



Community of Christ Lutheran Church
Reformation Sunday
October 27, 2024, 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.
Pastor Stephen C. Bond



THE GATHERING

Welcome

Pastor Steve Bond

Musical Prelude

“A Mighty Fortress” by John Leavitt

Eric Dickey

Gathering Hymn

“Listen, God Is Calling”
 (Leader portion sung by Eric)

ELW 513

Greeting

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C** **And also with you.**

The congregation will sing the refrain only

Refrain

Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, on our world and on our way.

Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, ev-'ry day.

The Pastor will sing the verses

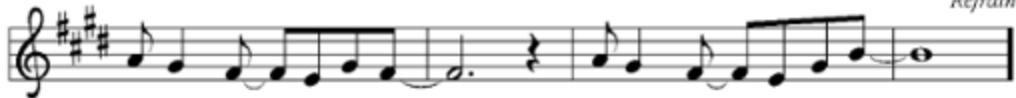
- 1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
- 2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
- 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
- 4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for
 hun - gry and the poor; that
 friends and fam - i - ly; for
 wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
 we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
 life and for love, for our work and our play,
 nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Prayer of the Day

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. **P Amen.**

Childrens Sermon

Anthem "Built on the Rock" arr. Michael Burkhardt ELW 652
 Trumpet - Dave Chonko VS 1 & 5 Congregation and Choir, VS 3Cchoir Only

"Sing Dem Herrn" arr. Wallace Depue

translation:

Sing to the Lord
 Alleluia, Alleluia
 We all love Him
 Praise to His name
 Sing with tambourine and harp!

Sing Dem Herrn
 Alleluia, Alleluia
 Alle, lieben Ihn
 Lobe seinen namen
 Singet mit tambourine und harfe!

THE READINGS

The First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It 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. ³³But 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. ³⁴No 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.

L The Word of the Lord C Thanks be to God!

The Second Reading: Romans 3:19-28

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

L The Word of the Lord C Thanks be to God!

Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
 words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel: John 8:31-36

P The Holy Gospel according to... **C** Glory to you, O Lord!

³¹Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” ³³They 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’?”

³⁴Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

P The Gospel of the Lord! **C** Praise to you, O Christ!

Sermon

"It's All Been A Gift "

Pastor Stephen Bond

Hymn

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

ELW 504

Affirmation of Baptism

P Those affirming their baptisms to become members of our congregation and their sponsors, are invited to come forward.

These persons have come to us from other congregations, and they desire to make public affirmation of their Baptism.

Sisters and brothers, we rejoice to receive you, members already of the one holy catholic and apostolic church into our fellowship in the Gospel.

P Beloved sisters and brothers in Christ, and all the congregation: in Holy Baptism, our Lord Jesus Christ received you and made you members of his Church. In the community of God's people, you have learned from his Word God's loving purpose for you and all creation. You continue to be nourished at his holy table and are called to be witnesses to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. So therefore, trusting in the promises of God made to you in your own baptism, I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the Church, the faith in which we baptize:

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

R I renounce them.

P Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

R I renounce them.

P Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

R I renounce them.

P Do you believe in God the Father?

C I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

C I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day, he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

P Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

C 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

P You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in Holy Baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear God's Word and share in his Supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the

example of our Lord Jesus, and to strive for peace and justice in all the earth? If so, I ask you to respond, “I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.”

R I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

P People of God, do you promise to support and pray for one another in your life in Christ, to receive these new members of our church family as your own sisters and brothers and as God’s beloved, to rejoice with them in their joy, and to weep with them in their sorrows as part of the one body of Christ, and to encourage these new members in living out the covenant God has made with them in baptism?

C We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

P Let us pray:

Gracious Lord, through water and the Spirit you have made these people your own. You forgave them all their sins and brought them to newness of life. Continue to strengthen them with the Holy Spirit, and daily increase in them your gifts of grace: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, through Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord. **Amen**

WE DEDICATE OUR HEARTS IN PRAYER

P Challenged by God’s Word in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and the whole creation.

A brief silence.

AM Lord of all, we give thanks for the whole church throughout the world. Open wide the paths toward unity between denominations so that all followers of Christ may join in shared worship and mission. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

AM Renewing God, as the dying leaves display their beauty, we are reminded that nature’s cycle of life includes and requires both life and death. Instill in your people a mission of preservation and appreciation for trees, animals, and waterways threatened by climate collapse. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

AM Gracious God, in the spirit of reformation we pray for all who cry out for relief from systemic oppression. May the hearts of those who occupy seats of power be reformed so that peace becomes the center of our life together. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

AM Comforting God, be with all who are sick, suffering, or grieving in our own community and beyond; **Tom Jennings, Sue & Jim Enk, Christal & Chad Pritchard, Frank O’Konski, Larry Geer, Luke Holtz, Susie Donnal, Ron Hetherwick, Martina Benton, Janet Dellinger, Kathy Reichenback, Jake Cope, Isaac Evans, Tom Szor, Debbie Carman, Alexis, Eli & baby Bibler, Cory Kaczor, Marion Buffington, Dave Thorne, Carolyn....** and all others whom we remember in silence. Surround them with the promise of your love, comfort, and grace that never ends. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

AM Divine Guide, continue to challenge this community to be ever-reforming in our ministries and outreach efforts. Inspire creative ideas among us so that the communal, grace-filled word of God remains at the heart of our ministry. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

AM Almighty God, in Christ’s resurrection you ensure that though life be wrenched away, death cannot win the day. May the truth of your saving grace through faith sustain our hope for life in you. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

P Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in the saving grace you freely give, both now and forever. **Amen**

THE MEAL

All Christians are welcome to commune at our Altar. You do not have to be a member of this congregation to receive Communion. Grape juice is available in the inner ring of glasses for those desiring it. A “gluten-free” host option is available upon request as well.

Sharing of the Peace

P The Peace of the Lord be with you all! **C And also with you!**

Share an expression of peace with your neighbor, please.

The congregation continues to stand during Tithes and Offerings if you are able.

Our Tithes and Offerings *Bring your gifts to the Altar or you may offer gifts in the tray located at the rear of the sanctuary. Thank you.*

Offering Prayer

AM Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior, and Lord. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

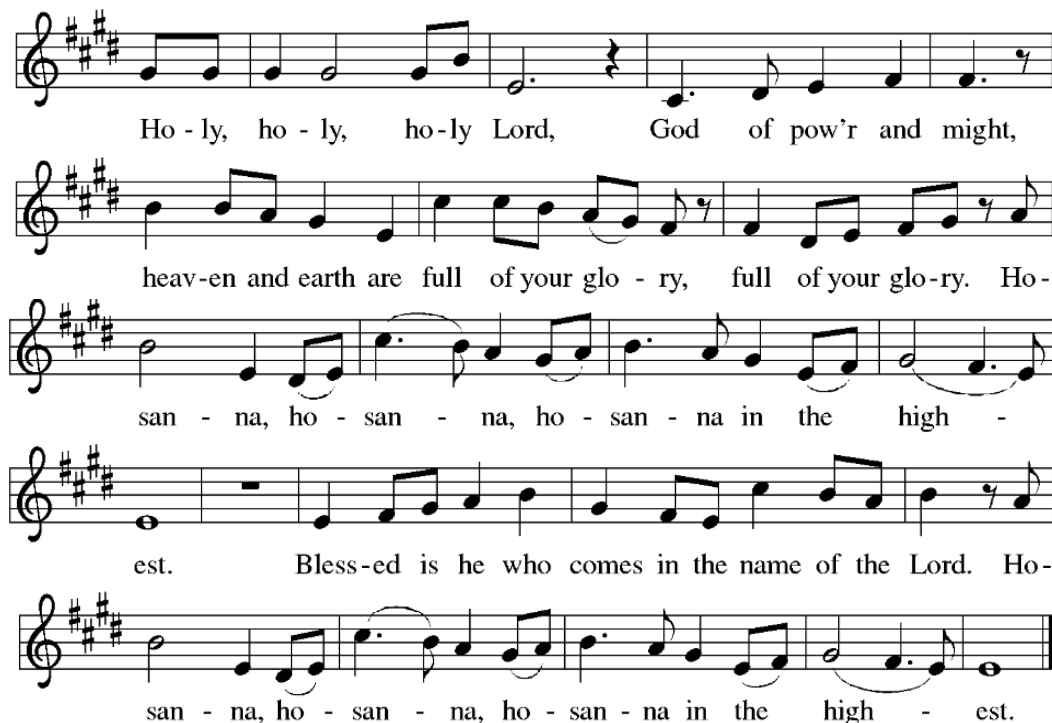
P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

****The Eucharistic Prayer Continues.....**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Words of Institution

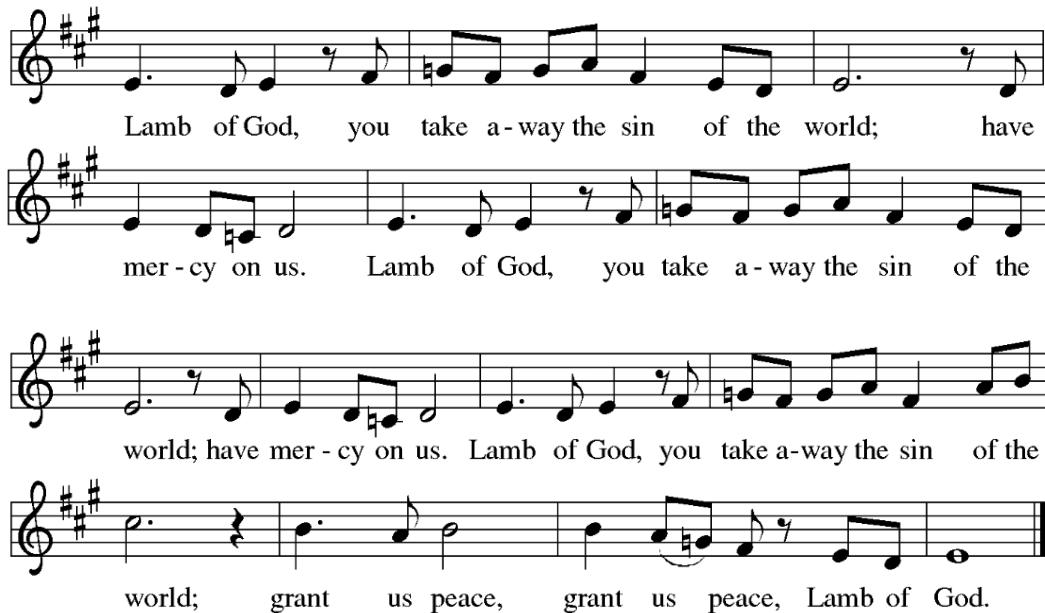
In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Jesus said, Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Jesus said, Do this for the remembrance of me.

The Lord's Prayer

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray... **C** 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.

Communion Hymns

“Lamb of God”



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, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

Hymn

“The Church’s One Foundation”

ELW 654

“There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”

ELW 588

Post Communion Blessing

Prayer after Communion

AM Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE SENDING

Milestones & Announcements:

The Blessing

P God all mighty, God most merciful ✝ bless you, keep you, and give you peace.
Amen.

Sending Hymn

“Rise, Shine, You People!”

ELW 665

Dismissal

AM Go in peace. Follow Jesus. **Thanks be to God.**

AM And next week, **C Bring a friend!**

Worship SERVICES

“Making Jesus Known”

Welcome to Community of Christ! Thank you for choosing to worship with us this morning! **TODAY** we are back with our **TWO** Worship Services, 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. with Facebook Live at 10:00 a.m. *Join us in between for Sunday School!* Classes will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 9:50 a.m., for adults and kids of all ages. Join us as we resume our regular rhythm! See you next week and don't forget to Bring a Friend!!



**Altar Flowers are given by Marsha Cochran to the
Glory of God ❤️**

New Adult Sunday School Series: “*On The Other Hand...*” When the Bible Offers Multiple Perspectives What do we do when one Bible verse says one thing, and another verse seems to say another? When we die, are we waiting for a future resurrection, or are we immediately with God right away? How do we understand the times when Jesus takes a law from the Old Testament and then says, “But I say to you” and adds something different? Maybe you’ve found yourself asking questions like these, or others where you didn’t know what to do with the tension we sometimes hear within the different voices of the Bible. How do we know what to do, and how do we make sense of the Bible when we seem to be dealing with writers who say different things? And when I come across those in the Bible, should I be worried... confused... afraid... or relieved? Let’s explore some of these kinds of situations together in a new series for the late fall in our Adult Sunday School forum (meeting in the fellowship hall from about 9:10-9:50), which we’re calling, “*On the Other Hand...*” We’ll do some case study exploration of times when different Bible passages seem to point in different directions on the same subject, and different ways that we might understand what’s going on in them. The goal is not just to better understand these individual passages or issues, but to grow as Bible readers to become better at wrestling blessings from the texts where we are convinced God is speaking to us through ancient voices. Join us for this series, between our 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. services, running through November 24!

New Bible Study Series: "Freed... For Love" Explores Galatians!

We live in a culture where ads promise us great deals and promotions for "free," but they always come with fine print, conditions, or limits. What if the Good News of Jesus were different, and we really were freed without a catch--what if we were freed... FOR LOVE? That's the question at the heart of Paul's letter to the Galatians, and it's where our Thursday Bible Study series will take us. Starting right now, you can join us in person at 1:00 p.m. at Community of Christ for a deep dive into an important letter of the New Testament and the BIG questions like, "What puts me in the right relationship with God?" or "How does Jesus welcome outsiders?" and "What am I freed FOR in my life?" Everybody is welcome, and if you can't make a session in person, you can catch up online with our weekly video summary sessions which you can find on our Facebook page and YouTube. Come check out what it means to be freed... for love!

A Warm Welcome to Our New Members! We're thrilled to welcome Teresa Loga, Larry and Amy Mustafaga, and Bruce and Karen Meyer to our Community of Christ family!

Benefit Organ Concert - Join us on Sunday, November 24, at 3:00 p.m. for an organ recital featuring four talented NWO organists: Eric Dickey, Jacob Henry, Kate Philabaum, and Pam Stover. A free-will offering will be collected, with proceeds supporting Hurricane Relief and the Community of Christ Building Fund. Don't miss this opportunity to enjoy beautiful music while making a difference!

AW Youth Ministry - Friends from several area congregations will be meeting again on Tuesday, Oct. 29, at 6:30 p.m. to collaborate on more Anthony Wayne area joint youth ministry ventures, building on the success of our Fall Kick-off event at the start of the school year. We would love your ideas, input, and presence if you would like to help us create and plan new events for junior and senior high school youth! Join us on Oct. 29 here at CoC!

Join us for Trick-or-Treat in Downtown Whitehouse! Hey kids! Grab your parents and swing by our spooky booth on Thursday, October 31, from 5 to 8 p.m. (or until the candy runs out). We'll have fun games, activities, and treats! Can't wait to see you there, don't forget to bring a friend!



****All Saints Day - November 3****

On this special day, we will remember in prayer our family and friends who rest with the Lord. Please include the name of your loved one on the list posted at the kiosk.

****Deadline for names: Today, Sunday, October 27.****

Thank you for joining us in this remembrance.



It's that wonderful time of year! We invite you and your family to dedicate a poinsettia in honor of a loved one. Please fill out your envelope (available on the table in the gathering space or at the back of the church) and submit your payment today! 😊 You can pick up your flowers after our 11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service. Thank you!

Poinsettia Order: \$10.00 per plant. You can choose from Pink, Red, or White.

**** Orders must be received by Sunday, November 10, 2024. ****



Worship Services

Available on the net

at www.commofchrist.org

OR you can use your cell phone camera to access our website with our QR code!

What's Happening This Week?



Confirmation Class
Sunday, October 27, 12:30 p.m.
AW Youth Planning
Tuesday, October 29, 6:30 p.m.
Choir Practice
Wednesday, October 30, 7:00 p.m.
Pastor's Bible Study
Thursday, October 31, 1:00 p.m.
Trick-or-Treat, DT Whitehouse
Thursday, October 31, 5:00 p.m.
NoBell Choir on
Thursday, October 31

**Looking
Ahead**



Fall Back
Sunday, November 3
Visitation Ministry
Monday, November 3, 10:30 a.m.
Outreach Meeting
Monday, November 3, 7:00 p.m.
LWR Quilt ministry
Tuesday, November 5, 10:00 a.m.
Choir Practice
Wednesday, November 6, 7:00 p.m.
Worship & Music Meeting
Thursday, November 7, 10:00 a.m.
Pastor's Bible Study
Thursday, November 7, 1:00 p.m.
Bell Choir
Thursday, November 7, 7:00 p.m.
Church Office Closed
Monday, November 11





Did one of our Bible readings capture your attention today? Was there a story you could picture in your mind? Did a phrase from a hymn or a thought from the sermon start some new ideas or inspire some reflection? Did a Scripture passage spark a question for you to think about? Use this space here as an open canvas for your faithful imagination: you can draw a picture of something you pictured, write a question, take

notes from the message or scriptures, or doodle your faith into a visible form here. Then, either take it with you or leave your thoughts and images here to be shared in an ongoing collection here at Community of Christ!