



Reformation

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

Serving the Portland Area
With the Means of Grace
As a family of believers
For almost 110 years...

As a Church
As a School
As a Preschool
As a Mission
As a Ministry
As a Family of Ministries



A Family of Ministries For Christian
Worship, Education and Care

Church Campus
7610 NE Fremont Street
Pastor Thad Bitter
503.290.6316 – call/text

School Campus
2252 SE 92nd Street
Principal Mark Leitzke
503.449.4192 – call/text
ECE Director Tammy Godish
503.312.4230 – call/text

End Time 1 – Reformation, November 1, 2020

Welcome!

GRACE ~ *“I am not ashamed of the gospel...”*



When it comes to the truth of Scripture, there is no room for compromise. The Bible is the book we live by... for life now and for life forever. We accept the Bible as the pure Word of God. We believe that our only Savior is Jesus Christ, the sinless Son of God, who was crucified, died, and was buried but rose again to open the door to heaven for everyone who believes in him.

GRACE ~ *“These are written that you may believe...”*



Grace Lutheran Church has served the Portland area for over 100 years by faithfully preaching and teaching the timeless truth of God’s Word. We believe that God uses the timeless message of Word and Sacraments to bring souls into his care. This is a message that we share here and around the world through our affiliation with the WELS.

GRACE ~ *“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations...”*



Grace Lutheran Church exists to win souls by joyfully proclaiming the truth of God’s grace through Christ, to nurture believers in growing in faith and lives of Christian service, and to join together in worship and praise. **“But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and forever! Amen.” 2 Pt. 3:1**

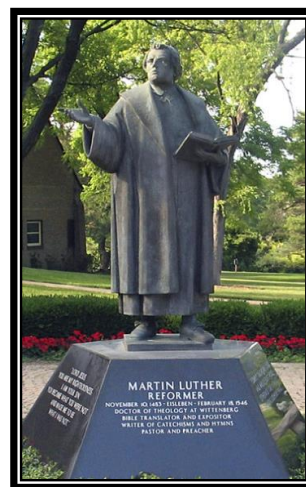
THE SEASON OF END TIME: The Church Year comes a close in November with the season of End Time. In this season, we are reminded that we are living in the “last days” between Christ’s first coming at Christmas and his second coming on Judgment Day. The Alpha and Omega reminds us that our God is eternal... the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. Our time is in His hands. The world could be ended at any time. For a believer, the end of his life or the end of the world is a wonderful thing! It means the beginning of a new and better existence in a much more glorious world than this one.



THE REFORMATION: On October 31, 1517 Martin Luther nailed 95 Theses—statements for debate—on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, beginning a spiritual and historical movement known as the Reformation. The Reformation did not just change the face of Europe; it restored the gospel to the church. It gave God’s Word to the people. As we celebrate the Reformation, we are not honoring the man for whom our church body is named. We are thanking God for his grace which he has demonstrated through the generations—preserving the church and setting us free.



OUR THEME FOR TODAY: As a young man, Martin Luther thought of himself as God’s slave. Thus, he was terrified of God. Luther believed God was a terrifying taskmaster, looking for every possible reason to punish him. But as Martin Luther studied God’s Word, he realized that was not the case at all. God is a loving Father. He does not pretend we have no brokenness or sin, but he paid for it all by the death and resurrection of Christ. Scripture says that through faith in Christ, we are completely forgiven. We are part of God’s own family—a family where we are loved in spite of our faults. God’s grace not only frees us from the fear of condemnation and punishment, it frees us to live a better, more grace-filled life. We want to live as God’s children. We want to love and bear with one another—our brothers and sisters—just as our Father loves and bears with us.





THE FESTIVAL OF THE REFORMATION

This service offers the congregation a form of worship that focuses on the proclamation of God's Word which God himself preserved through the Reformation of the Church.

✠ Gathering ✠

INVOCATION & OPENING DIALOGUE

Using tune CW #293 "God's Word Is Our Great Heritage"

M: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

ALL: *Our high, majestic God and Lord, the heav'ns cannot contain you,
And yet you tell us in your Word: "I dwell in you, sustain you."
Though reason cannot see this wondrous mystery
Your Word our trust has won. Let this same grace be shown
throughout all generations.*



*In ages past King Solomon, before God's people Isr'ael
Confessed what you for them had done when you gave them the Temple.
There they would always find a Father, gracious, kind,
Who would a Savior send all woes of sin to end through many, many ages.*

M: Blessing and honor and glory and power be unto the One who sits on the throne,

C: And to the Lamb, forever and ever.

M: His blood sets us free to be the people of God.

ALL: *So you, through all these many years great grace to us have granted.
Your glorious gospel filled our ears through church and school here planted.
So let it ever be that we may ever see
Your perfect, boundless love and reach your home above
with all your true believers.*




CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

M: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

C: Almighty God, merciful Father, I, a troubled and repentant sinner, confess that I have sinned against you in my thoughts, my words, and my actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I am distressed by the sins that trouble me and am deeply sorry for them.


M: Jesus' death paid for the guilt of your sins and the sins of the whole world. He said to his people, "If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven." Because of the promise of our Savior Jesus, I forgive you all your sins. Be assured that you are a dear child of God and an heir of eternal life!

**ALL: Our Lord, we magnify and praise your faithfulness unbroken;
 For you have kept through all our days each promise you have spoken.
Forsake us not, we pray; preserve us in your way!
As you our fathers led, so shall it here be said:
"He keeps us safe forever!"**

M: Fight the good fight of faith!

C: For the Lord, the righteous Judge, has laid up for us a crown of life.

M: For us, and for all who await his appearing.

**ALL: God's Word is our great heritage and shall be ours forever;
 To spread its light from age to age shall be our chief endeavor.
Through life it guides our way; in death it is our stay.
Lord, grant while worlds endure we keep its teachings pure
throughout all generations.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: 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.

C: Amen.

✠ The Word ✠

THE FIRST LESSON

Galatians 5:1-6

Evangelical Heritage Version (EHV)

Paul's letter speaks clearly against work righteousness and plainly about grace. That meant much to Luther who had staked his life on both topics. The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love. So, Paul says, stand firm and be faithful to the Word of God that sets us free.

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not allow anyone to put the yoke of slavery on you again. ² Look, I, Paul, tell you that if you allow yourselves to be circumcised, Christ will be of no benefit to you. ³ I testify again to every man who allows himself to be circumcised that he is obligated to do the whole law. ⁴ You who are trying to be declared righteous by the law are completely separated from Christ. You have fallen from grace. ⁵ Indeed, through the Spirit, we by faith are eagerly waiting for the sure hope of righteousness. ⁶ For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision matters. Rather, it is faith working through love that matters.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Romans 3:21-22

M: Alleluia. But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. Alleluia.

Response tune from CW #551 "For All the Saints" SINE NOMINE



1. Stand fast, O Christ - ian, in God's Word a - lone.
2. Stand fast, O Christ - ian; hope se - cure - ly place
By speech and deed its glo - rious light be shown
In him who has re - vealed his sa - ving face,
That through the world the sa - ving faith be known. Al -
By whom we now are just - i - fied by grace. Al -
- le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
- le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

THE LESSON FROM THE GOSPEL

Matthew 10:16-23

Who would send defenseless sheep into a world of ravenous wolves? It makes no sense, yet that is precisely the plan that Jesus describes for his Church. It makes no sense—unless you are the Good Shepherd who wants his sheep to utterly depend on him.

¹⁶ “Look, I am sending you out as sheep among wolves. So be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves. ¹⁷ Be on guard against people. They will hand you over to councils, and they will whip you in their synagogues. ¹⁸ You will be brought into the presence of governors and kings for my sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles. ¹⁹ Whenever they hand you over, do not be worried about how you will respond or what you will say, because what you say will be given to you in that hour. ²⁰ In fact you will not be the ones speaking, but the Spirit of your Father will be speaking through you. ²¹ “Brother will hand over his brother to death, and a father will do the same with his child. Children will rise up against parents and have them put to death. ²² You will be hated by all people because of my name, but whoever endures to the end will be saved. ²³ And when they persecute you in one town, flee to the next. Amen I tell you: You will not finish going through the cities of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

M: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

THE HYMN OF THE DAY:

CW #200: “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

Please rise for the singing of the final stanza

**A mighty fortress is our God,
A trusty shield and weapon;
He helps us free from ev'ry need
That has us now o'ertaken.
The old evil foe Now means deadly woe;
Deep guile and great might
Are his dread arms in fight;
On earth is not his equal.**

**With might of ours can naught be done;
Soon were our loss effected.
But for us fights the valiant one
Whom God himself elected.
You ask, "Who is this?"
Jesus Christ it is, The almighty Lord.
And there's no other God;
He holds the field forever.**

***Though devils all the world should fill,
All eager to devour us,
We tremble not, we fear no ill;
They shall not overpower us.
This world's prince may still scowl fierce as he will,
He can harm us none.
He's judged; the deed is done!
One little word can fell him.***

Please Rise

***The Word they still shall let remain,
Nor any thanks have for it;
He's by our side upon the plain
With his good gifts and Spirit.
And do what they will --Hate, steal, hurt, or kill –
Though all may be gone, Our victory is won;
The kingdom's ours forever!***

THE SERMON

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Evangelical Heritage Version (EHV)

After a hard ministry, Jeremiah began to forget the things of God and concentrate too much on the things of man. God commands his prophet to repent and turn to God for mercy. God renews a promise that he had made at the beginning of Jeremiah's ministry.

O LORD, you understand. Remember me and care for me. Take vengeance for me on those who persecute me. You are slow to anger. Do not take me away. Keep in mind that for your sake I bear disgrace. Your words came to me, and I devoured them. Your words became my joy, the delight of my heart, because I bear your name, O LORD God of Armies. I did not sit with the band of partygoers, nor did I celebrate with them. I sat alone, because your hand was upon me. You filled me with indignation. Why is my pain unending? Why is my wound incurable, refusing to heal? Will you be as deceptive as an intermittent stream to me, like a source of water that a person can't depend on? Therefore, this is what the LORD says. If you repent, I will take you back, so that you may stand before me. If what you say is worthwhile and not worthless, you will be my spokesman. They must turn to you, but you must not turn to them. I will make you like a bronze wall to this people. They will fight against you, but they will not overcome you, because I am with you to save you and to rescue you, declares the LORD. I will rescue you from the hand of the wicked, and I will deliver you from the grasp of the ruthless.

HYMN:

“Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word”

Text tune: Martin Luther; Sung by Koine

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Lyrics Displayed On Screen

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

✠ Thanksgiving ✠

THE OFFERING

*An opportunity to give online can also be used at
Paypal.me/GracePortland or by utilizing this QR code:*



THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Based on Luther's prayer at the Diet of Worms (1521) as he faced the papal and imperial authorities

- M: Almighty, eternal God, out of the depths we call to you. The world opens its mouth to swallow your church, and our faith in you is too small to confront its lures and attractions!
- C: We confess the weakness of our sinful flesh. Satan deceives us daily. If we are to depend upon any strength from ourselves, all is lost. Help us, we beg, to withstand the ungodly way of life that the world has to offer.**
- M: The work is not ours, O God, but yours. O Sovereign Lord and Creator, we have no way to satisfy your righteousness, nothing to contest the Deceiver's earthly power, nothing to mute its false attractions, nothing to uproot the rule of our sinful flesh.
- C: We would gladly pass our days in happiness and peace in an age awash with iniquity. Hear us, heavenly Father, for the cause is yours. Yes, Creator of all that is, your cause is righteous and everlasting. Vindicate your name among the nations!**
- M: O all-seeing Lord, have mercy on your church. You understand our plight. We thank you for sending a messenger of peace to correct the times between life and

death. This One is your Son, Jesus the Christ, the incarnate Savior, who saves us from calamities that plague your church.

C: You have chosen us to do your work. Therefore, O God, accomplish it by your will. Stand by your church each day in the name of Jesus, who is our shelter and shield, our mighty fortress. Through the strength of the Holy Spirit, such faith works joy and peace and willingness to serve a world in need.

M: We are even ready to lay down our life for this cause, as were your servants Martin Luther and his fellow Reformers and Confessors, who forcefully stormed the kingdom of heaven to restore the gospel of your righteousness to its central place in Christian life.

C: For the cause is holy. Though this world is filled with devils and though our bodies perish in persecution, your Word and your Spirit still remain. The church always needs reform as its message encounters the false and frivolous. But the Word of God stands firm forever.

M: In the confidence of this faith, gracious Lord, bless our efforts to spread the gospel of the glory and grace of God throughout the world to the joy and edifying of all who hear and believe and for your glory and our good.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

THE BENEDICTION

M: 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.

HYMN:

Facing A Task Unfinished

Keith & Kristin Getty

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Lyrics Displayed On Screen

Worship Notes

for kids

Name _____
Date _____



Songs We Sang

The Scripture Text Was: _____

What was the sermon about?

Draw a picture from the lesson.



Words I Don't Know:

