

REFORMATION SUNDAY



October 27, 2024

ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

WELCOME TO ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

SUNDAY SERVICES

8:15am | Service with Holy Communion in Nave
9:00am | Choir Practice
9:30am | Education Hour with Sunday School,
Confirmation Class and Adult Forum
10:30am | Service with Holy Communion in Nave
and Online
11:30am | Coffee Hour

LIVESTREAMING

Worship is streamed on the St. Paul Lutheran Facebook page. A Facebook account is not necessary to stream, however, without a Facebook account the stream works on a computer browser only and not on a phone.

WEEKLY UPDATE NEWSLETTER

Sign up for Weekly Update newsletter by going to our website at www.stpaularlington.org and clicking on SUBSCRIBE.

SERVING THE COMMUNITY TODAY ARE:

Taryn Walsh and Geneva Carter, *Altar Guild*
Jud S. and Ainsley S., *Acolytes*
Eric Haugen, *Lector*
Sandy Walker, *Deacon*
Marie Breitenbach, *Cantor*
Dan Ries, *Usher*
Hollie Schmidt, *Livestream Broadcast*
Peter and Hollie Schmidt, *Coffee Guild*



*Today's altar flowers are given
Taryn Walsh in gratitude for
God's changing seasons.*

*When the instruction for standing * appears, please stand as you are able and as seems comfortable.*

At the ☒, you may make the sign of the cross, which reminds us of our baptism.

*The congregational responses are printed in **bold**.*

GATHERING

PRELUDE

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Martin Luther
Marie Breitenbach, recorder

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

*GREETING

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

And also with you.

*KYRIE

Cantor



We pray for peace, O Lord, make plow - shares of our swords, make



plow - shares of our swords: hear us when we cry to you.

Assembly



Lord, have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, Lord, have



mer-cy on us: hear us when we cry to you.

Cantor



Christ, make us grow in grace un - til we see your face, un -



til we see your face: hear us when we cry to you.

Assembly



Christ, have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, Christ, have



mer-cy on us: hear us when we cry to you.

Cantor



De - fend your church, O Lord, and root it in your word, and

root it in your word: hear us when we cry to you.

Assembly

Lord, have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, Lord, have

mer-cy on us: hear our cry. A - men.

Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer, based on the Kyrie
 Music: MY FATHER, HOW LONG, African American spiritual

HYMN OF PRAISE

“Above the Hills the Angel Hosts”

1 A - bove the hills the an - gel hosts
 2 In heav'n, on earth reigns God Most High,
 3 Sing jus - tice, mer - cy, joy, and peace, sing
 4 We wor - ship you, our thanks we bring,
 5 To Je - sus Christ, God's Son, our Lord,

glo - ry! Glo - ry! Glo - ry! God's love is come to
 Yet ten - der - ly God's own good will grants
 We bow be - fore you
 The Lamb of God, e -

seek the lost.
 hears our cry.
 sin's re - lease. Give glo - ry to God in the high - est!
 as we sing.
 ter - nal Word.

Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer, based on the Gloria in excelsis
 Music: THE DEVIL'S NINE QUESTIONS, Appalachian traditional

* 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.

Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 31:31–34

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the Lord means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the Lord will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.

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

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM *(read responsively 8:15 am service)*

Psalm 46



God is our ref-¹uge and strength,
a very present¹ help in trouble.

**Therefore we will not fear, though the¹ earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths¹ of the sea;**

though its waters¹ rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble¹ with its tumult.

**There is a river whose streams make glad the cit-¹y of God,
the holy habitation of¹ the Most High.**

⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall¹ not be shaken;
God shall help it at the¹ break of day.

**The nations rage, and the¹ kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth¹ melts away.**

⁷The Lord of¹ hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob¹ is our stronghold.

**Come now, regard the works¹ of the Lord,
what desolations God has brought up-¹on the earth;**

behold the one who makes war to cease in ¹ all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the ¹ shields with fire.

“Be still, then, and know that ¹ I am God;

I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted ¹ in the earth.”

The Lord of ¹ hosts is with us;

the God of Jacob ¹ is our stronghold.

SECOND READING

Romans 3:19–28

Paul’s words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ’s death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

Now 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. For no human will be justified before him by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

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

Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law? That of works? No, rather through the law of faith. For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (10:30 service)



1 O God, whose word well-plant - ed yields fruit a hun - dred - fold,
2 O God of seed and har - vest, of sun and soil and rain,
3 O God, your fi - nal har - vest of his - t'ry's an - cient field



we praise your grac - es grant - ed to those who sowed of old,
at - tend the word we sow, lest its plant - ing be in vain.
will test with truth the proud - est that hu - man work can yield.



who by their wit - ness scat - tered good seed up - on the soil
Send show - ers of your Spir - it, bright sun - shine of your grace,
Op - pres - sion's blight will van - ish, fair free - dom's fruits in - crease;



where oth - ers, reap - ing, gath - ered the har - vest of their toil.
that mul - ti - tudes who hear it your gos - pel may em - brace.
and love and joy will flour - ish to clothe the earth with peace.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923–2007

Music: ABIDING PRESENCE, Stephen P. Folkemer, b. 1952

* GOSPEL

John 8:31–36

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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

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

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S TIME / GIVING OF BIBLES

Vicar Sam Menapace

SERMON

Vicar Sam Menapace

"A Mighty Fortress"

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat -'ning to de -
4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who

to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
your us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with

wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,

has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,

he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
 they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
 Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther

APOSTLE'S CREED

In response to the gospel, let us confess the faith of the church:

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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.

* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The leader will read the first and last prayer, those in the congregation are invited to read aloud the other prayers as they feel called.

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

A brief silence.

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.**

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.**

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.**

Comforting God, be with all who are sick, suffering, or grieving in our own community and beyond, especially Dan, Kai, Lynn, Marilyn, Meredith, Owen, Paul, and Susan. Surround them with the promise of your love, comfort, and grace that never ends. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

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.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Almighty God, in Christ's resurrection you ensure that though life be wrenched away, death cannot win the day. We give thanks for the saints who have gone before us and remind us of your victory over death, especially the apostles Simon and Jude. May the truth of your saving grace through faith sustain our hope for life in you. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

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.

* PEACE

Keep your hands close together or make the peace sign if you'd rather not pass the peace with touch.

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

ANTHEM (10:30)

You Are My Refuge

Michael Trotta

You are my refuge and my strength.
You shelter me from every care.

Within its streams I find you there,
I find your help at break of dawn.

I will not fear when the ground shakes
Or mountains fall into the sea.
I will not fear when oceans roar
Or mountains shake from swelling tide.

Though nations fear and kingdoms fade
Your voice brings hope at break of dawn.
You are with me, my very hope,
My refuge, fortress, and my strength.

There is a river, filled with life,
A sacred place in which you dwell.

Be still and know that I am, Be still and
know.
Be still, Be.

MEAL

* OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

OFFERING



You may give an offering through the Givelify app by scanning this QR code.

* GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

(8:15 service sing in unison)

Verses: Cantor or choir

1 Long, long a - go in Je - ru - sa - lem, as the
2 High on a throne sat the might - y Lord, robes
3 Oh, what a sight it was to see and

scrip - tures do re - cord, I - sa - iah to the
flow - ing through the hall, while six - wing - ed an - gels
oh, what a sound to hear! The tem - ple door - posts

tem - ple came to see the ho - ly Lord.
flew a - bove. I - sa - iah heard them call.
shook and quaked, and smoke was in the air.

Refrain: Assembly

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, God's
glo - ry fills all heav'n and earth, God of pow - er and might.

Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer, based on the Sanctus
MUSIC: SHADY GROVE, Appalachian traditional

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.
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.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

* LORD'S PRAYER

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

All are welcome to receive the bread and the wine. Gluten free wafers are available on request. Both wine and grape juice are available in each tray; the wine is red and the grape juice is white.

Come forward in the center aisle starting at the front of the church. The pastors will motion the first people forward.



1 O Lamb of God, to earth you came to
2 O Lamb of God, the on - ly Son, to



save us all from grief and shame. Shorn of your life, up -
us show mer - cy, Ho - ly One. You save the world from



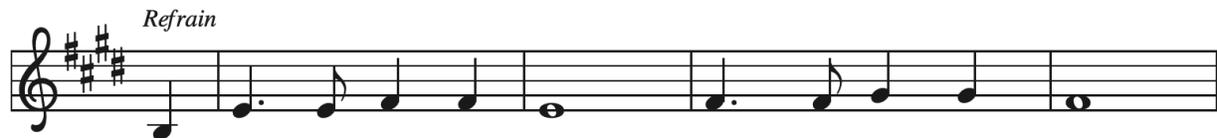
on the tree you hung in deep hu - mil - i - ty.
all its sin. Lord, give to us your peace. A - men.

Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer, based on the Agnus Dei
Music: THE SUFFOLK MIRACLE, Appalachian traditional

COMMUNION HYMN (10:30 service)

"By Grace We Have Been Saved"

ACS 1006



By grace we have been saved— saved by grace through faith,



not be-cause of what we do; it is the gift of God.



1 On the days when you are weak, on the
2 Rest your bod - y, rest your mind, in the
3 You don't need to be a - fraid. You will



days when you are strong, rich or poor,
still - ness you will find you're a love - ly,
nev - er be a - lone. There is mer - cy,



young or old, just lis - ten to the song.
pre - cious child, part of the great de - sign.
there is hope, and love will take you home.

Text: Jonathan Rundman, b. 1971

Music: BY GRACE, Nathan Houge, b. 1977, and Jonathan Rundman

* TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

* POST COMMUNION CANTICLE (10:30 service. *Sing verses 3 and 5 only.*)



1 We praise you for the life that stirs when
 2 We praise you for the sum - mer sun, for
 3 We sing your praise for au - tumn's glow, for
 4 We sing your praise through win - ter's night, when
 5 We praise the Fa - ther, praise the Son, and



spring - time warms the sleep - ing earth; but
 rip'n - ing grain and length - ened days; but
 har - vest yield from spring - time seed; up -
 earth in fro - zen si - lence lies, for
 praise the Spir - it, with the throng of



most, we praise the grace that lures our
 most, we praise you for the Son whose
 on our hearts your grace be - stow till
 prom - ise of re - turn - ing light, for
 saints and an - gels, joined as one in



slum - b'ring souls to love and mirth.
 light brings heal - ing in his rays.
 faith bears fruit in lov - ing deed.
 life in Christ that nev - er dies.
 grate - ful, ev - er - last - ing song.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr.
 Music: PROSPECT, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

* PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of the abundant table,
 you have refreshed our hearts in this meal
 with bread for the journey.
 Give us your grace on the road
 that we might serve our neighbors with joy;
 for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

SENDING

* BLESSING

May God bless and keep us. May God's face shine on us and be gracious. May God look on us with favor and ☩ give us peace. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

* SENDING HYMN

"Lift High the Cross

ELW 660

Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till
all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,
2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied
3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
bear on their brows the seal of him who died.
as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.
praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827-1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874-1956
Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875-1947

* DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

How Firm a Foundation

Marie Breitenbach, recorder

ANNOUNCEMENTS *and* UPCOMING HAPPENINGS
at **SAINT PAUL**



CHILDREN RECEIVING A BIBLE TODAY

3-year-olds: Hannah M, Natalie R, Benjamin N.

3rd Grade: Tamaini H, Ryan H, Adelaide N, Benjamin S, Elyse C.

SOCIAL MINISTRY COMMITTEE | October 27 after the 10:30 service

Participation in this committee is open to all parishioner - new members are always welcome. Our projects develop out of the energy and interest of members and are responsive to local, regional and global ongoing and emerging needs. Please join us!

GAME NIGHT AT ST. PAUL | Wednesday, November 6 at 7PM

All are invited to a midweek game night! During the tense election week, spend some time in community at St. Paul. We'll gather in the Fellowship Hall at 7pm for a time to play games, eat snacks, and just be together. If you have a favorite board game, bring it to share with the group! Hosted by Vicar Sam.

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY | Sunday, November 3

As we have done in years past, there will be a time in the worship service to remember our loved ones. You are invited to bring a photograph or memento of a loved one who has died to place on a table up front and light a candle. Cards are available if you would like to write the name of a Saint.

THEOLOGY ON TAP AT MIGHTY SQUIRREL BREWERY | October 27, 4:00-6:00

Join Vicar Sam for a time of community at a local brewery, Mighty Squirrel, **411 Waverley Oaks Rd, Waltham**. All are invited to grab a beer or seltzer (non-alcoholic options available) and gather for a relaxed conversation about Martin Luther and the Reformation.

SUPPER CLUB AT ST. PAUL | November 2, 6:00, ongoing

Bring a dish to share with our community. We will be starting a Supper Club on the 1st Saturday of the month. Come when you are able, and enjoy some time with other members of the congregation. All are welcome to join!



AUTUMN ADULT FORUM | September 22 - October 27

The Gospel of John – A Beginner's Guide to the Way, the Truth and the Life. As so many of us have found, the Gospel of John can be problematic. But its beauty and depth also form some of the core tenets of our faith. Pastor Liz will be the primary leader of this six-week session on the Gospel of John.



SAINT PAUL
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
ARLINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

929 Concord Turnpike
Arlington, Massachusetts 02476
www.stpaularlington.org | 781-646-7773

Staff

The Reverend Ross Goodman, *Pastor*
The Reverend Liz Senft, *Pastoral Associate*
Samantha Menapace, *Vicar*
Ana Zecic Jeffers, *Director of Music*
Paul Ricci, *Business Administrator*
Sarah Carter, *Children, Youth and
Families Director*
Jennifer White, *Parish Administrator*
Dennis O'Brien, *Church Property Manager*

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