

SOLOMON'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
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"Solomon's Evangelical Lutheran Church, following the example of Jesus Christ, seeks to live in the confidence and fullness of God's grace; to preach the Good News boldly and truthfully; to support and serve others in faith; to work in harmony with all creation."

REFORMATION SUNDAY
OCTOBER 25, 2026

October 25, 2026
Reformation Sunday

Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ORGAN PRELUDE *Introduction and Maestoso on "A Mighty Fortress"*
Harold Decou/Kevin Hildebrand

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.
Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

Compassionate God,
**we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness
in the world and in our own hearts.**
Creation groans from overuse.
Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.
Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.
Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others.
Turn our hearts back to you.
Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.
Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Hear this good news:
We have peace with God through ✝ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.
Amen.

***GATHERING SONG *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God (isometric)* (ELW 504)**



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who



to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
 ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
 vour us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
 fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
 God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
 weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,



has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
 in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
 goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
 they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
 Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther
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***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.

*CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p. 204)



- 1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra-cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for-give us; in your prom-ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

*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.

CHOIR ANTHEM *Be Still* - Karen Marrolli

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34

A reading from Jeremiah.

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the LORD means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the LORD will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.

³¹ 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. ³² 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. ³³ 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. ³⁴ 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

(read responsively between lector and congregation, beginning with the lector)

- ¹ God is our ref-¹uge and strength,
a very present¹ help in trouble.
- ² **Therefore we will not fear, though the¹ earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths¹ of the sea;**
- ³ though its waters¹ rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble¹ with its tumult.
- ⁴ **There is a river whose streams make glad the cit-¹y of God,
the holy habitation of¹ the Most High.**
- ⁵ God is in the midst of the city; it shall¹ not be shaken;
God shall help it at the¹ break of day.
- ⁶ **The nations rage, and the¹ kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth¹ melts away.**
- ⁷ The LORD of¹ hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob¹ is our stronghold.
- ⁸ **Come now, regard the works¹ of the LORD,
what desolations God has brought up-¹ on the earth;**
- ⁹ behold the one who makes war to cease in¹ all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the¹ shields with fire.
- ¹⁰ **“Be still, then, and know that¹ I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted¹ in the earth.”**
- ¹¹ The LORD of¹ hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob¹ is our stronghold.

SECOND READING: Romans 3:19-28

A reading from Romans.

Paul's words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ's death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

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.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 142)

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.

*GOSPEL: John 8:31-36

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

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 the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON Rev. Alan Wilson

*Please stand as you are able for the final verse.

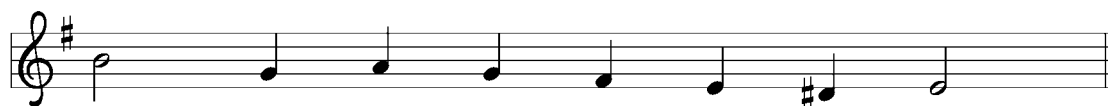
HYMN OF THE DAY *Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word* (ELW 517)



1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in your word; curb those who
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, your pow'r make known, for you are
3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, send peace and



by de - ceit or sword would wrest the king - dom from your Son
Lord of lords a - lone; de - fend your ho - ly church, that we
u - ni - ty on earth; sup - port us in our fi - nal strife



and bring to naught all he has done.
may sing your praise e - ter - nal - ly.
and lead us out of death to life.

Please join me as we confirm our faith together in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

***CREED**

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

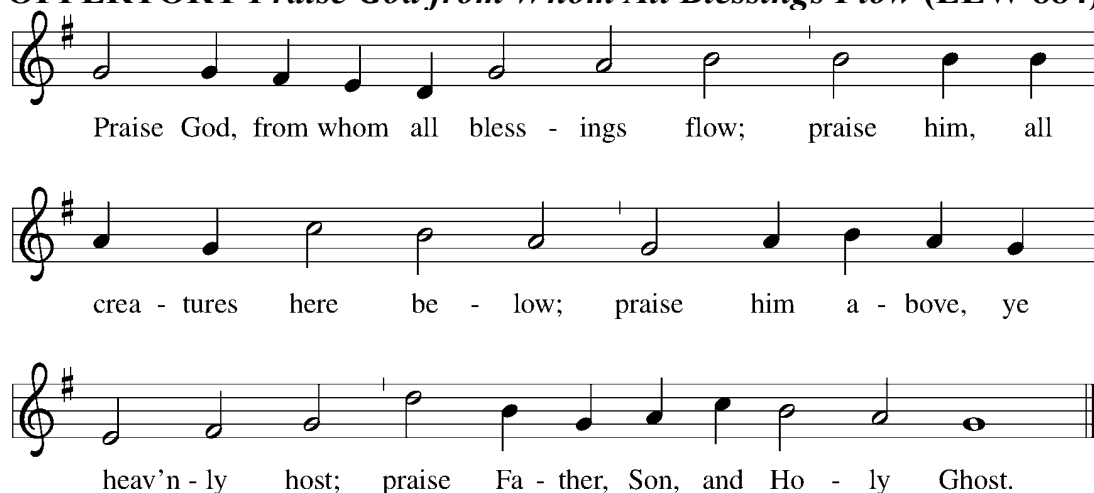
***PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH** (please respond)

P: Hear us, O God. **C:** Your mercy is great.

***PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

***OFFERTORY *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* (ELW 884)**



The musical notation is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, using quarter and half notes. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes.

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.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711

Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561

***OFFERING PRAYER**

God of creation,
you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you;
make us generous with what we have.
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts
in service to you and in love to our neighbors,
today and always.
Amen.

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

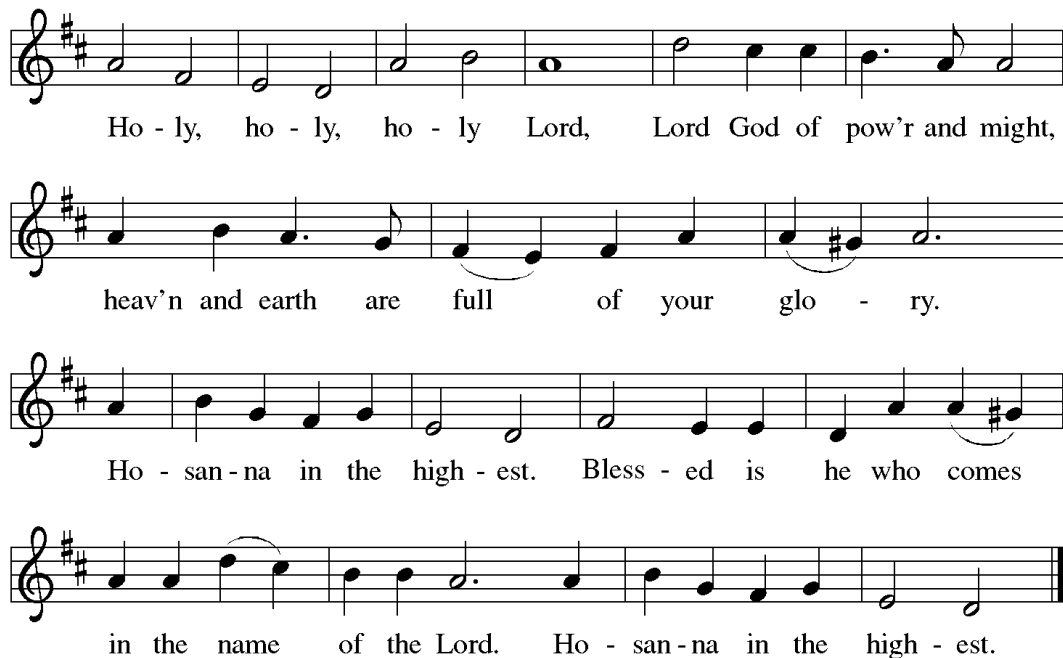
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
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 all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 153)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n 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.

*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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.

***LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

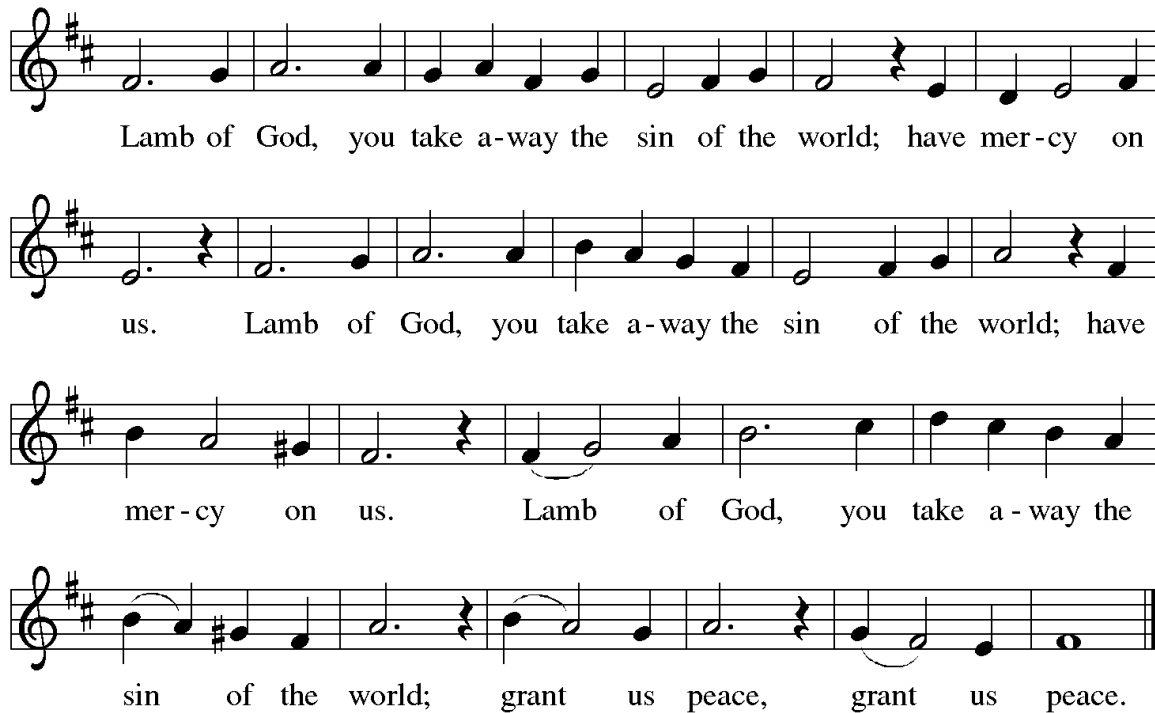
***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Christ invites you to this table.
All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

COMMUNION

Continuous - Please continue down center aisle at the direction of the usher. After you receive the bread, you may take a cup of red wine or white grape juice from the tray. Please place your empty communion cup in the basket. Gluten free wafers are available, ask the Pastor when you come forward. Notify the Head Usher if you would appreciate receiving Communion at your seat rather than walking up to the altar, the Pastor and Communion Assistant will be happy to bring Communion to you.

COMMUNION SONG (ELW p. 154)



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.

COMMUNION TIME FOR QUIET MEDITATION

*COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup,
you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.
Amen.

*BLESSING

The God of love
draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.

Amen.

The God of hope
grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.

Amen.

The God of grace

✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

*SENDING SONG *The Church's One Foundation* (ELW 654)



1 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,
4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war,
5 Yet she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One,



she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.
her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth:
by schisms . . rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;
and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.



From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,
Oh, bless - ed heav'n-ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace,



with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
that we, like saints be - fore us, may see you face to face.

***DISMISSAL**

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

Thanks be to God.

EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES/SILENT PRAYER

POSTLUDE *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* - Richard Ellsasser

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SERVING TODAY

Supply Pastor.....	Rev. Alan Wilson
Church Office Email Address	office@solomonslutheran.org
Organist	Mary-Jo Bedsworth
Head Usher	Janice McEntire
Acolyte	Wayne Dale
Lector.....	Rich McEntire
Securing Offering	Becky Mull & Sarge Weaver
Communion Set-Up.....	Becky Pecha
Communion Clean-Up	Becky Pecha
Communion Bread	Frances Reichard
Communion Assist	Martie Veilleux
Attendance last Sunday.....	26

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The altar flowers this morning are placed to the glory of God in honor of our children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren given by Norm and Nancy Kuykendall.

Welcome Visitors! We welcome you to our worship service. We hope your visit with us will be a time of blessing. If you have any concerns, please talk to the Head Usher. We invite you to worship with us again!

Any pastoral care or concerns can be addressed to Pastor Christopher Frye, Dean of the Chambersburg Conference at 717-261-1213 (St. Luke's Church, Scotland).

Please welcome Pastor Alan Wilson with a warm “thank you” for leading our worship service this morning.

Prayer requests for the following: *Glenn Wildeson, Nancy Marshall, Ellie Martin, Ina Shreiner, Dick & Vicki Reichard, Dick Amt, Phil Johnson, Betty Amt, Marie Dovey, Amy Eichelberger, Paul Steiding, Sam Brooks, Kaitlyn Dovey, Patsy Wildeson, James Bersch, Kristen Hardman, Charles Carl, Debbie Aschmann, Donna, Karen, Becky Ensinger, all the Homebound, and our world & country. If anyone has a prayer request, please call Janice McEntire, 717-264-3702.*

Please Be Aware: *We wish to be a praying congregation, and especially for those who are sick or experiencing difficult times. We will continue to name person's (first name only) aloud each Sunday, and we will hold each name for a month. In order to keep our list updated we ask that by the final Thursday of the month, but please call Janice McEntire 717 264-3702 to keep the name on for an extra month. Any name can remain for as long as desired, but we need to hear from the person adding the name, or we will presume the name can be removed. Thank you for your understanding.*

Weekly Calendar Reminders:

October 29 - Choir 7pm

Our Thanksgiving Dinner is November 14th. Menu: roast turkey, filling, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans or corn, cranberry relish, applesauce, apple or pumpkin pie, roll, coffee, tea, and water. **Price:** Adults \$17.00, Children (5-11) \$7.00, Under 4 – Free. **Serving time** is 5:00PM – 7:00PM.

If you would like to remember a loved one or honor someone with a Christmas Poinsettia, please use the order form attached to the end of the bulletin.

Social Ministry is collecting paper products for Maranatha Food Pantry during the month of November. Items needed are toilet paper, paper towels, diapers, Kleenex, etc. Please place items in the container under coat rack next to mailboxes.

Attention all members – Please plan to attend our upcoming Congregation Meeting on Sunday, November 15 immediately following our worship service. We will be electing church council members and approving the church's budget for 2027.

Attention all members – Please plan to attend our upcoming Congregation Meeting on Sunday, December 13 immediately following our worship service. We will be casting our second vote to leave ELCA and join The Association of Free Lutheran Churches.

Bible Study on Wednesday mornings from 10:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. Sarge will be leading the study.

If you are not taking your altar flowers home, please let Kathy Bowen know to whom or to where you would like them donated. Thanks.

Power Pack Meals - Social Ministry is once again collecting nutritious food for New Franklin Elementary School students in need during the 2026-2027 school year. Please place the items in the container in the Sunday School room. If you would like to give a monetary donation, please make your check payable to Solomon's Lutheran Church and put *Power Pack Meals* in the memo line, or place cash in an envelope and mark *power pack*.

The 2026 sign-up charts for Acolyte, Lector etc. are on the table in the Sunday School room. Please sign up for as many as you can.

Music Notes/Hymn Notes:

This morning, we observe the 509th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. It was on the church door at Wittenberg where Martin Luther nailed his 95 theses on October 31, 1517. That action led to a reform movement, resulting in the formation of national Protestant churches, among them the Lutheran Church.

Martin Luther is remembered as a great reformer, translator of the Bible, political leader, fiery preacher, and theologian. He was also a musician, with a wonderful tenor voice and skilled on the lute. Luther wrote at least 36 hymns, but one of the most well-known is one you will hear and sing today in worship. Based on Psalm 46, "A Mighty Fortress" has probably been translated more frequently than any other hymn in church history. The hymn celebrates the sovereign power of God over earthly and spiritual forces, and the sure hope we have in Him because of Christ. There is evidence in many writings that Luther and his followers saw the hymn more as a song of comfort in the face of adversity, confessing Christ as the "Lord of hosts by name," and reminding us that "the kingdom's ours forever." Regardless, the hymn became very popular in Reformed Europe and has been called the "Battle Hymn of the Reformation." Although there has been some debate on whether Luther borrowed the melody, most scholars now believe Luther wrote the melody himself.

There are two different versions in our hymnal (see #503/504). Both use the original melody, but #504 is the isometric version (repeated rhythmic pattern) which we use regularly. The other version (#503) is the rhythmic pattern, often more challenging to sing! During this morning's prelude, you will hear both patterns, while the postlude uses the isometric version.

As Lutherans, we have a tremendous musical heritage. Lutherans love to sing. Luther said, "Next to the Word of God, the noble art of music is the greatest treasure in the world." (Robert J. Morgan). With that in mind, sing joyfully on our Gathering Hymn as we lift our voices in "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God!" (Information from Then Sings My Soul (Robert J. Morgan); Wikipedia; REFORMATION: 50 Reformation Hymns: Chad Fothergill).

This morning's choir anthem, "Be Still," is based on today's Psalm 46, vs. 10.

Be still and know that I am God; let peace embrace your heart.
Be still and know that I am God; let fear and anguish now depart.
 Though the earthquakes rage, though the tempests roll,
 Though the storms conspire to destroy.
Be still and know that I am God: the earth shall rise again in joy.

Be still and know that I am God; let tranquil hope fill your mind.
Be still and know that I am God; let grief and trouble be left behind.
 Though the shadows fall, and the darkness cries,
 Though the night seems endless and dire,
Be still and know that I am God: the morn shall rise in holy fire.

 Though the earthquakes rage, though the tempests roll,
 Though the storms conspire to destroy.
Be still and know that I am God: the earth shall rise again in joy.

2026 Order Form



Anyone desiring to remember a loved one or honor someone with Christmas Poinsettias is asked to complete the following form and mail it to the church office or put it in the collection plate along with a check make payable to Solomon's Lutheran Church, marked "Poinsettia Order." Order deadline for **red, white, or marble (pink & white)** poinsettias is November 8, 2026. Cost is \$9.00. This is a 6 ½ inch pot (4-7 blooms)

*The Christmas Poinsettias in
Memory and Honor of Family and Friends
have been donated by:*

(name)

Red _____ White _____ Marble _____

Total amount enclosed _____ Total Poinsettias ordered _____

In memory of _____

In memory of _____

In honor of _____

In honor of _____

Poinsettias must be taken home on Dec. 24th *after the evening service*.
Extra order forms are available in the pamphlet rack at both doors.