

REFORMATION 500

GRACE ALONE

October 14, 15, and 18, 2017

If we were to get what we deserve, we'd be in sad, sorry shape. Part of us doesn't want to believe that, but a little honest reflection and we know it's true. Where would we be if God were not the God of immeasurable grace?

BELLS AND WELCOME

HYMN 339

Today Your Mercy Calls Us

M In the name of the Father, who sent our Redeemer; and of the † Son, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world; and of the Holy Spirit, who came down in the form of a dove and rested on Jesus, attesting to the fact that Jesus is indeed God's chosen Savior.



CONFESSION OF SINS

M "Surely the day is coming," the Lord says. "It will burn like a furnace. All the arrogant and every evildoer will be like stubble." Those are frightening words for the evildoer.

C **Those are frightening words for us. For the Scripture says that there is no one who does good—not even one.**

M "But for you who revere my name" the Lord continues, "the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings."

C **How blessed we are to know and believe in Christ Jesus, God's Son, who has paid the price for all our evil deeds!**

M Brothers and sisters, as we approach our Savior and our Judge in worship, let's openly and honestly confess our sins, so that the Sun of Righteousness may rise on us with healing in his wings.

C **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am like a sheep who has gone astray. I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I do what is evil and fail to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior, Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

LORD HAVE MERCY

C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy
on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

M God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us. God himself provided the Lamb when he sent his only Son. Jesus' bloody sacrifice on the cross satisfied God's just wrath against the sins of the world. 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.

C: A - men.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

M In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lamb, whose blood covers all our sins.

RESPONSE 376, vv. 1, 6

Jesus, Your Blood and Righteousness

**Jesus, your blood and righteousness
My beauty are, my glorious dress;
Mid flaming worlds, in these arrayed,
With joy shall I lift up my head.**

**Jesus, be worshiped endlessly!
Your boundless mercy has for me,
For me and all your hands have made,
An everlasting ransom paid.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M The Lord be with you.

C: And al - so with you.

M Let us pray

Lord Jesus Christ, our Savior and our Judge, speak to us through your Word and strengthen us through your sacraments, so that we may look forward to the day of your second coming with confidence and eager expectation.

C **Keep us steadfast in true and living faith, that we may stand before you on that day holy and blameless.**

M We pray in your name. For you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now, and forever.

C: A - men.

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Ephesians 2:1-9, Bible page 1174

God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in sin.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 90, Hymnal page 99

Lord, satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love, that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days.

GOSPEL

John 3:14-16, Bible page 1065

God's great love and mercy moved him to sacrifice his Son. Through Jesus' death and resurrection we graciously receive the gift of eternal life.

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



C: Glo - ry be to you, O Lord!

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

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.**

After the sermon, the congregation sings:

C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from your pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of your sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it. A - men.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *(Saturday)*
(Sunday)

He Will Provide, *Dr. Joel Nelson*
Prelude on 'Ein Feste Burg, *Brass Ensemble*
by Robert Redhead

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- M Out of the depths we cry to you, O Lord; O Lord, hear our voices.
C **Let your ears be attentive to our cries for mercy.**
- M Heavenly Father, we confess with sorrow that we have sinned and deserve only your anger and punishment.
C **If you kept a record of our sins, we would surely be lost.**
- M We confess with joy that your unfailing love has redeemed us.
C **Our hope is in you and in your full redemption.**
- M Around us we see the birth pangs of the last days: war, famine, earthquakes, false prophets, spiritual apathy.
C **Use these signs to remind us that we do not know the day or hour when Christ will come again.**
- M Keep us faithful to your Word; send your Spirit to strengthen our faith so that we are always prepared for your Son's return as judge.
C **Make us faithful in sharing your Word, and cause many more to put their hope in you before the end comes.**

- M Build our fellowship of love as brothers and sisters in faith.
C **Help us support one another when trials and troubles come our way.**

Special prayers and intercessions.

- M Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

- M Heavenly Father, we eagerly wait for Jesus to come again and make all things new. May he find us, whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life, faithfully enduring to the end, through the power of your Holy Spirit.

- C **Come, Lord Jesus. May your grace be with us. Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN 381

Grace Has a Thrilling Sound

CLOSING PRAYER

- M Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart, that being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Perfect Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C **Amen.**

BLESSING

- M The Lord bless you and keep you
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace



C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE (Sunday) **Amazing Grace**, Brass Ensemble
arr. by Al Schumacher

ORGANIST (Saturday) *Darik Mischke*
(Sunday and Wednesday) *Carol Nelson*

WEEKLY CALENDAR

For the week of October 16, 2017

MON	10:00 am	Walking Club (Trinity Gym)
	5:45 pm	Grief Share (Church Library)
	7:00 pm	<i>Through the Bible in a Year</i> Bible Study (Grace Room)
TUE	9:15 am	Ministerial Team Meeting
	9:30 am	Ladies Bible Study (Faith Room)
	10:00 am	Walking Club (Trinity Gym)
	6:30 pm	Alzheimer's Support Group (Church Library)
	6:30 pm	Handbell Rehearsal (Church Balcony)
	7:00 pm	Dorcas Society (Grace Room)
	7:00 pm	Woodwind Rehearsal (Church Balcony)
	7:45 pm	Reformation Choir Practice (Church Balcony)
WED	4:30 pm	Public School Confirmation Classes
	6:30 pm	Chapel Choir Rehearsal (Faith Room)
	7:00 pm	Traditional Worship Service
	8:00 pm	Brass Ensemble Rehearsal
THURS	6:30 am	Sunrise Bible Study (Faith Room)
	10:00 am	Walking Club (Trinity Gym)
	1:00 pm	District Council Meeting (Faith and Grace Rooms)
	6:30 pm	Stoney Creek Bible Study: Luther and Grace Enduring (Stoney Creek)
	7:00 pm	The Bridge and Contemporary Band Practice
7:00 pm	Pickleball League (Trinity Gym)	
FRI	9:00 am	District Council Meeting (Faith and Grace Rooms)
	8:15 am	Lutheran Elementary School Chapel Service (Main Church)
SAT	8:00 am	Men's Breakfast Bible Study (Grace Room)
	5:00 pm	Traditional Worship Service
	6:00 pm	Sheepshead Tournament (Trinity Café and Gym)
SUN	7:45 am	Traditional Worship Service
	8:00 am	Reformation Choir Practice (Faith Room)
	9:15 am	Traditional Worship Service
	9:15 am	Grace Room Bible Study
	9:15 am	Parents Club (School Classroom 8)
	9:15 am	Kids Club and Boost Youth Ministries
	9:45 am	The Bridge Communion
	10:15 am	The Bridge
	10:45 am	Contemporary Worship Service
	6:00 pm	TUG – Teens Under God (Trinity Café and Gym)

MILWAUKEE METRO LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY FALL RALLY

The Lutheran Women's Missionary Society invites all women to a rally Saturday, October 21, hosted at Jordan Lutheran in West Allis. There is more information at the Welcome Center.

REFORMATION 500

HERE I STAND!

Dr. Martin Luther stood before the Charles V, the Emperor of the Holy Roman Empire, the most powerful man in Europe. He was facing condemnation and death. "Will you recant?" Luther was asked.

What courage it took to stand before this powerful man and respond, "I cannot. I will not recant. Here I stand. I can do no other. God help me."

While we will not likely stand before such a powerful human judge, every one of us will have to stand before a much more powerful divine Judge. What can give anyone the strength to stand before that place of judgment?

Luther discovered in his study of Scriptures the strength to stand before God as Judge. Because of that he could stand before Charles V as his human judge and declare, "Here I stand!"

During our celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation, we want to reclaim that confidence that Luther had... a confidence based on grace alone, faith alone, Scripture alone and Christ alone.



October 22

Faith Alone

John 5:24-29; Heb 11:1,2, 8-12

So many of the truths God teaches us and the promises he makes cannot be comprehended by the human mind or seen with our physical eyes. To accept them, believe them, build our lives and the hope for eternity around them, we must rely on God's gift of faith.

October 29

Scripture Alone

2 Kings 22:1-11; 23:1-3

Luther lived in a time when the grip of human tradition on the church (along with all its errors) was so tight it seemed nothing could turn the tide. Risking his life in the process, Luther held tight to the Word and its truth, and the power of the Word literally changed the world.

November 5

Christ Alone

Acts 4:1-12

We are naturally prone to put our hope and faith in the things and the people of this world. Yet there is only One who can help and save us from any and every calamity of body and soul.

WELS SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN JOINT REFORMATION 500 CELEBRATION

Save the date for a special joint congregational festival service observing the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. The service will take place on Sunday, November 5, at 3:30 pm at the Miller High Life Theatre on Kilbourn Avenue in Milwaukee. Go to [Twitter.com/MKE_Reform500](https://twitter.com/MKE_Reform500) or [Facebook.com/pg/MKEReformation500/events](https://facebook.com/pg/MKEReformation500/events) for more information.

A RETURN TO GRACE – LUTHER'S LIFE AND LEGACY

A Return to Grace – Luther's Life and Legacy is a valuable resource about Luther and his rediscovery of the gospel in the pages of the Scriptures. Its emphasis is on the centrality of grace and the message of the gospel. The movie will be shown at The Ridge Cinema in New Berlin at the following times: Monday, October 23, at 7:00 pm; Wednesday, October 25, at 7:00 pm; Monday, October 30, at 10:00 am and 7:00 pm. Check your local listings for additional showings.

MARTIN LUTHER – A RETURN TO GRACE - GRACE ROOM STUDY

Join St. Paul's member, Mel Rindfleisch, as he facilitates the WELS-produced Bible study, based on the movie *A Return to Grace*, that will help learners explore how God used Martin Luther to bring the church back to God's grace in Christ: Sundays, October 29-November 19, 9:15 – 10:15 am in the Grace Room.

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

FUNERALS

Dorothy Bucholtz, born December 6, 1923, entered eternal life with her Savior on October 7, 2017, and received a Christian funeral on October 12, 2017.

Margaret Holtz, born March 15, 1920, entered eternal life with her Savior on October 11, 2017, and received a Christian funeral on October 13, 2017.

WEDDING

Kayla Gaudynski and Nick Hoerchner were joined in marriage on Saturday, October 15, 2017. May God bless Kayla and Nick in their marriage joined together with Christ.

KNOWN HOSPITALIZED

There are no known hospitalized. June Fickau has returned home.

PRAYERS REQUESTED

Please pray for the following individuals in their time of need: Dawn Brown, David Burkowitz, Jodie Crosby, Sharon Dreyer, Namine Eiche, Brittany Gillespie, Janelle Gray, Daniel Holtz, Dawn Jahns, Sandra Merfeld, Sonia Neuberger, Marvin Pellmann, and Christopher Verhein (protecting our country).

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

1073 attended worship services last week.

RESIDENT MISSIONARY CALL EXTENDED

Pastor Nathan Strobel has been called to serve as our fourth pastor in the roll of Resident Missionary. Pastor Strobel currently serves as Vice President of Student Life at Wisconsin Lutheran College. Please keep Pastor Strobel in your prayers as he deliberates where his gifts might best be utilized in service to our Savior.

WEDNESDAY EVENING WORSHIP IN THE GRACE ROOM

In order to give our Reformation Festival Choir/Orchestra the opportunity to rehearse in the balcony/sanctuary, our Wednesday evening worship services will be moved to the Grace Room for the following Wednesdays: October 18 and 25, and November 1. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

CIRCUIT PASTORS AND DISTRICT COUNCIL MEETING AT ST. PAUL'S

Thursday and Friday of this week St. Paul's has the privilege of hosting the annual meeting of the 21 circuit pastors of the Southeastern Wisconsin District of the WELS. In the spring, the circuit pastors meet with the president and officers of the district to be updated on the work of the synod. In the fall, they are further trained and encouraged to be "pastor to the pastors" through Bible study and discussion. (Pastor Kuehl serves as circuit pastor for the Southern Circuit, which includes St. Paul's in Muskego, Star of Bethlehem in New Berlin, Christ in Big Bend, St. Paul's in East Troy, Reformation in Dousman, St. John's in Mukwonago, Living Water in Wind Lake, and Victory of the Lamb and St. Paul's in Franklin.) Thank you, members of St. Paul's, for allowing these gatherings to be held on our campus, and please include the participants in your prayers.

FALL WISCO DELEGATE UPDATE

The Wisconsin Lutheran High School Conference delegates met on October 4. Steve Wranovsky, Andy Petraske, and Dr. Joel Nelson attended for St. Paul's. Copies of the meeting summary, as well as a WISCO at a Glance flyer, are at the Welcome Center and in the information racks in the entry and library. Check out www.wlhs.org for more information or seek out Steve, Andy, or Joel.

MISSION PARTNER NEWS

ANOTHER MISSION PARTNER: COSTA MAYA MINISTRIES

A Wisconsin couple has a summer home on the Yucatan Peninsula, about four hours south of Cancun. About ten years ago, they started sharing their faith others and a mission began. Two years ago, the mission called Pastor Martin Valleskey, formerly of St. Peters in Milwaukee, to serve as their missionary. God has blessed their efforts and they hope to add a second staff person. While this mission is part of our Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, it is supported solely by mission partner congregations and individuals. Because of its proximity to Cancun and the inexpensive flights to that resort area, it is relatively easy to participate in short-term mission trips to Costa Maya. It is our prayer that St. Paul's can develop a mission partner relationship with this new mission, providing financial and manpower support. We will welcome any gift you would like to give for this effort. Mark it Mexican Mission Partner. More information will be coming soon!

HELPING A SISTER CITY IN PUERTO RICO

Barranquitas, Puerto Rico, is the hometown of St. Paul's member Diane Ludwig. This town is in the interior of the island and was recently ravaged by Hurricane Maria. Diane's friends and family have already responded with a desire to help. St. Paul's has agreed to gather funds that will be used for hurricane relief. Diane will use her friendship with the mayor of Barranquitas to direct our gifts to those in need. Who knows what might develop from this show of Christian love? Costa Maya Ministries began as the result of the devastation of Hurricane Dean, another category 5 storm, that struck the Yucatan Peninsula 10 years ago. May God produce another ministry opportunity in the midst of tragedy? Pray that it might be so. If you would like to give a gift for this effort, mark it clearly "Puerto Rico."

MALAWI MISSION PARTNER COMMUNIQUE

The latest edition of the newsletter from our Malawi mission partner is available at the Welcome Center. Thank you to those of you who give so generously to support the work of this mission.

AMERICAN BASED VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR A WORLD MISSION OPPORTUNITY

Joy-Filled Children of the World (JCW) is an exciting and blooming ministry to Asian children.

JCW is looking for American volunteers to teach conversational English *from their own homes* to small groups of children. They have almost 50 small groups desiring to start the weekend of October 20 but desperately need more American volunteers.

The children have had at least 3 years of academic English, and this program engages them in conversation through Bible stories to help them develop their English speaking skills. Volunteers teach small classes (2-4 students, ages 9-16) which are hosted by a "local assistant teacher." American volunteers teach via the internet one hour per week, with a total of 24 lessons between October and June. You don't have to be a certified teacher or a master of English... just friendly, patient and mentoring.

More information is available at the Welcome Center or you may also contact Beth Radloff-Gove at bethgove@gmail.com or (512) 762-3762.

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

FOLLOWING THE PROMISE BIBLE STUDY – MEMBERSHIP CLASS

A recent participant called this study her “Bible Boot Camp” as she dug into the Bible for the first time in years. Join this thought provoking study of the major themes of the Bible. New participants are always welcome. Mark the connection card or simply join us on Tuesdays at 7 pm in the Faith Room, beginning Tuesday, October 24.

THROUGH THE BIBLE IN A YEAR – MONDAYS AT 7:00 PM OR WEDNESDAYS AT 1:00 PM

Join us in this effort to see the Bible's big picture and prepare ourselves for a life-time of Bible reading and enjoyment. Contact Pastor Pete for more information.

OUR WORLD - GOD'S WAY – BEGINS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

A better understanding of Creation Science can assist us when we engage in conversations with those whose model for how the world began is evolution. When questions arise or conflicts seem to be present, it's essential that we know where to turn for answers - God's Word. Join St. Paul's member, Joel Weaver, a creation-science enthusiast, for a two-Sunday session titled, “Our World, God's Way.” October 15 and 22 in the Grace Room, 9:15-10:15 am.

TUG TALK: STOP THE VIOLENCE – SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22

The recent mass shootings in Las Vegas as well as other events in the news remind us that we live in a very violent world and the violence can hit very close to home. Why does this happen? How do we process it? What can teens do to help? Where can the church exert its influence? The next TUG Talk will discuss this and more under the title *Stop the Violence!* on Sunday, October 22, 6:30-8:00 pm in the Trinity Café.

OCTOBER IS PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

Express your heartfelt appreciation and honor our pastors for their commitment and dedication. A simple thank you in person or via email, voice message, card, or other personal way will mean so much to our beloved pastors and their families.

ST. PAUL'S ANNUAL SHEEPSHEAD TOURNAMENT – OCTOBER 21

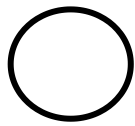
St. Paul's annual Sheepshead Tournament is Saturday, October 21, from 6:00 til 9:00 pm, in the Trinity Café and Gym. Entry fee is \$5.00 per person to offset the cost of food and prizes. RSVP to Cindy Proeber at (414) 801-2845 or cindy.proeber@accuratediedesign.com; or to Neal Wallner at (414) 419-2168. See our church website at www.stpaulmuskego.org for more details.

PICKLEBALL LEAGUE RETURNS THIS WEEK – AN OUTREACH EVENT

Join the Pickleball League! The league meets on Thursdays from 7:00 until 9:00 pm, beginning October 19 and running through mid-December. The cost is \$25.00 for all 8 sessions which are held in the Trinity Gym. No experience is necessary. Inviting an unchurched friend to participate with you may strengthen your friendship and open opportunities to share Jesus with him or her. Contact Cindy Proeber at cindy.proeber@diedesignsoftware.com or (414) 801-2845 with questions and to sign up.

WEDNESDAY ADVENT SUPPERS

We will be continuing the soup suppers between our Wednesday Advent worship services. This is a great opportunity for groups and/or organizations to gain exposure and at the same time serve fellow Christians. To schedule a date, please contact Tammy Miller at (414) 422-0320, ext. 111, or tmiller@stpaulmuskego.org.



GroupWork

Bible Study Discussion Starters

Life application materials for us in Connector Groups, home devotions, and other small groups.

1. Share your highs and lows from the week with your group.

2. If you are familiar with the Reformation and the role Martin Luther played in it, what struck you the most by how God used Luther?

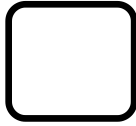
3. This message unpacks the theme of “Grace Alone.” How would you describe grace to someone that doesn’t know Jesus?

4. Read Ephesians 2:1-9
 - What’s so unique about the timing of God’s grace?
 - Has there ever been a time in your life where someone extended you grace while you were still in Ephesians 2:1-4 mode?

5. What role does *understanding God’s justice* play in *understanding his grace*?

6. Why do you think it’s easy for even the strongest Christians among us to forget that we don’t have to earn God’s love and favor?

7. What can you do in your life this week that might help others around you know our *gracious* God?



NoteSheet

Sermon Outline

Take notes during the sermon to help you remember the main points

+ Reformation 500 – By Grace Alone +

John 1:14-17 (Bible page 1062)

Introduction: Why Lutheran?

1. Only God's grace saves us.
 - A. Grace = God's u_____ love for sinners
 - B. None of us d_____ to be loved by God.
 - C. We try everything but the r_____ thing to get right with God.
 - D. No h_____ process can win God's forgiveness and salvation.
 - E. Someone divine...
 - had to f_____ God's righteous anger for our sins;
 - had to live a life of p_____ to God's law in our place;
 - had to suffer and die as our s_____ to remove our sins and reconcile us to God.
 - F. Jesus came from the Father to do his Father's w_____ and to accomplish his Father's p_____ for our salvation.
 - G. God's grace in Christ moved Martin Luther to m_____.
2. Only God's grace brings us one blessing after another.
 - A. God's blessings are not d_____ on life's circumstances.
 - B. We have all received from God "g_____ after g_____."
 - C. God u_____ his grace to cover our sins—all of them.

Conclusion: Why Lutheran? It's not what I do but what God has done for me.

My Next Steps

- **Read** John 5:24-29 and Hebrews 11:1, 2, and 8-12 to prepare for next weekend's *Reformation 500* message: *By Faith Alone*.
- **Memorize** Ephesians 2, 8, 9 – "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast."
- **Commit** to reclaiming and proclaiming the four "solae" of the Lutheran Reformation; *By Grace Alone*, *By Faith Alone*, *By Christ Alone*, and *By Scripture Alone*.