

## Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church & School • Announcements

### **This Week:**

**Today** 9:00 a.m. S.S.: Martin Luther---Reformation

- Bible Class: Spending Time in Luther's Catechism---1st Commandment
- 11:15 a.m. Quarterly Voters' Meeting
- 4:00 p.m. Joint Reformation Worship Service

**Tuesday** 10:00-11:30 a.m. Bible Classes at Artisan

**Wednesday** 7:00 p.m. Bible Class

**Thursday** 10:45 a.m. Bible Class at Heritage

**Friday Reformation Day**

### **Next Sunday**

- 9:00 a.m. S.S./Bible Class
- 10:00 a.m. Family Worship/Communion
- 11:15 a.m. Evangelism Meeting

### **LAST WEEK:**

Worship 43 B.C. 29 S.S. 4

**OFFERINGS** 10/19 for Unified Budget: \$3,803

### **IN SERVICE TO OUR LORD:**

Cleaners this week:  
Church-Peterson School-Schaser  
Counters today: Randy Dreyer & Joel Albrecht

### **WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE**

**CLASS:** We will continue our study of Important Chapters of the Bible with Psalm 121—The "Hills" Psalm. Come, study God's Word with us! 7:00 p.m. Oct. 29th

**THANK YOU:** to all who came out to help beautify our church grounds and buildings. Much work was accomplished to the glory of God.

### **QUARTERLY VOTER'S MEETING**

to be held today at 11:15 a.m. All Voting members are encouraged to attend.

### **JOINT REFORMATION**

**WORSHIP SERVICE** is planned for this afternoon at 4:00 p.m. at Ascension Lutheran, Batavia, IL. We will be leaving around 1:00 p.m.

### **CLC NEWS:**

- Grace Lutheran, Live Oak FL has called Pastor Doug Prestap, Pastor of Resurrection Lutheran, Calgary AB - Canada
- Calvary Lutheran, Marquette MI, has called Pastor Dave Schaller, pastor of Redeemer, Sister Lakes, MI.
- Messiah Lutheran, Eau Claire WI, has called Pastor Caleb Schaller, pastor of Redemption Lutheran, Lynnwood WA.
- Faith Lutheran, Coloma, MI has called Pastor James Naumann, pastor of Our Savior's, Jamestown, ND.

### **FALL CLC COORDINATING**

**COUNCIL REPORT:** are available by the mailboxes. Please take a copy home and take some time to read through the work that is being done for our Savior's kingdom with our fellow congregations throughout the world!

## REFORMATION SUNDAY • OCTOBER 26, 2014



# Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church & School

Pastor: Mark H. Bernthal • School Teacher: Ms. Claire Abbas

Organist: Mrs. Gail Schaefer

**Church/Office (608) 233-2244 • Parsonage (608) 442-9986**

3232 WEST POINT RD. MIDDLETON, WISCONSIN 53562

*[middletonlutheran.org](http://middletonlutheran.org)*

## REFORMATION PRAYER

*Dear Heavenly Father, we thank You for the gift of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ. We also thank You, especially on this day, for sending Martin Luther and the other reformers to rediscover Your Word, which was lost and hidden from the people. Help us to be grateful followers for all that You have done for us. Keep us ever mindful of the Three Reformation Principles which we base our hope of heaven upon: **GRACE ALONE, FAITH ALONE, SCRIPTURE ALONE** - all of these truths pointing to Christ our Savior. We ask this in His name. Amen.*

Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church is a confessional Lutheran Church.  
More Information and Audio Sermons at [middletonlutheran.org](http://middletonlutheran.org)

## “Thy Strong Word” . . . . . 775 (1, 4, 5)

---

### THE THREE REFORMATION PRINCIPLES:

We are saved by  
**GRACE ALONE,**  
 through  
**FAITH ALONE,**  
 which is found in  
**SCRIPTURE ALONE!**

### Part I: Sola Gratia - Grace Alone

P: A question that often plagued the hearts and minds of those in pre-Reformation times was “How can I be sure that I love God enough, especially when I sin so often everyday?” God answered this question by having a chief doctrine be rediscovered during the Reformation—the Doctrine of Justification.

**C: It is not our love for God that makes our salvation possible, but rather His love for us. God’s love is unconditional and overflowing. It is a love that is deep and profound. God’s love is totally undeserved. This is what God means when He speaks of grace.**

P: Today, there are many who are plagued by the very same question. You can see it in today’s many different religions which teach that the most important thing in life is loving your neighbor and your god as sincerely as possible. Since the fall into sin, it is in man’s nature to focus inwardly rather than outwardly. But God would have us focus on “What

won me from all sin, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and His innocent suffering and death. He did this that I should be His very own, live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in eternal righteousness, innocence and joy; just as He is risen from death, lives and reigns in eternity. This is most certainly true.

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

### REFORMATION PRAYER & LORD’S PRAYER

### BENEDICTION

## "O Little Flock, Fear Not the Foe" . . .263

---



### PEACE THRU CHRIST LUTHERAN WELCOMES:

We are glad you are with us worshiping our Savior-God and celebrating the Reformation. The beginning of the Reformation of the church was Martin Luther’s nailing of the 95 theses on the church door in Wittenberg, Germany on October 31, 1517. These were ninety-five statements on the importance of repentance of sins and looking alone to Jesus for forgiveness and life. Even as Martin Luther was a faithful confessor to the truth, we faithfully confess that forgiveness and everlasting life is a free gift for us alone through Jesus’ merit. We make it our own through faith, which is also a gift of God’s grace through the power of the Holy Spirit. You are warmly invited to come worship your Savior with us again and please sign our guest book.

**demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.”**

P: Jesus’ perfect life has satisfied God’s Law for us. His atoning death has paid the price for our sins. And His bodily resurrection is the guarantee that God the Father has accepted what Jesus accomplished on our behalf. Because of Jesus, God removes our sins and replaces them with Christ’s righteousness. It is only the work of Jesus that contributes to our salvation. And we receive that salvation through faith alone.

**C: Romans 3:28—“Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law.”**

P: And even that saving faith is a gift of God, and not something that we contribute.

**All: Ephesians 2:8,9 “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.”**

### **CONFESSION OF FAITH:**

*Luther’s Explanation of the Apostles’ Creed.*

I believe that God has created me and all creatures. He has given me my body and life, eyes, ears and all my bodily members, my mind, and all my senses and still keeps them for me. God also preserves me by richly and daily providing clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, spouse and children, land, animals and all my property and all I need to support this body and life. He protects me from all danger. He guards and defends me from every evil. God does all this because He is my good and gracious Father in heaven, not because of anything I have done to earn or deserve it. For all of this it is my duty to thank, praise, serve, and obey Him. This is most certainly true.

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. He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and

Has Jesus Done?” rather than on “What Should We Do?” God wants us to focus on His grace rather than our own works.

**C: We truly have done nothing to earn God’s favor. God tells us this in His own Word.**

P: Ezekiel 18:20—“The soul who sins shall die.”

**Men: Romans 6:23a—“For the wages of sin is death...”**

**All: We deserve death because of our sins: physical death, spiritual death, and eternal death in hell. Hell is described in Scripture as “a fire that shall never be quenched” where there will be “weeping and gnashing of teeth.” Thankfully, God’s grace has removed this punishment from us because of what Jesus did.**

**Men: Romans 6:23—“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”**

P: We read other passages from our God that describe His amazing grace for us.

**Left Side: Romans 5:6—“For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.”**

**Right Side: Romans 5:7-8—“For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”**

**C: Ephesians 2:4-5—“But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),”**

P: Romans 7:24-25—“O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? I thank God—through Jesus Christ our Lord!”

Women: 1 Timothy 1:15—“This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief.”

**"Amazing Grace" . . . . . 777**

---

All: Titus 3:4-7—“But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.”

All: Confession of sins:  
Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer; we confess that we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have not loved You above all things. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Have mercy on us, and, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive us our sins.

P: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful and gracious to us and has given His only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

**"O God, Our Lord, Thy Holy Word" . . . 266**

---

C: Unfortunately, the false idea that we can work our way into heaven proves to be very popular today as well. But we have already established that Scripture alone ought to determine Bible teaching and certainly not popular opinion. So what does God’s Word say on the matter?

Men: Isaiah 64:6—“But we are all like an unclean thing, And all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags.”

Women: Leviticus 19:2—“You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy.”

C: James 2:10—“For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all.”

All: Romans 3:20—“Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin.”

P: All of our works, yes even our good works, are tainted by sin because we are sinful by nature. Since God’s holy law requires perfection, our works can contribute nothing to our salvation.

Left Side: Romans 3:21-22—“But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe.”

Right Side: Romans 3:22-24—“For there is no difference; for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus...”

C: Romans 3:25-26—“Whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, to

Sermon Text: **Psalm 46:1-3**

Sermon Theme:

**A Psalm of HOLY CONFIDENCE in a  
world of sin, turmoil and uncertainty!  
GOD'S PRESENCE IS OUR HELP**

*God is our refuge and strength,  
A very present help in trouble.  
Therefore we will not fear,  
Even though the earth be removed,  
And though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea;  
Though its waters roar and be troubled,  
Though the mountains shake with its swelling. Selah*

**OFFERING OF THANKFUL HEARTS**

**CHOIR:** ..... “Foundations of Faith”

**BATTLE HYMN OF THE REFORMATION**

**"A Mighty Fortress is Our God" . . . . . 774**

(All vs. 1; Men vs. 2; Women vs. 3; All vs. 4)

**Part III: Sola Fide - Faith Alone**

P: The false teaching of work-righteousness was very popular during pre-Reformation days. This is the idea that if we do enough good in our lives, it will counteract the bad we have done and lead God to accept us into heaven. It was taught that certain individuals have stored up so many good works that they have some to share with others. And it was even taught that these extra good works could be bought with money. This was called indulgences.

**Part II: Sola Scriptura - Scripture Alone**

C: The years leading up to the Reformation were dark times for the visible Christian church on earth. The word of man became more important and held more authority than the Word of God. Discussions on church teachings were based more on man's interpretations of Scripture rather than on Scripture itself. And sadly the lay people of the church were completely at the mercy of the church leaders for they were not even allowed to read the Bible for themselves.

P: If this description of the 15th and 16th centuries sounds familiar to you, it should, for we face very similar situations today. The word of man is elevated above the Word of God as evolution is taught as fact in schools while the true story of creation is mocked. Man's interpretations on things like homosexuality and gay marriage establish church doctrine rather than the true teachings of Scripture. And although the Bible is more readily available today than possibly at any other time in history, many lay people today read books written about the Bible rather than simply reading the Word of God itself. One of the great truths rediscovered by the Reformation was "sola Scriptura," the truth that Scripture alone is the final authority on matters of faith and life, both this life and the life to come. Let us read some of those soul saving truths from God that speak about "sola Scriptura," or Scripture alone.

**Men: Proverbs 30:5—"Every word of God is pure; He is a shield to those who put their trust in Him."**

**Women: I Peter 2:2—"As newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby."**

P: The Bible is God's Word. It is inspired, undefiled, and error free. God's Word is pure.

**C: Psalm 119:105—"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."**



**ALL: John 8:31-32—“If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”**

**Left Side: John 17:17—“Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.”**

P: God’s Word is completely accurate in everything it says, and it presents the historical facts of man’s creation, corruption, and redemption. God’s Word is true and clear.

**Right Side: II Timothy 3:16-17—“All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.”**

**Men: II Peter 1:19—“And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts”**

**Women: II Peter 1:20-21—“Knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.”**

P: God the Holy Spirit carefully and deliberately gave each human writer the very words to write down, so although the Bible was penned by man, it was written by God. The Bible is God’s very own words to man for his salvation. As such, the Bible is not to be read like any other book which may be open to various criticisms and interpretations of men. God says what He means and means what He says.

**C: Hebrews 4:12—“For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”**

**All: Psalm 33:6—“By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and all the host of them by the breath of His mouth.”**

P: With nothing but His Word, God created the heavens and the earth. God’s Word is powerful and life-giving, both physically and spiritually.

**Left Side: John 6:63—Jesus said, “The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life.”**

**Right Side: Romans 10:17—“So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”**

**C: II Timothy 3:15—“And that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.”**

P: God’s Word was, is, and always will be the ultimate authority on things pertaining to this life and the life that is to come.

**“O Lord, Our Father, Shall We be Confounded” ..... 269**