD CRAFT/VENDOR FAIR IS THIS SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1ST, FROM 9-1.

GLSC MEN’S GROUP will meet after taking down the tables from the craft fair on Saturday for food, fellowship, and Bible Study.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Dan Keil (Norma Keil's son) – burns to hands and face from harvesting accident; **Prayers for those with health issues; prayers for caretakers; Bob Maseman** – thyroid cancer treatment (Judy's brother in law and Steve's uncle); **Bruce Mills** – hospitalized with health issues; **Rev. Dr. Lee Hagan** – recovering from a stroke; **Cammie Cunningham (Olivia Hoek's mother)** – cancer treatments; **Christ Lutheran School, Perry, GA** – facing financial challenges; **Those affected by the flooding in Texas; Lynn Lake and the other communities affected by the wildfires in Canada; Barb Gerger** – hip fracture; **Ken Manola** – recovering; **Skip Elkin** – health issues; **Reverend Tim and Erin Schulte**; **those grieving recent loss of family or friends; Terry Plank** – undergoing chemo treatments; **Savannah & Taylor Tarwater** – as they mourn; **Mike Hyde** – recovering from hip fracture; **Tammy Morgan** – (Sherry Morse's daughter) – health issues; **Christina DeJesus** – health issues; **Brenda Belt** (Henry Rainey's sister) – Stage IV Cancer; **Grace** – health issues (friend of Hannah Lanning); **Steve Buckert** – recovering; **Jenni Murray**–Margaret Parker's daughter–recovering from surgery; **Ron Borgman; Dick St. John**–Brenda Moss's father–health issues; **Kim & Terry Decker**–health issues; **Ed & Ernestine Ramsey; Judy Mahieu; Kyle Lutz**–recovering from kidney/pancreas transplant; **Bonnie Berthelsen; Mark Ramsey; Calvin Stemme**–treatment for cancer; **Julia Rainey; Jane St. John; Dennis & Jackie Nadler; Susan Harris; Wayne Nolan**–stepfather of Jeff Jaeger; **Michelle Smith**–daughter of Jane St John; **Arla Benskin**–daughter of Mary Brechler.

Missionaries - MOST Ministries (Mission Opportunities Short Term)

Community Prayers: Father Mike Coleman; Evie Ross–infant needs heart transplant; **David**–health issues; **Bernie Ryan** – health issues; **Charlene** – esophageal cancer; **Shelley R.** –melanoma; **Geri Ward** – health issues; **Gerry Southard** – health issues, **Kim Smith** – health issues.

ARMED FORCES: Veterans of Armed Services – especially those suffering from PTSD and anxiety; **Christopher Thompson**, U. S. Navy – cousin of Hannah Lanning; **Brandon Lowery**, U.S. Navy–brother of Rachel Rojas; **Donevin Leonard**, U.S. Marine Corps–grandson of Russell & Jacki Stelzer; **Chris Chism**, U.S. Navy–son of Vickie & Eric Chism; grandson of Barbara Fischer; **Brittany Macklin**–great-niece of Ernestine Ramsey; Community: **Ray Finlay**, U.S. Army

Welcome and Prayer Request Cards

Please place any prayer request cards in the offering plate when it comes around. The ushers will give them to the pastor. Please complete the welcome card and leave it at the end of your pew. Thank you.

Church Directory

Pastor James Lanning (512) 968-4587,

Email: pastorlanning@goodshepherdcentralia.org

Church office: (573) 682-3941,

hours: 8am-1pm M & Th; 11 am – 4 pm T-W

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Church Updates: www.goodshepherd.churchupdates.org

Website: www.goodshepherdcentralia.org

Elders:

Jeff Jaeger (573) 682-0902

Gary Seider (573) 489-6629

Mark Nygren (763) 274-4308



Black cross Symbolism: Faith in the crucified Christ.

Explanation: The cross, placed in the center of the heart, represents the suffering of Christ on the cross and the pain it caused. Despite this, the cross brings righteousness and life to those who have faith in the crucified Savior.

Red heart Symbolism: Faith and the life-giving love of God.

Explanation: The heart is red to symbolize the life-giving love of God in Christ. For Luther, the heart also remains in its "natural color," signifying that faith does not destroy our human nature but keeps us alive through belief in the crucified one.

White rose Symbolism: Joy, comfort, and peace that faith brings.

Explanation: The heart is placed in the center of a white rose to show that faith provides joy, comfort, and peace. The rose is white, not red, because white represents the color of spirits and angels, symbolizing a heavenly joy that is not of this world.

Sky-blue field Symbolism: Heavenly joy and hope.

Explanation: The rose sits on a sky-blue field, symbolizing that the spiritual joy of faith is the beginning of the future heavenly joy that is to come. This joy, while not yet fully realized, is grasped through hope.

Gold ring Symbolism: Eternal bliss and salvation in heaven.

Explanation: The golden ring that encircles the entire symbol signifies that the bliss and joy of heaven are endless and more precious than any other treasure, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.