

October 29, 2023

Reformation Sunday



Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Virginia, MN

Pastor Liz Cheney

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

REFORMATION DIALOGUE

God you are our safe place to hide.

You are our mighty fortress.

You are our ever present help in time of need.

We can and do turn to you in the midst of our troubles.

And Lord our world is full of difficulties.

Lord we may feel afraid, but it does not overcome us

Because we know we can put our trust in you.

Your love and grace are like streams of water in the desert.

Your joy comes splashing down upon us.

You refresh and renew us like rain coming down on the earth.

Bring your water of life to those who are thirsty and living in a dry and weary land.

Where there are wars, bring your peace.

Where there is starvation, fill the empty bellies.

Where there is despair, bring your hope.

Where there is animosity, bring your reconciliation.

Where there is abuse, bring your tender mercies,

Where there is poverty, bring your charity.

Where there is illness, bring your healing.

Where there is grief, bring your gentleness.

Where there is injustice, bring your justice.

Lord you are our mighty fortress, our strong deliverer.

In you we put our trust and release ourselves into your hands.

HYMN OF THE DAY

A Mighty Fortress

ELW 504

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be God, the one who forms us, † Jesus who bears the cross,
the Spirit who makes our joy complete. **Amen.**

Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Steadfast and faithful God,

you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you.

We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering.

We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others.

For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us.

**For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us.
For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us.
Lead us back to you and set us on the right path;
in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

Beloved in Christ,
God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.
God's compassion is beyond compare.
In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.
In † Christ, you are already and always forgiven. **Amen.**

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY Let us pray.

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 days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. 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. 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. 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.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 46

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

**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**

though its waters rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

**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 the city; it shall not be shaken;

God shall help it at the break of day.

The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;

God speaks, and the earth melts away.

The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Come now, regard the works of the LORD, what desolations God has brought upon the earth;

behold 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.

“Be still, then, 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 stronghold.

SECOND READING: Romans 3:19-28

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. For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin. But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus. Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL John 8:31-36

The holy gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." 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'?"

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

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Deacon Colleen Bernu

HYMN OF THE DAY

Canticle of the Turning

ELW 723

INSTALLATION OF PASTOR LIZ CHENEY

Participants in this installation piece:

Deacon Colleen Bernu, NEMN Synod Minister of Evangelical Mission

Call Committee Co-Chairs: Tamera Brown and Shelley Svatos

Installation service from: Speak It Plain Words For Worship And Life Together by Meta Herrick Carlson, pg. 160

Deacon Colleen: On behalf of the Christian church and this denomination it is my duty and joy to install our sibling in Christ, Liz Cheney, as pastor at Our Savior's. I ask leaders from this call process to present the documentation that makes this invitation official.

Tamera and Shelley: After prayerful discernment and thorough consideration on behalf of this congregation, we have extended a call to Pastor Liz and present her for installation today.

Deacon Colleen: Thank you for sharing your time and energy with this discernment process. It's a blessing to the whole congregation.

A Reading from Mark 10:42-43, 45) – Kristi Ongalo

A Reading from Romans 12:4-8 – River Cheney

A Reading from First Peter 4:10-11 – Nancy Fisher

Deacon Colleen: Pastor Liz, in accepting the call to ministry of word and sacrament, you promised to uphold the holy Scriptures as the word of God, to confess the creeds and the Lutheran confessions as theological context for understanding the word of God, and to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Will you continue to study Scripture, pray for God's people, serve others for the sake of justice, and keep your baptismal promises in this community?

I will, and I ask for God's help.

Will you set an example of healthy leadership, keep the Sabbath, practice boundaries, care for relationships, and seek the resources and support you need to maintain a wholistic well-being?

I will, and I ask for God's help.

Will you bear witness to God's love in the world, helping this congregation build trust, seek justice, and share love with the wider community?

I will, and I ask for God's help.

Will you discern and do what is right, even when it disrupts our status quo, and especially when it asks something difficult of us for the sake of our neighbors?

I will, and I ask for God's help.

May the God who has called you in baptism and set you apart in the ministry of word and sacrament continue to bless you with the conviction and grace to do these things for the sake of Jesus and this community of faith. Amen.

Please rise as you are able

People of God at Our Savior's, will you receive Pastor Liz as a minister of word and sacrament, a called and ordained leader in the church on earth, a sibling in Christ, a fellow human being who will love you and, occasionally, fail you?

We will.

Will you pray for Pastor Liz, support and honor her leadership for the sake of this ministry you share, and bear witness to our unity in Christ?

We will.

Pastor Liz, the office of senior pastor is entrusted to you.

The Call committee, church council, and Pastor Liz's family are invited to come forward for a laying on of hands and a blessing at this time.

Empowering God, you share creative power with your people, inviting our participation and leadership so that the kingdom of heaven is revealed in human activity. Bless Liz with wisdom and compassion as pastor at Our Savior's. Entrust good and holy things to her care and equip her to lead with faithfulness and courage we know in Jesus Christ. Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

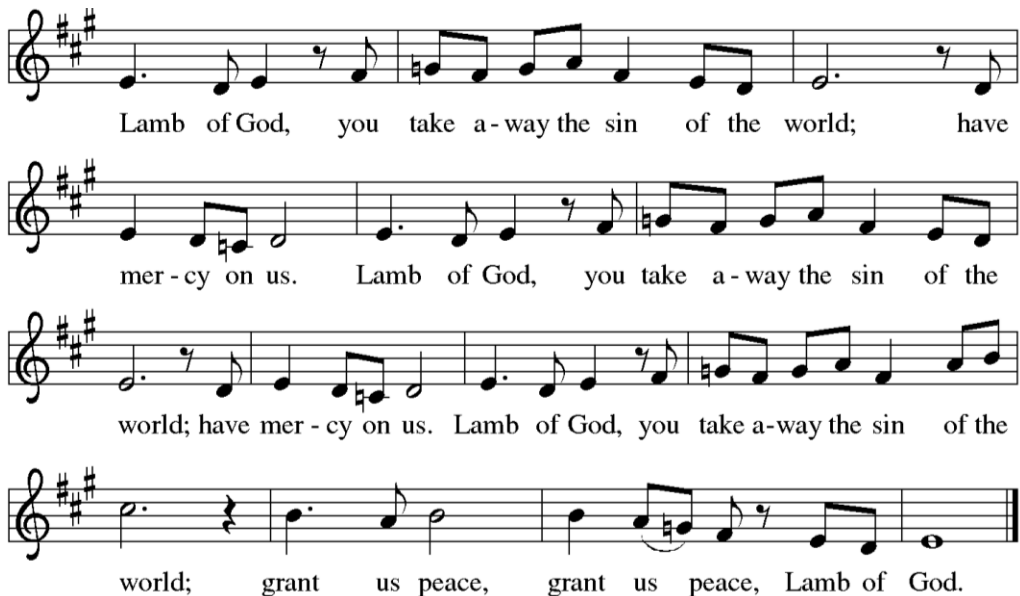
Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat and live. All are welcome.

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

COMMUNION HYMNS

Amazing Grace

ELW 779

Christ is Made the Sure Foundation

ELW 645

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word,
Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food,
send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are
satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

DEDICATION OF THE ZIMBELSTERN

SENDING HYMN *Soli Deo Gloria*

ELW 878

** All sing verse 1, Sons sing verse 2, Daughters sing verse 3, All sing verses 4 & 5*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. God is at work in you. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

We hold in our prayers

Please pray for people in need of comfort, hope, healing, or safe transition: Adeline, Jesse, Tedd, Ed, Karen, Ralph, Diane, Chuck, Sue, Mike, Kate, Matt, Ken, Hermine, Deb L., Matt, Ross- (needs transplant of kidneys & pancreas), Brandon, Jessica, Breanna, Jeremy, Richard, Shari, Rodney, Lee, Kathy, Mary, Wally C., Marlene, Bonnie M.(MS), Victoria. *Please pray for the family of Ruth Thompson at her passing.* Call Ginny Ahrlin, prayer leader for this month, at 218-749-0056 for prayer needs.

If you are in need of any pastoral care or if you or someone you know would like a visit, please call Pastor Liz Cheney at 218-780-8907 or the church office at 218-741-6207.

Visitors and Friends

We at Our Savior's practice open communion during Sunday Worship. Our Lord invites us to share a holy meal at His altar, and we understand that invitation to be open to all who wish to commune with us. You are therefore welcome to join us in our Lord's Supper. If you prefer a Gluten Free wafer or juice, please let the Pastor/server know.

A warm welcome to all visitors who are worshipping with us this morning! Please join us for coffee fellowship following the service.

CONTACT US

Church Office: 218-741-6207

office@oslcmn.com

www.oslcmn.com

www.facebook.com/oslcmn

YouTube Page ~ Our Savior's Lutheran Church Virginia MN Office

OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 10:00 – 5:00

PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS

Variable for now – please make an appointment and office hours will be posted once Pastor Liz is settled in. Friday is her day off.

Pastor Liz – 218-780-8907 or lizcheney44@gmail.com

STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Liz Cheney

Church Secretary: Colleen Brown Jacobson

Bookkeeper: Carole Rutka

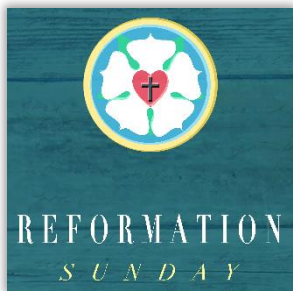
Musicians: Kristen Weikum, Mark Ongalo, Ginny Ahrlin

Custodian: Steve Gagnon



Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR Reformation Sunday, Oct. 29th, 2023

TODAY IS REFORMATION SUNDAY AND PASTOR LIZ'S INSTALLATION



Thank you for joining us, this very special day of Pastor Liz Cheney's formal Installation, in accepting the call to ministry of word and sacrament at Our Savior's Lutheran Church. We welcome Deacon Colleen Bernu from the Northeastern Synod to lead the Installation.

You are invited to a dinner celebration in the Fellowship Hall after Worship.

TRUNK OR TREAT HERE TODAY! After the celebration of Pastor Liz's Installation & the following meal ~ Join us in the afternoon for our first "TRUNK OR TREAT," 4pm – 6pm. Come a little early if you're helping out or bringing your car - We have enough candy to give you a bowl full as you sit at your vehicle and hand it out to kids (thank you to all who donated). Bring a lawn chair or grab one from inside the church. There will be a prize for the best decorated vehicle! Games & prizes for kids will be on our covered sidewalk. And the Virginia Fire & Ambulance Dept. & County Sheriff K-9 unit will be present to interact with the kids! *See you around 4:00!*

DEDICATION OF THE ZIMBELSTERN TODAY The Moberg family desired to gift the church funds toward the new Zimbelstern installed on our Jaekel Organ. The Zimbelstern instrument is part of an organ that rings bells as an accompaniment to the organ music being played. Not many organs have a Zimbelstern today - we are blessed to have one applied to our organ, and we thank the Moberg family for their gift toward the instrument.

LITTLE PANTRY We are collecting food & other items in the narthex shopping cart for the outside pantry. This month the National Health observance is *Diabetic Health*. In addition to picking up **sugar-free candy and low carb/high protein snacks** that are friendly to a diabetic diet, since the weather is getting colder, consider these items: **dry soup mixes, meals in a box, dry beans, rice, pasta, instant potatoes, powdered milk, nuts, peanut butter.**

NEW TIME! The Finance Team will meet the 1st Wednesday of every month at 5pm for those attending.

NOV. WORSHIP ASSISTANTS The new sheet is on the clipboard in the narthex for signing up to serve.

TAKE YOUR BULLETIN HOME FOR PRAYER, PERSONAL STUDY OF SCRIPTURES AND THE ANNOUNCEMENTS!

RADIO SPONSORSHIP Thank you John & Diane Eloffson, for sponsoring today's **Worship in honor & thankfulness of Our Savior's Lutheran Church**. If you are interested in sponsoring a Sunday worship in honor of someone or a special event (wedding anniversary, birth of children, baptism date) or in memory of a loved one who has passed, you may do so in full for \$90 or shared/partial at \$45. Just call the church office, **and/or sign up on the sheet provided on the bulletin board by the fountain**.

OSLC INFORMATION: *Thank you for being here today. Parents: As you enter the Sanctuary, to the left, there is an activity tree holding canvas bags with toys & books for your children to use during worship - feel free to use them! Bathrooms are located to the left and down the hall as you exit the sanctuary. During the week, Church Office hours are 10am – 5:00 Mon., Tues., Wed., and Friday. If you would like to know more about OSLC, call the church office at 218-741-6207 (if we do not answer, leave us a voice message so we can get back to you promptly).*

THIS WEEK @ OSLC - TAKE HOME FOR A REMINDER

QUILTING: Wednesdays, 9:30am – 2 or 3pm in the Fellowship Hall

FINANCE MEETING: Wed. Nov. 1st, 5pm; will now be the 1st Wednesday of each month

FALL BACK ! Saturday, Nov. 4th Don't forget about Day-light-Savings ~ Turn your clocks back an hour when you go to sleep Saturday night 🕒

Lefse Making Event

Come find out how to make this favorite for the Holidays!

Here, Thurs. Nov. 16th, 10am



GIVING IS EASY WITH OUR QR CODE

Just scan it with your phone's camera to learn more about contributing to OSLC's Ministries!



JOIN US FOR
TRUNK OR TREAT

CANDY, GAMES & PRIZES!
Sunday, October 29th
AT 4:00PM-6:00PM

Our Savior's Lutheran
Church Parking Lot
1111 8th Street S.
Virginia, MN

Call 218-741-6207 for more information.
If inclement weather it will be inside the church.