

The
truth
will make
you
free

JOHN 8:32



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Tracks 1 and 2
ELCA-N

Edinburg Lutheran Parish
St. Jacob's & Zion Congregations

October 26, 2025

Pastor Katie Gosswein Parsonage: 984-9260 Cell: 335-7758

<https://elpva.org/>



Remembering those who have requested prayer: Sophia Gibb, Ed Sine and Barry Sweitzer...**we further remember**...Tim Ambrose, Steve Baker, Nancy Bly, Steve Campbell, Leannah Comer, Keith Cabbage, Burgess Dellinger, Roe Dias, Kevin Dysart, Todd Edgerton, Carla Eickenhorst, Virginia Estep, Shelby Eye, Landon Fadely, Diane Funkhouser, Harper Gochenour, Luther Gochenour, Peggy Graff, Podge Green, Terry Grigsby, Belle Hamman, Martha Harlow, Mike Harlow, Tim Harlow, Betty Helsley, Barbara Hollar, Ronnie Hoffman, Wade Ludwig, Keith Manich, Toby Markley, Kitty Martz, Bonnie Mason, Erich McMinn, Evelyn Moomaw, Ron Moomaw, Jerry Newland, Anna Nilsen, Rick Painter, Bob Perry, Tom & Linda Perry, Karen Polk, Jerry & Judy Polk, Larry Polk, Ed & Bea Provost, Dennis Rigby, Steve Ritenour, Laurie Robinson, Peter Shoemaker, Dan Strother, Judy Tharp, Steve Wood, John Wymer, and Christine Zuniga.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Next Sunday: November 3 – All Saints Sunday

8:30 Worship – Service of the Word at Zion – Hymnbook Sunday

9:45 Adult Sunday School meets at both churches.

11:00 Worship will be a Service of Holy Communion at St. Jacob's

Call-in worship is always offered at the 11:00 service.

Conference call: (425) 436-6395 Toll Free: (844)-854-2222

Access Code: 377656 #

DID YOU KNOW ?

Jesus was tempted by Satan in the desert
(Matthew 4:2)



Happy Reformation Today!! Martin Luther really nailed it!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Spring Forward will meet Tuesday and Thursday this week from 3:30 – 6 PM. The students are especially excited to have National Honor Society students from Stonewall Jackson High School volunteering as tutors!!

Wednesday in the Word Bible Study meet at 6 PM at Zion. We continue our study of 2 Kings and will pick up the discussion again at 2 Kings 15 as we continue to learn about Israel's bloody rebellion.

EPIC stands for **E**ffective **P**ractices for **I**nnovative **C**ongregations and as you've heard, this workshop is taking place on **Saturday, November 8, (9 AM – 2 PM) at Muhlenberg Lutheran Church** in Harrisonburg. **The deadline for registration is October 30**, so if you'd like to go with us, please let Pastor Katie know by Wednesday.

Wreaths Across America Meeting – Thanks to all who attended our organizational meeting yesterday and to Robin Heishman for her amazing leadership! **Saturday, December 13 is 48 days away** and we can certainly use everyone's help in spreading the word as well as pitching in on the day. Contact Robin Heishman if you have questions – 540-481-3765.

Pickin' Grace Reformation Service – thank you to everyone who joined us yesterday for the bluegrass service in New Market. Today is a more traditional service, but we pray you are blessed by both styles and our time together in worship!

Aluminum Recycle is next weekend - Zion will have their monthly aluminum can collection. A truck will appear in the back parking lot. Every can counts, so thanks for your support!

Calling All Cookie Bakers.... The Shenandoah Alliance for Shelter - Empty Bowl Soup Supper has come around again! On Friday, November 21 we look forward to serving our guests homemade cookies along with fresh bread & soup! Would you be able to help bake a few dozen, that are then put 3 to a snack-size baggie. Donations are needed by Thursday, November 20. Please let Pastor Katie know if you can help in this way.

Zion Council will meet Monday, November 3 at 5:30. **St. Jacob's Council** will meet on Monday, November 10 at 6:30. Both meetings will focus on the 2026 budget and everyone is welcome to join in the conversation. You have a voice at the meeting, but voting is for the elected members.

Family Promise Turkey Trot.... will have their 2nd annual fundraiser on Saturday, November 15 at the Shenandoah County Park in Maurertown. Registration begins at 8 AM, with the "Run" starting at 9 AM. Cost is \$35. For more information check out: shenandoahfamilypromise.org/



Bluegrass Reformation Service yesterday in New Market

Reformation Sunday

Edinburg Lutheran Parish

October 26, 2025 + 8:30 & 11 AM

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

As we worship this morning, O God, we pray that Your Spirit will be our strength, Your Word will be our guide, Your love will be our comfort, and Your promises will be our hope. For our help is in the name of the living God who has made heaven and earth.

Come then, let us bow down, let us quiet ourselves in the presence of God, our Creator and Redeemer. Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP

based on Psalm 46

Be still!

We come to quiet ourselves by all that is holy.

Be still and know . . .

we come to understand the Word which sets us free.

Be still and know that God is

our Hope, our Help, our Refuge, and our Redeemer.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross given in your baptism.

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **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.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

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.**



A moment for reflection.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

APOSTOLIC 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.

GATHERING HYMN

A Mighty Fortress

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.



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.

Though hordes of devils fill the land
all threat'ning to devour us.
We tremble not, unmoved we stand;
They cannot overpower us.
Let this world's tyrant rage; in battle we'll engage!
His might is doomed to fail; God's judgement must prevail!
One little word subdues him.

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 home, goods, honor, child, or spouse,
though life be wrenched away,
They cannot win the day.
The kingdom's ours forever!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray

Gracious Father, we pray for Your holy church. Fill it with all truth and peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where anything is amiss, reform it; where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in need, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



HYMN OF PRAISE ELW 855 *Crown Him with Many Crowns*

Crown Him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon His throne;
hark, how the heav'nly anthem drowns
all music but its own.

Awake, my soul, and sing of Him who died for thee,
and hail Him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

Crown Him the Lord of years, the potentate of time,
creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail! For Thou hast died for me;
Thy praise and glory shall not fail throughout eternity.

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 31:31-34

PSALM 46

SECOND READING

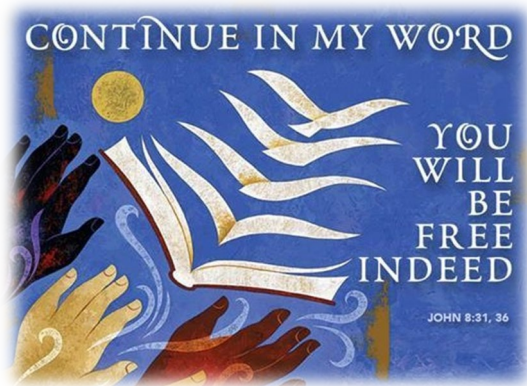


Romans 3:19-28

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 8:31-36

The Holy Gospel according to the 8th chapter of John....
Glory to you, O Lord.



The Gospel of the Lord. + Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY # 517 *Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word*

Lord, keep us steadfast in Your word;
curb those who by deceit or sword
would wrest the kingdom from Your Son
and bring to naught all He has done.

Lord Jesus Christ, Your pow'r make known,
for You are Lord of lords alone;
defend your holy church, that we
may sing Your praise eternally.

O Comforter of priceless worth,
send peace and unity on earth;
support us in our final strife
and lead us out of death to life.

OFFERING PRAYER

God of love, You abide with us;
You provide for all our
needs and guide us in Your
ways. Out of gratitude for Your
care, we bring our gifts before
You. Use them for Your work,
that all may come to know Your
love, have faith in Jesus, be
filled with holy hope and walk
without fear. **Amen.**



Fellowship meal that followed!

THE APOSTLES CREED

**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 to the dead.**



**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

Lord in Your mercy,
Hear our prayer



LORD'S PRAYER

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

**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.**

BLESSING

Numbers 6:24-26

The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make His face shine upon you,
And be gracious to you; The Lord lift up His
countenance
upon you, And give you peace. **Amen**

SENDING HYMN

The Church's One Foundation

The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
She is His new creation by water and the Word.
From heav'n He came and sought her
to be His holy bride;
with His own blood He bought her,
and for her life He died.

Elect from ev'ry nation, yet one o'er all the earth,
her charter of salvation one Lord, one faith, one birth:
one holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses with ev'ry grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder
this world sees her oppressed,
by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,
yet saints their watch are keeping;
their cry goes up: "How long?"
and soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.

Through toil and tribulation and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation of peace forevermore;
till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious
shall be the church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union
with God, the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion
with those whose rest is won.
Oh, blessed heav'nly chorus!
Lord, save us by Your grace,
that we, like saints before us,
may see You face to face.



Pat & Janet with Jeff Marble

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, Christ is with you!

Thanks be to God!



Bishop Milton preaching

**⁶The nations rage,
and the ¹ kingdoms shake;
God speaks,
and the earth ¹ melts away.**
**⁷The LORD of ¹ hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob ¹ is our stronghold.**
**⁸Come now,
regard the works ¹ of the LORD,
what desolations
God has brought
up- ¹ on the earth;**

**⁹behold 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.**
**¹⁰“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.”**
**¹¹The LORD of ¹ hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob ¹ is our
stronghold.**

Second Reading

Romans 3:19-28

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. 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.

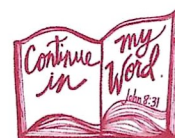
²⁷Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

Gospel

John 8:31-36

Jesus 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.”



Today's Readings

Reformation Sunday

October 26, 2025

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.**

or

Gracious Father, we pray for your holy catholic church. Fill it with all truth and peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in anything it is amiss, reform it; where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in need, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

First Reading

Jeremiah 31:31-34

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. 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.

Psalm

Psalm 46; tone 10

