Bethlehem Parma (LCMS)
BIBLICAL · UNDERSTANDABLE · RELEVANT
TRADITIONAL · FRIENDLY · CARING

2026
Saturday, 10/24 at 4:00
Sunday, 10/25 at 9:00

The Lutheran Reformation – Part 2

What Did God Reveal to Luther?

What is the Reformation? On the last Sunday of each October, we remember GOD'S WORK through the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther and other reformers to return the Church to the saving truth of salvation ➡by God's grace alone, ➡through faith in Christ alone, and ➡based on Scripture alone.

Church Year: Reformation Day (observed) | **Divine Service** – Setting **Four**: LSB 203-212

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…*
A Mighty Fortress is Our God! Luther/ Whitsett

SERVICE OF THE WORD

L: In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit. *Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]*
C: Amen.

Saturday ➡ Hymn – Please Arise ⬆
Sunday ➡ **Choir**, vv. 1-3, **Cong.**, v. 4 and Procession

HYMN: *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*
See the words below / LSB 657

1 A mighty fortress is our God,
A sword and shield victorious;
He breaks the cruel oppressor's rod
And wins salvation glorious.
The old satanic foe
Has sworn to work us woe.
With craft and dreadful might
He arms himself to fight.
On earth he has no equal.

2 No strength of ours can match his might.
We would be lost, rejected.
But now a champion comes to fight,
Whom God Himself elected.
You ask who this may be?
The Lord of hosts is He,
Christ Jesus, mighty Lord,
God's only Son, adored.
He holds the field victorious.

3 Though hordes of devils fill the land
All threat'ning to devour us,
We tremble not, unmoved we stand;
They cannot overpow'r us.
Let this world's tyrant rage;

In battle we'll engage.
His might is doomed to fail;
God's judgment must prevail!
One little word subdues him.

Sun: ↑ 4 God's Word forever shall abide,
No thanks to foes, who fear it;
For God Himself fights by our side
With weapons of the Spirit.
Were they to take our house,
Goods, honor, child, or spouse,
Though life be wrenched away,
They cannot win the day.
The Kingdom's ours forever!

KYRIE ~ *Lord, Have Mercy* — *Mark 10:47*

L: O Lord, elected by God Himself,
C: have mercy upon us.
L: O Christ, our champion who came to fight,
C: have mercy upon us.
L: O Lord, who holds the field victorious,
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: Almighty and gracious Lord, fill Your faithful people with Your Holy Spirit. Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and deliver us in times of temptation, defend us against all enemies, and grant to Your Church Your saving peace; 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: What Is a Confession?

HYMN: *Not What These Hands Have Done*

See the words below / TLH 389 / LSB 567

1 Not what these hands have done
Can save this guilty soul;
Not what this toiling flesh has borne
Can make my spirit whole.

2 Not what I feel or do
Can give me peace with God;
Not all my prayers and sighs and tears
Can bear my awful load.

3 Thy work alone, O Christ,
Can ease this weight of sin;
Thy blood alone, O Lamb of God,
Can give me peace within.

4 Thy love to me, O God,
Not mine, O Lord, to Thee,
Can rid me of this dark unrest
And set my spirit free.

5 Thy grace alone, O God,
To me can pardon speak;
Thy pow'r alone, O Son of God,
Can this sore bondage break.

6 I bless the Christ of God,
I rest on love divine,
And with unfalt'ring lip and heart
I call this Savior mine.

SERMON: The Lutheran Reformation – Part 2

What Did God Reveal to Luther?

Scripture – Grace – Faith – Christ – ALONE!

What Does the Bible Say?

Ephesians 2:1-10 "…you were **dead in your trespasses and sins**… [3] …and were by nature **children of wrath**… [4] **But God**… [5] …**made us alive together with Christ**… [8] For **by grace you have been saved through faith**; …*it is* **the gift of God**… [10] For we are His workmanship, **created in Christ Jesus for good works**…"

What Are Foundational Salvation Beliefs?

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.

What was the Augsburg Confession (AC)?

- **Written by Melanchthon, with Luther**, to explain how God ➧saves sinners, ➧gives them faith, ➧forgives their sins, and ➧enables them to follow Jesus.
- **Presented to Charles V**, the Holy Roman Emperor, on June 25, 1530.
- **The AC intended to demonstrate that Lutheran teaching was** ➧biblical, ➧faithful to historic Christianity, and ➧not an invention of a new religion.

SIX REFORMATION-RELATED ARTICLES

Article IV — Justification: How are sinners made right with God?

- **Paragraph 1**: "…we receive forgiveness of sin and become righteous before God out of grace for Christ's sake through faith..."
- **Romans 3:28** "…a man is justified by faith apart from works of the Law." // cf. Rom. 4:5; 5:1; Eph. 2:8–9.
- God does not forgive us because we are good enough. **He forgives us *because Christ has paid for our sins***.

Article V — The Ministry: How does God bring us to faith?

- **Paragraph 1–2**: "Through [the gospel and the sacraments] … he gives the H.S. who produces faith, where and when he wills, in those who hear the gospel."
- **Romans 10:17** "…faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ." // cf. John 20:21–23; Matt. 28:19–20; Titus 3:5.
- Faith is not something we manufacture. **God creates and strengthens faith *through His Word and Sacraments***.

Conclusion: Part 2 focused on God's Work to save us. Let us ➧marvel at His goodness and ➧rejoice that our sins are forgiven!

Next Week: How Do We Follow Jesus? *Obeying, Remembering, Receiving, Repenting!*

Get a Full and Sharable Copy of the Sermon
Narthex / Website / YouTube / Facebook / Email

↑ **HYMN:** *Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast*
See the words below / TLH 49 / **LSB 577**

1 Almighty God, Your Word is cast
Like seed into the ground;
Now let the dew of heav'n descend
And righteous fruits abound.

2 Let not the sly satanic foe
This holy seed remove,
But give it root in ev'ry heart
To bring forth fruits of love.

Offering: Plates are available in the center aisle.

Thanks for Honoring the LORD: By giving to His work ➧first, ➧proportionately, and ➧faithfully!

The LORD Is So Good to Us: "You open Your hand And satisfy the desire of every living thing. (Ps. 145:16).

Jesus Instructed Us: "Give, and it will be given to you. …by your standard of measure, it will be measured to you in return" (Luke 6:38 NAS-95).

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

- **Voting**: Dear LORD, as the forces of evil try to end our nation and our witness of Christ, please •rise up now, •frustrate their plans, •open the eyes of all good people, •grant us fair elections, and •guide our choices!
- **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** (3) heart issues: *peace, healing.*
  - **Pat Beal** (3) heart valve: *peace, guidance*.
  - **Ed Cepis** (2) heart: *success with new med*.
  - **Natalia Ford** (2) cancer: *continued healing.*
  - **Larry Haslem** (2) reoccurring back problems, pain: *peace, relief from pain, healing*.
  - **Matt Hlavacek** (2) Lyme, clots: *peace, healing.*
  - **Lilli Riechert** (2) hip: *peace, healing, rehab*.
  - **Cindy Slepko** (2) ankle: *continued healing.*
  - **Lynda Tomasch** (2) wrist: *continued healing.*

Others

- **Temporary Physical Health Issues:**
  - **Karen** (1) (friend of Linda H) – Parkinson's: *symptoms eased, peace in Jesus.*
  - **Paulie** (2) – terminal illness: *peace, comfort.*
  - **Tim** (2) – pneumonia: *peace, comfort.*
  - **Austin Browning** (1) car accident – spine, femur, and knee injuries: *peace, healing.*
  - **Kim Dovico** (2) severe infection: *healing*.
  - **Shirley Myers** (1) successful cancer surgery: continued *healing*.
  - **Janie Wagner** (2) leg infection: *healing.*
  - **Faith Williams** (1) cancer: *peace, successful chemo treatments (12 wks.), healing.*

Celebrate and Give Thanks

Physical Birthdays:

10/24 Kathleen Green
10/27 Sue Coufalik
10/29 Ivy Miller
10/29 Nick Ventura

Spiritual Birthdays:

10/28 Nevin Sherepita

Wedding Anniversaries:

10/30 Ken & Linda Hinkle (50th)
10/30 Gregory & Klara Seefeld (34th)

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

PREPARATION MUSIC:

Soul, Adorn Thyself With Gladness — Walther

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

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION ("Christian Questions with Their Answers" by Rev. Dr. Martin Luther):

L: **(1)** Do you believe that you are a sinner?
C: Yes, I believe it. I am a sinner.
L: **(2)** How do you know this?
C: From the Ten Commandments, which I have not kept.
L: **(3)** Are you sorry for your sins?
C: Yes, I am sorry that I have sinned against God.
L: **(4)** What have you deserved from God because of your sins?
C: His wrath and displeasure, temporal death, and eternal damnation.
L: **(5)** Do you hope to be saved?
C: Yes, that is my hope.
L: **(6)** In whom then do you trust?
C: In my dear Lord Jesus Christ.
L: **(7)** Who is Christ?
C: The Son of God, true God and true Man.
L: **(8)** How many God's are there?
C: Only one, but there are three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
L: **(9)** What has Christ done for you that you trust in Him?
C: He died for me and shed His blood for me on the cross for the forgiveness of sins.
L: **(10)** Did the Father also die for you?
C: He did not. The Father is God only, as is the Holy Spirit; but the Son is both true God and true man. He died for me and shed His blood for me.
L: **(11)** How do you know this?
C: From the holy Gospel, from the words instituting the Sacrament, and by His body and blood given me as a pledge in the sacrament.
L: **(12)** These are the words of institution: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: *"Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."*

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: *"Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."*

L: **(13)** Do you believe, then, that the true body and blood of Christ are in the sacrament?
C: Yes, I believe it.
L: **(14)** What convinces you to believe this?
C: The word of Christ: Take, eat, this is My body; drink of it, all of you, this is My blood.
L: **(15)** What should we do when we eat His body and drink His blood, and in this way receive His pledge?

C: We should remember and proclaim His death and the shedding of His blood, as He taught us: *This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."*

L: **(16)** Why should we remember and proclaim His death?

C: First, so we may learn to believe that no creature could make satisfaction for our sins. Only Christ, true God and true Man, could do that. Second, so we may learn to be horrified by our sins, and to regard them as very serious. Third, so we may find joy and comfort in Christ alone, and through faith in Him be saved.

L: **(17)** What motivated Christ to die and make full payment for your sins?

C: His great love for His Father, for me, and for other sinners.

L: **(18)** Finally, why do you wish to go to the Sacrament?

C: That I may learn to believe that Christ, out of great love, died for my sin, and also learn from Him to love God and my neighbor.

L: **(19)** What should admonish and encourage a Christian to receive the Sacrament frequently?

C: First, both the command and the promise of Christ the Lord. Second, his own pressing need, because of which the command, encouragement, and promise are given.

L: **(20)** But what should you do if you are not aware of this need and have no hunger and thirst for the Sacrament?

C: To such a person no better advice can be given than this: First, he should touch his body to see if he still has flesh and blood. Second, he should look around to see whether he is still in the world, and remember that there will be no lack of sin and trouble. Third, he will certainly have the devil also around him, who with his lying and murdering day and night will let him have no peace, within or without.

L: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

↑ LORD'S PRAYER: *See the back of either hymnal.*

L: LORD, hear us as we pray in Jesus' name and as He has taught us:

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

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 / TLH 652 / **LSB 606**

1 I lay my sins on Jesus,
The spotless Lamb of God;
He bears them all and frees us
From the accursèd load.
I bring my guilt to Jesus
To wash my crimson stains
Clean in His blood most precious
Till not a spot remains.

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:

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence (He will give to all the faithful, His own self for heavenly food)
Picardy/ Carter/ Manz

LORD'S SUPPER DISMISSAL

SUPPER PREPARATION HYMN:

O Lord, We Praise Thee

See the words below / TLH 313 / LSB 617

2 Thy holy body into death was given,
Life to win for us in heaven.
No greater love than this to Thee could bind us;
May this feast thereof remind us!
O Lord, have mercy!
Lord, Thy kindness did so constrain Thee
That Thy blood should bless and sustain me.
All our debt Thou hast paid;
Peace with God once more is made:
O Lord, have mercy!

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT:

L: Let us pray. O God, for our redemption You gave Your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross and by His glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of the enemy. Grant ➧that all our sin may be drowned through daily repentance and ➧that each day we may arise to live before You in righteousness and purity forever, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

BENEDICAMUS and BENEDICTION:

L: Let us bless the Lord. *[Ps. 103:1]*

C: Thanks be to God.

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. *Numbers 6:24-26*

C: Amen.

CANDLE EXTINGUISHING and POSTLUDE:

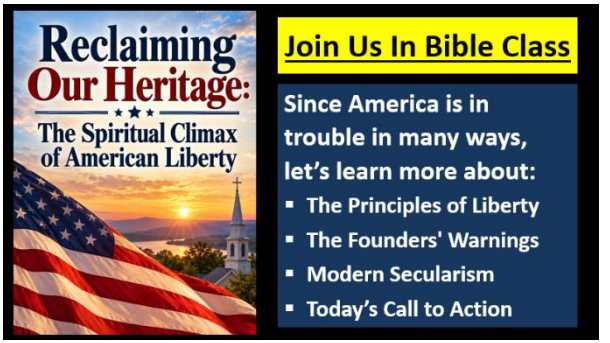
A Mighty Fanfare — Michael McCabe

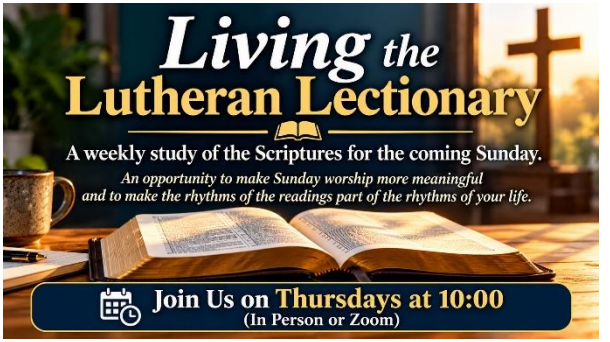
OCTOBER NEWSLETTER – Available in Narthex

Assistance Needed!!

Bethlehem is looking for reliable snowplow services for the upcoming winter season. If you know someone, please have them contact **Ken Hinkle at 440-783-2822**. We appreciate your help in finding someone to keep our church parking lot safe and accessible throughout the winter months. *Thank you!*

Today In Bible Class





Schedule: 10/26/26 – 11/1/26

10/26 – Monday
7:00 – Youth Confirmation

10/27 – Tuesday
6:30 – Grief Share

10/29 – Thursday
10:00 – Living the Lutheran Lectionary
Noon – November Newsletter Deadline

10/30 – Friday – 7:30: Bible Thought & Fire – Weather Permitting – If it's on – *you will receive a church text*

10/31 – Saturday – All Saints' Day
9:00 – *Help needed*: put down carpet runners and adjust clocks back 1 hour.
3:00 – Bible Class
4:00 – Divine Service

11/1 – Sunday – All Saints' Day
9:00 – Divine Service
10:45 – Bible Class & Sunday School

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

Thanks For Serving 10/31/26 & 11/1/26

Altar Guild: Nancy B, Heather H

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

Sunday: Organist: Gayle P; Distribution – Cedrick H; Ushers: Rand S, Andrew S, Carl B; Acolytes: Carter R, Shelby R; Sunday School: Kathy G, Cedrick/Harold

Financial Team: Natalia F, Ken H

Numbers From Last Week

Received God's Gifts – Services:
- Saturday at 4:00 – Inside: **31**; car: **0**
- Sunday at 9:00 – Inside: **60**; car: **2**

Studied God's Word – Classes:
- Saturday at 3:00: **15**
- Sunday at 10:30: **3**
- Thursday at 10:00: **5**

Weekly Financial Stewardship:
- Needed: **6,769**
- Received: **6,109**
- Actual YTD: **258,199**
- Budget YTD: **284,298**
- Over/(Short): **(26,099)**

Connect With Us

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

Regular Services:	**Saturdays** at 4:00; **Sundays** at 9:00	**Festivals:**	Website > Important Links > Festivals
Studies:	**Wed** 1; **Thurs** 10; **Sat** 3; **Sun** 10:30	**Address:**	7500 State Road, Parma, Ohio 44134
Church Office:	Wed & Thu: 9:30-3:30; Sat: 2:00-6:00	**Kathy Green:**	Secretary@blc7500.com; 440-845-2230
Pastor Green:	RevRLGreen@aol.com; 440-292-5915	**Church Body:**	lcms.org **District:** oh.lcms.org