The Lutheran Church of The Redeemer

1515 Boundary Street • Newberry, SC 29108
(803) 276-2003 • www.redeemernewberry.org

In our 174th year of ministry

Reformation Sunday
October 25, 2026 - 10:30 am

Today is Reformation Sunday commemorating the onset of the Protestant Reformation. The day specifically recognizes October 31, 1517, when German monk Martin Luther famously nailed his 95 Theses to the castle church door in Wittenberg, Germany. This bold act challenged the Roman Catholic Church's practice of selling indulgences and catalyzed a massive religious, social, and political movement across Europe, ultimately reshaping Western Christianity.

Today, Reformation Sunday serves as a time to reflect on the core theological tenets that emerged from the movement, often summarized as the Five Solas: Sola Scriptura (scripture alone), Sola Fide (faith alone), Sola Gratia (grace alone), Soli Deo Gloria (glory to God alone), and Sola Christus (Christ alone). Our worship service today is festive featuring the liturgical color red, symbolizing the Holy Spirit and the blood of the Christian martyrs. We open our service with Luther's hymn, *A Mighty Fortress*, which is a paraphrase of Psalm 46.

Beyond historical remembrance, the holiday emphasizes the ongoing transformation of the church and the individual believer. It echoes the Latin phrase *ecclesia semper reformanda*, meaning "the church is always being reformed," reminding communities to continually evaluate their practices against biblical truths. Rather than fostering division, modern observances often focus on spiritual renewal, the accessibility of scripture in the vernacular, and the shared heritage of the global Christian faith.

The Lutheran Church of The Redeemer is a Christian community of diverse people called and guided by the Holy Spirit to nurture with God's love those within and beyond our congregation.

A place where God is at work!
All are welcome. No exceptions.



The Rev. Matthew Titus, Pastor · Haley McBride-Stuhr, Office Assistant & Bookkeeper
Dr. Huger Caughman, Jr., Organist · Nicholas Todd Shumate, Choir Director
A/V Team: Matt Bowers, Annette Belcher, Wayden Caughman, and Nikki Chapman

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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

..... ✢ GATHERING ✢ .....

Voluntaries

Christ is Made the Sure Foundation — David Cherwien
Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word — Paul Manz
Fughette on Ein Feste Burg — Johann Pachelbel

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

<*We stand.*>

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

<*We kneel.*>

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.

<*We stand.*>

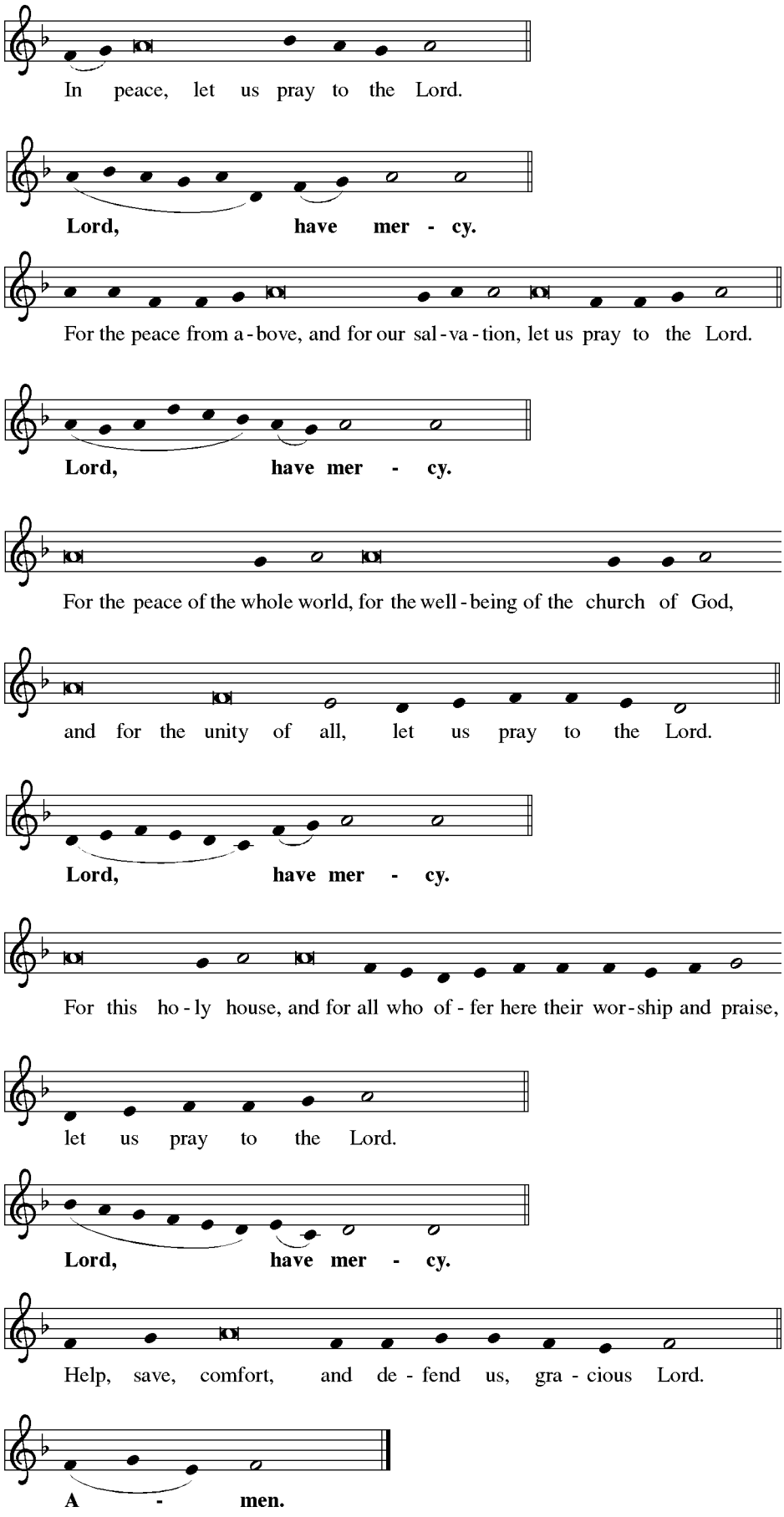
Hear this good news:
We have peace with God through ✢ Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.
Amen.

HYMN 504 **A Mighty Fortress Is Our God** *Ein Feste Burg*

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.

KYRIE


In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mer - cy.
For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mer - cy.
For the peace of the whole world, for the well - being of the church of God,
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mer - cy.
For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor - ship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mer - cy.
Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.
A - men.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together. 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.**

<We sit.>

..... ✢ WORD ✢ .....

READING **Jeremiah 31:31-34** *Pew Bible page 642*

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.

<*At the conclusion of the reading*>

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

LIL' LUTHERAN TALK

<*We stand.*>

GOSPEL **John 8:31-36** *Pew Bible page 871*

The Holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Then 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.

<*At the conclusion of the reading*>

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

<*We sit.*>

SERMON **Pastor Matthew Titus**

<*We stand.*>

Hymn 603 **God, When Human Bonds are Broken** *Merton*

APOSTLES' 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 INTERCESSION

Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.
<We kneel.>
Each prayer petition will end with "Hear us, O God," and the response is ***"Your mercy is great."***
At the conclusion of the prayers, … through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***"Amen."***

<We stand.>

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also, with you.**
You are invited to share the peace however you and those around you are comfortable.
<We sit.>

····· ✢ MEAL ✢ ·····

RECEPTION OF THE OFFERING

ANTHEM *God Is Our Refuge*

God is our refuge and strength; a present help in time of trouble.
Though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea, though the waters roar and foam, we will not fear.

Come and behold the work of the Lord, the awesome acts of God.
He is in the midst of his people, in all the earth.
He is the Word, we are his hands, He will lead us.
He is the air, we are his song. We will celebrate his presence all the day long.

God is our refuge and strength; a present help in time of trouble.
Though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea, though the waters roar and foam, we will not fear.

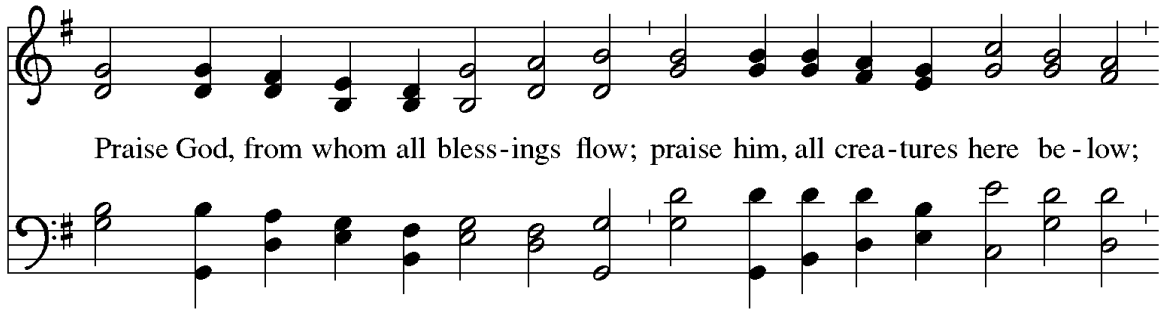
Come and behold the work of the Lord, the awesome acts of God.
He is our God. He is in the midst of his people. He is our God in all the earth.
He is the rain, we are the stones, He will cleanse us.
He is the air, we are his song, we will celebrate his presence all the day long.

God is our refuge and strength; a present help in time of trouble.
Though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea, though the waters roar and foam, we will not fear.
We will not fear. We will not fear. We will not fear.

Psalm 46
Jay Johnson
Allen Pote

<We stand.>

Hymn 884 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow





OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray… 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.

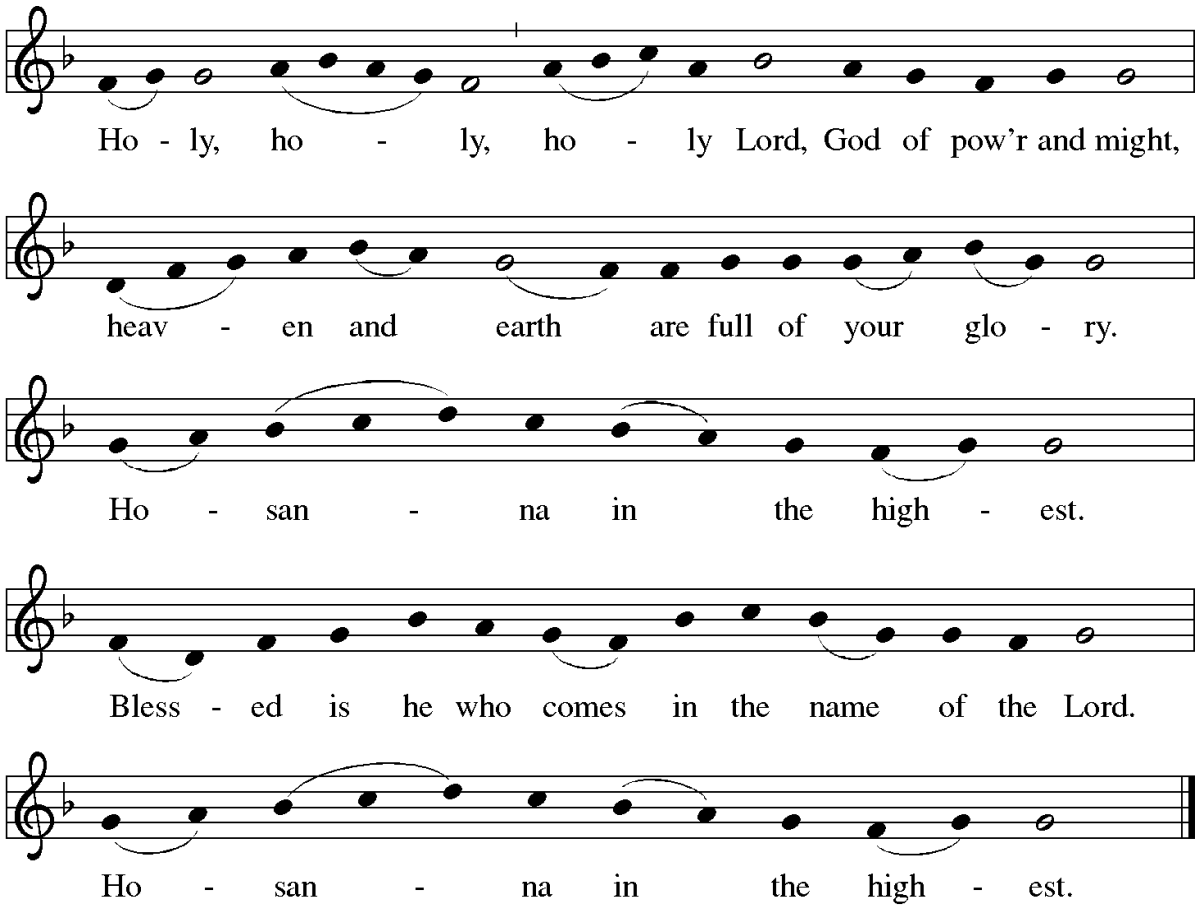
GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 … *here the minister continues with the preface for the day, concluding* … we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

Holy, Holy, Holy



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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 has risen. Christ will come again.**
Therefore, O God, … the great and promised feast. **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**
Send now, … with all your saints in light. **Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**
Join our prayers … almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE 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 THE MEAL

Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!
<*We sit.*>

COMMUNION

Participation in Holy Communion is open to all the baptized of this and other Christian congregations. We come in faith that Christ is truly present in, with, and under the bread and the wine. We receive this gift knowing that we are forgiven and are nourished to be sent to proclaim God's love to the world.
You are invited to come to the altar to receive the bread and wine. You may dip the bread into the chalice of wine. If you are not able, the meal will be brought to you. A gluten-free wafer is available, upon request for those who need it.

<*We stand.*>

THE TABLE BLESSING

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

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

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.**

..... ✝ SENDING ✝ .....

SUNG BLESSING

In the name of the Father.
In the name of the Father.
In the name of the Son.
In the name of the Son.
In the name of the Spirit.
In the name of the Spirit.
The Three-in-One.
The Three-in-One.

May the Lord bless you and keep you.
May the Lord bless you and keep you.
May God's face shine upon you.
May God's face shine upon you.
May God's blessings be with you.
May God's blessings be with you.
And give you peace.
And give you peace.

Hymn 654 **The Church's One Foundation** *Aurelia*

DISMISSAL

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.
Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY *Toccata in D minor* J.S. Bach

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God and in remembrance of the 509th anniversary of the Reformation by Denise Reid.



..... ANNOUNCEMENTS .....

WELCA – will meet Sunday, November 1st (a correction from the date published in the October Reader) at 3:45pm for its business meeting. All ladies are invited to attend!

Redeemer Food Pantry the food pantry box located across from the front entrance to the FLC needs to be replenished – next time you do your grocery shopping think about grabbing a few nonperishable items to put in the box. Items with easy open tab lids or pouches are great! Chef Boyardee, tuna, water, electrolyte drink mixes, etc.

Manna House is still in need of sugar, flour, and grits. You may leave these items in the grocery cart in the narthex.

Numbers for October 18, 2026:

Attendance:		**Offering:**	
Sunday School:	20	Gen Operating Account: $	6,763.42
In-Person Worship:	69	Major Maintenance: $	510.00
Online Worship:	95	Roof Fund: $	200.00
Worship Total:	**164**	Redeemer Music Fund: $	20.00
		Facility Usage Fees: $	200.00

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
25 **Sunday School** – 9:30am **Worship** – 10:30am **Children's Choir Rehearsal** – after worship **Worship & Music Committee Mtg –** 1:30pm **Fall Youth Gathering –** 5pm – Summer Memorial	26 **Lutheran Services Carolina** – 12-1pm	27 **Prayer Shawl Ministry –** 10am **Library Reserved –** 6pm	28 **Handbell Choir Rehearsal** – 6pm **Senior Choir Rehearsal** – 7pm	29	30	31	01 **Property Committee Meeting –** 9am **Sunday School** – 9:30am **Worship** – 10:30am **Children's Choir Rehearsal** – after worship **WELCA –** 3:45pm **Confirmation –** 4pm

Worship Leadership – Today
Worship Asst: Kevin Boozer
Acolyte: Gavin Garner
Crucifer: Mason Willingham
Comm Prep: Polly Davis & Susan Hayes
Ushers: Elmer Long, Mack Garner, Robert Kneece, Dennis Caughman
Offering Tellers: Cathy H. Turner & Rosemary Dominick
Altar Flowers: Denise Reid

Sunday, November 1, 2026
Worship Asst: Nikki Chapman
Acolyte: Griffin Long
Crucifer: Ashleigh Titus
Comm Prep: Lynn Cary
Ushers: Chad Cary, Norris Long, Zeb Reid, Dennis Caughman
Offering Tellers: Cathy H. Turner & Rosemary Dominick
Altar Flowers: Kathy Riggin


THE CROSS IS IN THE CENTER OF THE RED HEART
TO SHOW THAT FAITH CAUSES LOVE, JOY, AND PEACE
TO GROW IN OUR HEARTS