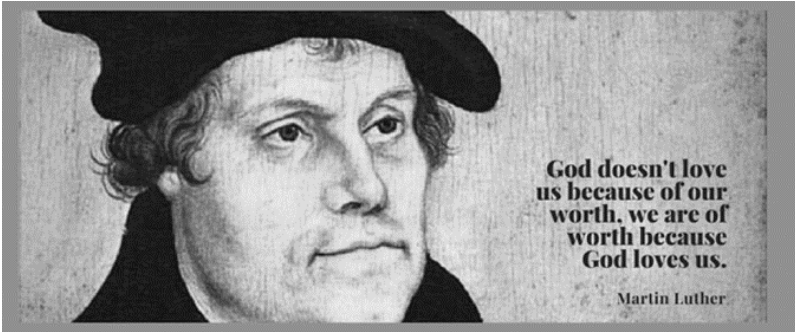


The Festival of Reformation

Sunday, October 25, 2026

Stewardship Sunday ~ Temple Talk



Martin Luther's three main ideas were

- salvation is by faith alone
- salvation is by God's grace alone and
- the Bible is the only ultimate authority

These core principles challenged the Catholic Church's doctrines by emphasizing a personal relationship with God through faith, rather than through good works or indulgences, and by grounding religious truth solely in the Scriptures.



2402 W Grandview Blvd ~ Erie PA

Rev. Karen Parsh, Pastor

Sheryl Williams, Coordinator of Music

PRELUDE

Liturgy for Stewardship Sunday

Please stand

All that we are is a gift from God.

The earth is the lord's and all that is in it.

All that we have is a gift from God. There are no words to describe the wonders of God's creations

For God has founded it on the seas.

Rejoice as we join together in praise for God's gifts.

God established it on the rivers.

Brothers and Sisters, we were born sinner, and sinner we will always be, if it were not for the grace of Jesus the Christ. We are told in 1 Corinthians 4:2 that a steward must be found trustworthy.

Acknowledging that in our sin we have neglected and rejected gifts that have been provided by God, let us confess our sins together.

PRAYER of CONFESSION

God of grace, you have called us to give ourselves completely to you. Yet, we often hold back part for worldly pursuits.

Lord in your mercy, forgive us.

You have given us the gift of time. You give us time to serve, time to learn, time to grow, time to share. Yet, we spend our time serving self.

Lord in your mercy, forgive us.

You provide us with opportunity to serve in numerous ways using the talents and abilities we have been given. Yet, we tend to hide our gifts.

Lord in your mercy, forgive us.

You have provided even the least among us with more financial resources than most of the world. Yet, we resist sharing because of fear for the future.

Lord in your mercy, forgive us.

You have provided us with a beautiful creation to enjoy. Yet, we take it for granted and abuse this incredible earth.

Lord in your mercy, forgive us.

In our sin, God reaches out to forgive and restore us. Receive this Good News, having confessed our sins, rejoice in forgiveness through Christ and live in God's
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN ~ ELW 504

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

GREETING

As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority... I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all of your sins, in the name of the Father and of the son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**



HYMN OF PRAISE ~ Glory to God pgs. 4 & 5

Glory to God



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace



to God's peo - ple on earth.



Lord God, heav-en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we



wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace



to God's peo - ple on earth.



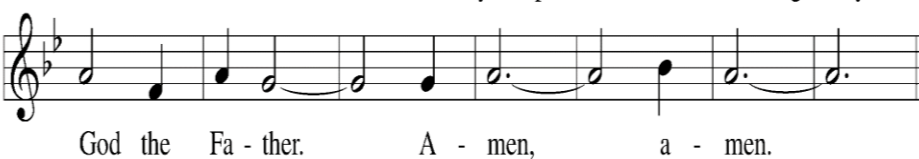
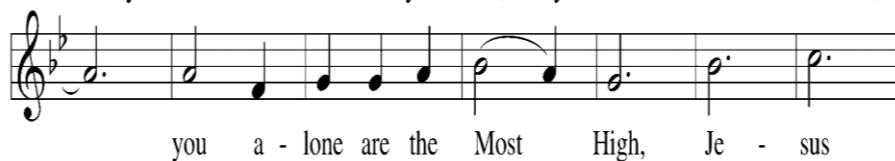
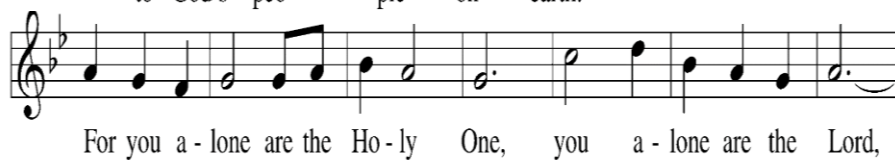
Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord



God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



PRAYER of the Day

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

Let us pray together. **Almighty God, you call us into congregations where we can grow in faith, and into mission in the world where we live out our faith each day. So guide and direct us that we may be wise and faithful stewards of all that you have entrusted to us, that your love may be made known to all; through Jesus Christ our lord. Amen.**

Please be seated

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It 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. ³³But 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. ³⁴No 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: 46

Sung Responsively



¹ God is our ref- | uge and strength,
a very present | help in trouble.

² **Therefore we will not fear, though the |
earth be moved, and though the mountains
shake in the depths | of the sea;**

³ though its waters | rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble | with its tumult.

⁴ **There is a river whose streams make glad
the cit- | y of God, the holy habitation of |
the Most High.**

⁵ God is in the midst of the city; it shall | not be
shaken; God shall help it at the | break of day.

⁶ **The nations rage, and the | kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth | melts away.**

⁷ The LORD of | hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.

⁸ **Come now, regard the works | of the LORD,
what desolations God has brought up- | on
the earth;**

⁹ 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.

¹⁰ **“Be still, then, and know that | I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will
be exalted | in the earth.”**

¹¹ **The LORD of | hosts is with us; the God of
Jacob | is our stronghold.**

Second Reading: Romans 3:19-28

¹⁹ 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. ²⁰ For no human will be justified before him by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin. ²¹ But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed and is attested by the Law and the Prophets, ²² the righteousness of God through the faith of Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³ since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴ they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶ it was to demonstrate at the present time his own righteousness, so that he is righteous and he justifies the one who has the faith of Jesus. ²⁷ Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law? That of works? No, rather through the law of faith. ²⁸ 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.**

Please stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ~ *Celtic Alleluia*



GOSPEL: John 8:31-36

The holy Gospel according to St John the 8th chapter.

Glory to you O Lord.

³¹ Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." ³³ 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'?"

³⁴ Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵ The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶ So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

SERMON ~ Pastor Karen Parsh

Please stand

HYMN of the DAY ~ ELW 652 *Built on a Rock*

The Apostles' Creed with Luther's Explanations

The First Article of the Apostles' Creed:

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

What does this mean?

Luther's Explanation: **I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that he has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason, and all my senses, and still takes care of them.**

He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.

He defends me against all danger and guards and preserves me from all evil. All this he does out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank, praise, serve, and obey him. This is most certainly true.

The Second Article of the Apostles' Creed:
And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

What does this mean?

Luther's Explanation: I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature.

He purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death,

In order that I may be his own and live under him in his kingdom and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as he is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

The Third Article of the Apostles' Creed: 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.

What does this mean?

Luther's Explanation: **I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith.**

In the same way he calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith; in this Christian Church he daily and richly forgives all sins and the sins of all believers.

On the Last Day he will raise up me and all the dead and will give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world. *A brief silence.*

Gracious God, as we remember the Reformation, we thank you for all those who have worked to hold the church accountable to its mission. Protect them as they speak truth to power. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We thank you for the diversity of humankind, made in your image. We pray for the future of endangered languages and cultures. Preserve them to show forth your glory. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for the healing of all who are sick or injured, especially those who cannot access medical care. We remember those whom we love who are suffering or in pain. We pray especially for: Tony & April, Sharron, Karen S., Vicki, Marygrace, Mary Alice, Megan, Larry K, Donna G., Jeff, Brian & Penny, Shirley, Candy & Arch, Sam, Priscila, Don, Joan, Pat K., Connie, Christine P., Cheryl, Ed & Jeanne, Cindy & Rich, Harry & Susan, Dick & Diana, Kathi, Maury & Linda, Don & Donna, Damian & Marcia, the Little Library visitors, and for all in our hearts. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We thank you for all the faithful departed who taught us to love God and our neighbor. By their example, help us to seek after you with heart, soul, and mind. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Please be seated

MEAL

God Feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

OFFERING and PRESENTATION of GIFTS

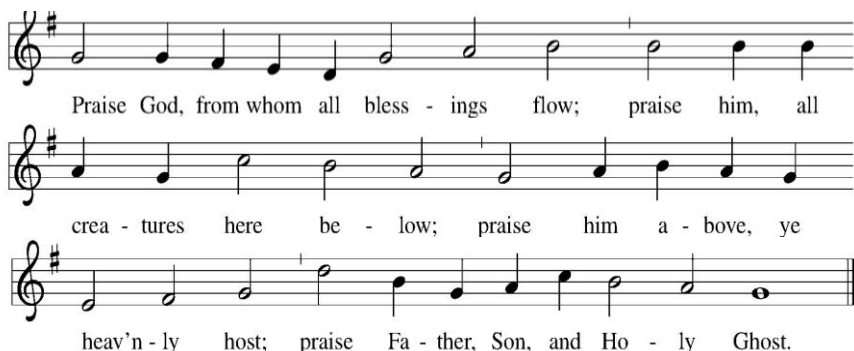
OFFERING ~ Choir:

Christ is Made the Sure Foundation D. Wood

Please stand

OFFERING HYMN ~

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all
crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye
heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

OFFERING PRAYER ~ Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. **Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er, God of might:
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est.
 Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na
 in the high-est. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father:

Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign.

You have filled all creation with light and life,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age: the promise to Israel, the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land, the words of the prophets. and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son, who proclaimed the good news in word and deed and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks,
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of
sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from
this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**Christ has died. Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup
we remember the life our Lord offered for us.
And, believing the witness of his resurrection,
we await his coming in power to share with us the
great and promised feast.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit,
that we who share in Christ's body and blood
may live to the praise of your glory.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Join our prayers with those of your servants of every
time and every place, and unite them with the
ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he
comes as victorious Lord of all. **Through him, with
him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all
glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now
and forever. Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us. **Our Father, who art in heaven.... Amen.**

Please be seated

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come to this meal of mercy.

LAMB of GOD

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

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen**

COMMUNION HYMN ~ ELW 517

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word
Instrumental Meditation

Please stand

PASTORAL BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. **O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

BLESSING

The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, ☩ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMM ~ ELW 511

Thy Strong Word v.1,3,5

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do not lose heart. **Thanks be to God**

POSTLUDE ~

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PARISH NOTES ~ OCTOBER 25, 2026

Pastor Karen Parsh ~ 814-881-3266

Office: 814-868-8685 ~ ahadministrator@hotmail.com

FB: [abidinghopelutheranchurch](https://www.abidinghopelutheranchurch) - www.abidinghopeerie.org

Please keep in your prayers these members and friends:, Sharron Sontheimer, Tony & April Wujcik, Karen Shick, Vicki Farnsworth, Mary Alice Ross, Megan Ross, Marygrace Cirillo, Larry Kozlowski, Donna Graham, Shirley Englert, Brian & Penny Gresh, Candy & Arch Watkins, Sam Elder, Priscila Mirone, Don Morey, Joan Doehrel, Pat Kerr, Connie Kerr-Vogt, Christine Petrone, Cheryl Hicks, Ed & Jeanne Tropper, Cindy & Rich Filson, Dick & Diana Stoker, Harry & Susan Speakman, Kathy Sinnott, Maury & Linda Allen, Damian & Marcia Santabene, Don & Donna Holder and Little Library visitors.

Sunday, October 25: Reformation Sunday
Worship 9:30a, **Temple Talk**. Choir: 9 & 10:45a,
Bible Study 11:00a

Monday, October 26: Ministry Team 10:30a
**Last day to return All Saints' request. Form on
narthex table or page 20.**

Thursday, October 28: Care & Share @ 1p with
Damian. **New topic** for learning and
discussion..."What Lutherans: Do, Say, Believe".
ALL are WELCOME.

Saturday, October 31: Clocks **BACK 1hr.**

Sunday, November 1: All Saint's. Temple Talk
Worship 9:30a, Choir: 9 & 10:45a, Bible Study 11a

Tuesday, November 3: Election Day..**VOTE!**

AHLC is a polling site and this year there'll be a **bake
sale** for **donations**. See sign-up sheet in narthex.

Wednesday, November 8: Men's Night, 6:30p @
The Cab. Sign sheet in narthex or just stop in.

Thursday, November 9: Final day to **RSVP** for
New Hope's Friendship Thanksgiving Dinner.
Sign-up sheet in narthex

Thursday, November 12: Ladies Night, 5:30p @
Royal Chopstix. **RSVP** sheet in narthex by **11/09**.

Sunday, November 15: New Hope's
"Friendship Harvest Dinner" @ 12:15p.

Sunday, November 15: Bob Hicks is **"Going to Jail! Please help pay his "bail"** that will support the Kairos Prison Ministry he has embraced for many years. **Donation box** is in the **sanctuary entrance**. You may also sign-up for hourly prayer (wherever you are) for prisoners. Day/time sheet in narthex.

Thursday, November 19: Volunteers needed **(3:50-6:45p)** for **Sloppy Joe Dinner** for the Homeless hosted by Abiding Hope members. **Holy Trinity Lutheran, 643 W 17th. Cookies Needed!**

Little Jesus Project: An easy way to be an **Ambassador for Christ. Little Jesus** figurines in the basket on the long table in narthex (take a few) and leave in a public place to be found by someone passing by!

Sanctuary Flowers: To **donate arrangements** for Sunday worship, **please sign the week** on the sheet and complete the form, **with your Sunday date**. Both on table in narthex. \$25.00ea.

Office Hours: Monday and Tuesday, 9:30a - 3:30p.
Wednesday, 9:30p - 12:30p.

Pastoral emergencies: please contact Pastor Karen @ 814-881-3266 or email: Pastorparsh@gmail.com.

Worship Leaders ~ October 25, 2026

Videographer	Andy Saska
Greeter/Coffee	Jo Zeimet
Assisting Minister/Acolyte	Donna Holder
Lector/Prayers	Jacque Holmberg
Communion Cups	John Holmberg
Communion Tray	Analee Cree
Presenter	Diana Stoker
Presenter	Nancy Cuning
Usher	Andy Saska
Usher	Jay Zeimet
Counters	Nancy & Lois

2026 Abiding Hope

All Saints' Sunday~

November 1st @ 9:30a

**Remembering those who have passed on
before us in faith is very important.**

As part of our worship services on Sunday, November 1st, All Saints Sunday, you will have the opportunity to say special prayers and light candles of remembrance for loved ones who have passed. In addition, there will be a memorial insert in the bulletin with the names of loved ones you wish to be remembered by our Abiding Hope family.

*If your loved one passed after November 2, 2025,
please add an asterisk after the name.*

Submitted by _____

PRINT CLEARLY, place the form in the offering plate by
Sunday, Oct 25 or to the office by Monday the 26th.