



Bethlehem Parma (LCMS)

BIBLICAL • UNDERSTANDABLE • RELEVANT

TRADITIONAL • FRIENDLY • CARING

2026

Saturday, 10/17 at 4:00

Sunday, 10/18 at 9:00

The Lutheran Reformation – Part 1

Back to the Bible, Back to Christ!

Church Year: Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost | **Divine Service** – Setting **One:** LSB 151-166

WELCOME:

- ☺ **Visitors:** *Welcome! See our Welcome Table, sign our book, take a bag, and tell us how we can help!*
- ☺ **Prayer Request:** *Use a “yellow” card (Narthex).*
- ☺ **Young Children:** *Activity bags (by worship entrance); Little Lamb Room (off Narthex).*
- ☺ **All Children:** *Children’s Message (join us).*
- ☺ **Phone:** *Please put on silent.*
- ☺ **Hearing Assistance:** *Available in the Narthex.*
- ☺ **Difficult to Stand:** *It’s okay to remain seated.*
- ☺ **Service Folder:** www.BLC7500.com/ServiceFolder
- ☺ **Worship From Your Car:** *Receive at our main entrance; then listen from your car (FM 89.9).*

BELL and CANDLELIGHTING – *Please be seated!*

PRELUDE: *We listen in silence...*

Thy Strong Word Did Cleave the Darkness

Thomas Williams / Manz

↑ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- L:** In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. *Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]*
- C:** **Amen.**
- L:** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C:** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** *1Jo. 1:8-9*

Silence for reflection on God’s Word and for self-examination.

- L:** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- A:** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**
- L:** The Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. *[John 20:19-23]*

C: Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Saturday ➡ Hymn

Sunday ➡ Entrance Hymn and Procession

HYMN: *Holy God, We Praise Thy Name*

See the words below / TLH 250 / LSB 940

- 1 Holy God, we praise Thy name;
Lord of all, we bow before Thee.
All on earth Thy scepter claim,
All in heav'n above adore Thee.
Infinite Thy vast domain,
Everlasting is Thy reign.
- 4 Thou art King of Glory, Christ;
Son of God, yet born of Mary.
For us sinners sacrificed,
As to death a Tributary,
First to break the bars of death,
Thou hast opened heav'n to faith.
- 7 Spare Thy people, Lord, we pray,
By a thousand snares surrounded;
Keep us without sin today,
Never let us be confounded.
Lo, I put my trust in Thee;
Never, Lord, abandon me.

KYRIE ~ *Lord, Have Mercy*

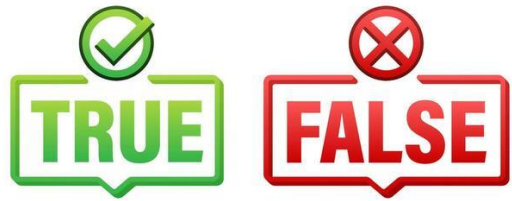
Mark 10:47

- L: O Lord, God's only begotten Son,
C: have mercy upon us.
L: O Christ, God in human flesh,
C: have mercy upon us.
L: O Lord, the One in whom we trust,
C: have mercy upon us.

SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY:

- L: The LORD be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*
C: And also with you.
L: Let us pray: O God, the protector of all who
trust in You, have mercy on us that with You
as our ruler and guide we may so pass
through things temporal that we lose not the
things eternal; through Jesus Christ, Your
Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and
forever.
C: Amen. ↓ *Children! Please come forward!*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: Which Are True / False?



ATHANASIAN CREED – Part 3 of 3 (LSB, 319-320):

Our Lord Jesus Christ and His saving work!

- L: But it is also necessary for everlasting
salvation that one faithfully believe the
incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- C: Therefore, it is the right faith that we
believe and confess that our Lord Jesus
Christ, the Son of God, is at the same time
both God and man.**
- L: He is God, begotten from the substance of
the Father, before all ages; and He is man,
born from the substance of His mother in this
age:
- C: perfect God and perfect man, composed of a
rational soul and human flesh;**
- L: Equal to the Father with respect to His
divinity, less than the Father with respect to
His humanity.
- C: Although He is God and man, He is not two,
but one Christ:**
- L: one, however, not by the conversion of the
divinity into flesh, but by the assumption of
the humanity into God;
- C: one altogether, not by confusion of
substance, but by unity of person.**
- L: For as the rational soul and flesh is one man,
so God and man is one Christ,
- C: Who suffered for our salvation, descended
into hell, rose again the third day from the
dead,**

- L: ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father, God Almighty, from whence He will come to judge the living and the dead.
- C: **At His coming all people will rise again with their bodies and give an account concerning their own deeds.**
- L: And those who have ♦♦done good will enter into eternal life, and those who have done evil into eternal fire.
- C: **This is the ♦catholic faith; whoever does not believe it faithfully and firmly cannot be saved.**

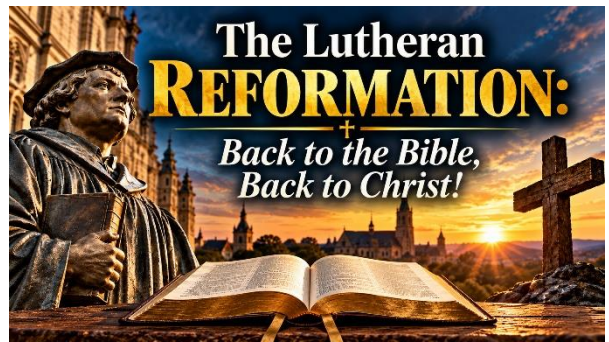
- ♦ The “catholic” faith – it refers to godly sorrow and trust in Jesus for eternal life, not the Catholic Church.
- ♦♦ God saves us by grace through faith in Jesus. Then we do good works, which are evidence of our faith (James 2:17).

HYMN: *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less*
See the words below / TLH 370 / LSB 575

- 1 My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus’ blood and righteousness;
No merit of my own I claim
But wholly lean on Jesus’ name. **Refrain**

**Refrain: On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.**

- 2 When darkness veils His lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace;
In ev’ry high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil. **Refrain**
- 3 His oath, His covenant and blood
Support me in the raging flood;
When ev’ry earthly prop gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay. **Refrain**
- 4 When He shall come with trumpet sound,
Oh, may I then in Him be found,
Clothed in His righteousness alone,
Redeemed to stand before His throne!
Refrain



SERMON: Part 1

What Needed to Be Reformed?

The People, the Problems, and the Biblical Truths of the Reformation!

Introduction: Why do we celebrate the Reformation? On October 31, 1517, an Augustinian monk named Martin Luther...

How are sinners made right with God – earned or gifted?

The Key People and Events:

1. Martin Luther (1483–1546)
2. Philip Melanchthon (1497–1560)
3. Frederick the Wise (1463–1525)
4. Johannes Gutenberg (c. 1400–1468)
5. Johann Tetzel (c. 1465–1519)

Key Events: 1517 — 95 Theses; 1521 — Diet of Worms; 1529 — Large and Small Catechisms; 1530 — Augsburg Confession.

What Does the Bible Say?

Romans 3:21-28 “But now apart from the Law [what we do] the righteousness of God has been manifested [revealed]... ²² ...through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe... ²³ for all have sinned and fall short [of God’s requirement], ²⁴ being justified as a gift by His grace through

the redemption which is in Christ Jesus;²⁵ whom God displayed publicly [on Good Friday] as a propitiation [means of forgiveness] in His blood through faith....²⁷ Where then is boasting? It is excluded....²⁸ For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from works of the Law.”

What Needed to Be Reformed? What was believed BEFORE and AFTER the Reformation?

1. **Authority:**
2. **Justification:**
3. **Indulgences:**
4. **Purgatory:**
5. **Good Works:**
6. **Assurance:**

What Biblical Truths Did Luther Rediscover and Defend?

1. **Scripture Alone:** **2 Timothy 3:16** — “All Scripture is inspired by God...” // Our beliefs must be tested by God’s Word.
2. **Grace Alone:** **Ephesians 2:8** — “...by grace you have been saved through faith... it is the gift of God...” // We cannot purchase, deserve, or earn God's forgiveness.
3. **Faith Alone:** **Romans 3:28** — “...a man is justified by faith apart from works of the Law.” // Saving faith receives Christ and the benefits of His saving work.
4. **Christ Alone:** **Acts 4:12** — “...there is no other name under heaven... by which we must be saved.” // Our confidence before God is in Jesus, our Savior.

Conclusion: We continually need God's Word to ♦expose our sins and ♦direct us to the

forgiveness Christ won through His death and resurrection.

Next Week: What Do Lutherans Believe, Teach, and Confess? Six Essential Teachings from the Augsburg Confession!

Get a Full and Sharable Copy of the Sermon

Narthex / Website / YouTube / Facebook / Email

↑ **HYMN:** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

See the words below / TLH 644 / **LSB 805**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav’nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. **Amen.**

Offering: Plates are available in the center aisle.

Thanks for Honoring the LORD!

How Does Giving Work? “...he who sows sparingly shall also reap sparingly; and he who sows bountifully shall also reap bountifully” (2 Cor. 9:6 NAS).

God’s Ways Can Be a Mystery: “One person gives freely yet gains even more...” (Proverbs 11:24 NIV).

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

1 Tim. 2:1-4

REQUEST a Prayer: Complete a **yellow** PRAYER REQUEST card (available in the Narthex).

RENEW Your Request: Names with a **(3)** must be renewed by **Wednesday at 3:00**. Contact your person; update Kathy (call: 440-845-2230; text: 440-785-3802).

After Each Petition: L: LORD, in Your mercy.
C: Hear our prayer.

Nation

➡ **US Armed Forces:** Kohen Berkley, Timothy Boyle, Teagan Dedula, Nathaniel Kaye, Nick Riviotta, Chris Sala, Nevin Sherepita (**Fort Benning**), Jacob Smith, Hayden Sweeny (**Jordan**), Drew Tenney, Chris Weseloh.

Congregation

- ➔ **Spiritual Needs:** For the strong—*strengthen them further*, for the falling—*catch them*, and for the dead—*enliven them!*
- ➔ **Grief Share:** Pray for participants to believe God's Word and receive comfort and peace.
- ➔ **Stephen Ministry:** Guide our Stephen Ministers and bless their care receivers.
- ➔ **Care List:** Helga B, Pat B, Zach B, Doris C, Sandy C, Trudy F, Jim F, Carole G, Esther H, Hilda K, Edmund & Christl K, Ray K, Bill M, Regina M, Lilli R, June R, Jean S, Audrey S, Cindy T, Mike & Susanna T, Vicki T (most are offered mailings & visits).
- ➔ **Temporary Physical Health Issues:**
 - Dan Blaha (2) heart issues: *peace, healing*.
 - Pat Beal (2) heart valve: *peace, guidance*.
 - Ed Cepis (1) heart: *success with new med*.
 - Natalia Ford (2) cancer: *continued healing*.
 - Larry Haslem (1) reoccurring back problems, pain: *peace, relief from pain, healing*.
 - Matt Hlavacek (1) Lyme, clots: *peace, healing*.
 - Lilli Riechert (1) fell, broke hip, surgery 10/15: *peace, healing, rehab*.
 - Cindy Slepko (1) ankle: *continued healing*.
 - Lynda Tomasch (1) wrist: *continued healing*.

Others

- ➔ **Temporary Physical Health Issues:**
 - Shannon (3) infection: *peace, healing*.
 - Wolfgang Keich (3) lungs: *peace, healing*.
 - Shirley Myers – cancer: *chemo, healing*.
 - Janie Wagner (1) leg infection: *healing*.

Celebrate and Give Thanks

Physical Birthdays:

10/20 Mark Dennison
10/24 Kathy Green

Spiritual Birthdays:

10/17 Tracy Liddy
10/17 Matyas Yu-Hsin Liao
10/21 Jim Allen

Wedding Anniversaries:

10/17 Rand & Deborah Stender (56th)
10/21 Michael & Briar Miller (3rd)
10/22 Mark & Sherrie Dennison (43rd)
10/22 Matt & Megan Samarin (22nd)

Conclusion:

L: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen. ↓

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

SUPPER PREPARATION HYMN:

I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table
See the words below / TLH 315 / LSB 618

- 1 I come, O Savior, to Thy table,
For weak and weary is my soul;
Thou, Bread of Life, alone art able
To satisfy and make me whole: **Refrain.**
- Refrain: Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood
Be for my soul the highest good!**
- 2 Thy heart is filled with fervent yearning
That sinners may salvation see
Who, Lord, to Thee in faith are turning;
So I, a sinner, come to Thee. **Refrain.**
- 3 Unworthy though I am, O Savior,
Because I have a sinful heart,
Yet Thou Thy lamb wilt banish never,
For Thou my faithful shepherd art: **Ref.**



LORD'S SUPPER PREPARATION:

1 Cor. 11:27-28: "...whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy way, shall be guilty of the body and the blood of the Lord. But a person must examine himself, and in so doing he is to eat of the bread and drink of the cup."

Please examine yourself by asking these questions:

1. **Bible:** Do I believe the Bible is true?
2. **Repentance:** Do I desire to turn from my sins?
3. **Salvation:** Am I trusting in Jesus for heaven?
4. **Supper:** Do I believe the supper is bread & body and wine & blood for the forgiveness of sins?
5. **Unity:** Do I agree with Luther's Small Catechism?

Unsure about Receiving? Pick up an envelope on the Welcome table: "Lord's Supper Info"
Contact Pastor with your Questions or Concerns

↑ PREFACE and PROPER PREFACE:

- L: The LORD be with you. *2 Tim. 4:22*
C: And also with you.
 L: Lift up your hearts. *Col. 3:1*
C: We lift them to the LORD.
 L: Let us give thanks to the LORD our God.
C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise. *[Psalm 136]*
 L: It is truly good, right, and beneficial that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on a Sunday overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection

opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore, with angels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS ~ Holy, Holy, Holy

Is. 6:3; Matt. 21:9

Hosanna = *save us now* ♦ See below / **LSB 161**

Holy, holy, holy LORD, God of pow'r and might:
 Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
 Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.
 Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD. Hosanna in the highest.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING:

- L: Blessed are You, LORD of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created, and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior.
- C: With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.**
- L: Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O LORD, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit.
- C: Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament.**
- L: Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end.
- C: Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us.**
- L: To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER: *See back of either hymnal*

L: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

A: **Our Father who art in heaven...** *Matt. 6:9-13*

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Combining: Mt 26:26-28; Mk 14:22-24; Lk 22:19-20; 1Co 11:23-25

PAX DOMINI ~ *The Peace of the Lord* *John 20:19*

L: The peace of the Lord be with you always!

C: **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI ~ *Lamb of God* *John 1:29*

See the words below / **LSB 163**

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.

DISTRIBUTION INSTRUCTIONS:

- ♦ If you are ready to receive: Come forward now.
- ♦ Receiving at your pew: Please inform an usher.
- ♦ Alcohol-Removed Wine: Center of each tray.
- ♦ Receive. Go in peace. Return via a side aisle.
- ♦ Main dismissal!: After everyone has returned.

MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION:

Amazing Grace (Grace Alone) Carter/ Schroeder

LORD'S SUPPER DISMISSAL

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE: **LSB 164**

Thank the Lord

Thank the Lord and sing His praise;
tell ev'ryone what He has done.

Let all who seek the Lord rejoice
and proudly bear His name.

He recalls His promises
and leads His people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving.
Alleluia, alleluia.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT:

L: Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary *[spiritually beneficial]* gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

BENEDICTION ~ *Blessing*

Num. 6:24-26

L: The LORD bless you and keep you. The LORD make his face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The LORD look upon you with *favor* and give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

CANDLE EXTINGUISHING and POSTLUDE:

Praise God From Whom All Blessing Flow

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER – Available in the Narthex

Schedule: 10/19/26 – 10/25/26

10/19 – Monday

7:00 – Leadership Team

10/20 – Tuesday

6:30 – Grief Share

10/21 – Wednesday

1:00 – Sisters of Light

7:00 – Youth Confirmation

10/22 – Thursday

10:00 – Living the Lutheran Lectionary

10/23 – Friday – 7:30: Bible Thought & Fire –

Weather Permitting – If it's on – *you will receive a church text*

10/24 – Saturday – **Reformation Day (Observed)**

3:00 – Bible Class

4:00 – Divine Service

10/25 – Sunday – **Reformation Day (Observed)**

9:00 – Divine Service

10:45 – Bible Class & Sunday School

Thanks For Serving 10/17/26 & 10/18/26

Altar Guild: Don & Carol D

Saturday: Organist: Gayle P Usher: Mike C
Distribution: Alan C

Sunday: Organist: Gayle P
Distribution – Matthias M
Ushers: Michael B, Cedrick H Jr, Michael M
Acolytes: Carter R, Shelby R
Sunday School: Stacey J, Cedrick/Harold

Financial Team: Natalia F, Ken H

Thanks For Serving 10/24/26 & 10/25/26

Altar Guild: Heather H

Saturday: Organist: Gayle P Usher: Mike C
Distribution: Alan C

Sunday: Organist: Gayle P
Distribution – Harold W
Ushers: Michael B, Cedrick H Jr, Michael M
Acolytes: Noah H, Leo J
Sunday School: Angie R, Cedrick/Harold

Financial Team: Natalia F, Paul M

Numbers From Last Week

Received God's Gifts – Services:

- Saturday at 4:00 – Inside: **32**; car: **5**
- Sunday at 9:00 – Inside: **52**; car: **0**

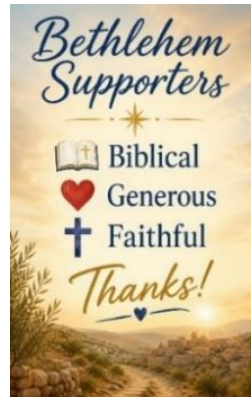
Studied God's Word – Classes:

- Saturday at 3:00: **14**
- Sunday at 10:30: **32**
- Thursday at 10:00: **7**

Weekly Financial

Stewardship:

- Needed: **6,769**
- Received: **4,489**
- Actual YTD: **252,090**
- Budget YTD: **277,529**
- Over/(Short): **(25,439)**



Connect With Us

➡ **Website:** BLC7500.com ➡ **YouTube:** Benefit from the Bible ➡ **Facebook:** Bethlehem Parma

Regular Services: Saturdays at 4:00; Sundays at 9:00

Studies: Wed 1; Thurs 10; Sat 3; Sun 10:30

Church Office: Wed & Thu: 9:30-3:30; Sat: 2:00-6:00

Pastor Green: RevRLGreen@aol.com; 440-292-5915

Festivals: Website > Important Links > Festivals

Address: 7500 State Road, Parma, Ohio 44134

Kathy Green: Secretary@blc7500.com; 440-845-2230

Church Body: lcms.org District: oh.lcms.org