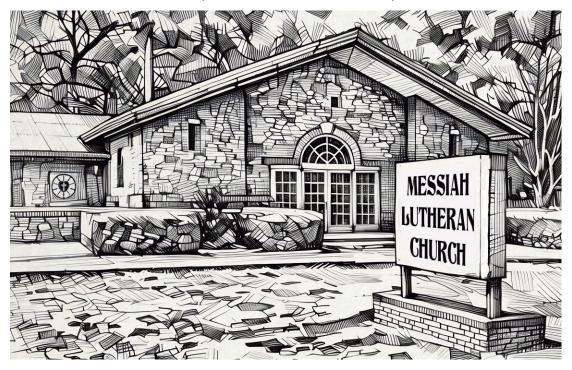
Messiah Lutheran Church

VALDOSTA, GEORGIA

500 Baytree Road – <u>messiahluth500@gmail.com</u> Office: 229-244-0143 Pastor's Cell: 404-951-6336

> Pastor Stephen Wareham MessiahVLDPastor@gmail.com

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26TH, 2025



"Serve the Lord with gladness!"

Psalm 100:2

WELCOME VISITORS!

We are pleased to meet you and have you visit us today! Please sign our Guest Book, located in the church entryway (Narthex), as well as the attendance sheet, which can be found in the red folder in each pew. Please let us know how we can assist you in any way.

- **RESTROOMS** are located in the Narthex.
- **QUIET BAGS** are available in the Narthex for older children. We also offer a children's bulletin for ages 3-6 and ages 7-12.
- QUIET/CALMING ROOM and a changing table are located near the Fellowship Hall (through the accordion doors behind the choir).
- <u>INVITATION TO COMMUNION</u> The Sacrament of Holy Communion is offered to all baptized and prepared Christians who believe Christ is truly present with us in this meal. Trusting in the promises of his Word, "—given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins," they intend to grow in faith by the power of the Holy Spirit working through this means of grace toward a more committed life with Jesus and His Church.
- RECEIVING COMMUNION Please extend your hand to receive the bread. Wine is offered from the Chalice or individual cups. Grape juice (center ring, lighter color) is offered for those who choose not to receive wine. After the Communion Assistant follows with the Chalice, place your empty cup on the communion rail rack. Children not yet prepared for the Sacrament may come forward for a blessing "that, living in the covenant of their Baptism and in communion with the Church, they may lead godly lives until the day of Jesus Christ."

• OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHRISTIAN GROWTH

Sundays at 9:00 am: Adult Bible Study in the Pine Tree House.

Sundays at 9:30 am: Sunday School: Grades 4th & 5th in the Pine Tree House.

Sundays at 9:15 am: Sunday School: Grades 6th – 12th in the **Pine Tree House**.

Tuesdays at 10:00 am: Pastor's Bible Study in the Pine Tree House.

Tuesday 6:00 pm: Pastor's Men's Potluck Bible Study in the Pine Tree House.

Tuesday 6:00 pm: Women's Potluck Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall.



REFORMATION SUNDAY TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST DIVINE SERVICE SETTING ONE

The Mission of Messiah Lutheran is to grow in our relationship with God through worship, education, and service, while sharing Christ's peace and fellowship with all.

AS WE GATHER

"Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people."

Revelation 14:6

Reformation Sunday is our chance to remember and celebrate Martin Luther's greatest accomplishment: the rediscovery of the Gospel of Jesus Christ as the core and central focus of the Church. We carry on that same mission, to carry the **eternal** Gospel to all people and nations, as countless Lutherans have done before us, confident that the Gospel and its Good News of forgiveness and life through faith in Jesus Christ is the same now, forever, and always.

PRELUDE & PERSONAL DEVOTION (Quiet Please)

+CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION+

Stand

All may make the sign of the cross in remembrance of their Baptism.

INVOCATION

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

EXHORTATION LSB 151

- **P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

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

CONFESSION OF SINS LSB 151

- P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- 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.

ABSOLUTION LSB 151

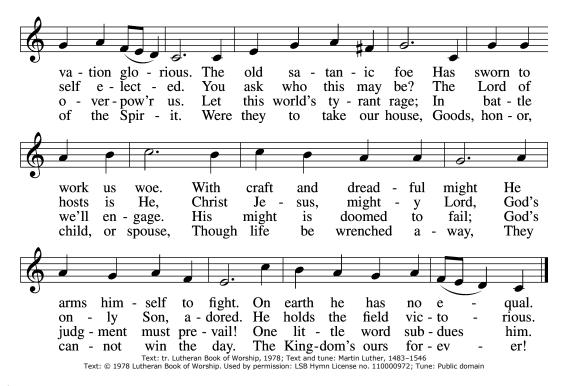
- Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE:

Please extend the hand of fellowship to your neighbors with the words: "The peace of the Lord."

+SERVICE OF THE WORD+

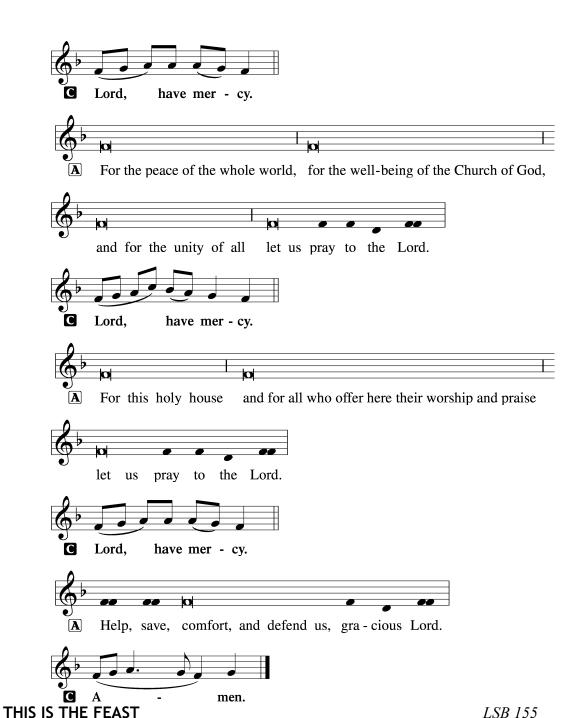




Stand



For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



LSB 155



SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.



P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, You are always more ready to hear than we to pray and always ready to give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour down on us the abundance of Your mercy; forgive us those things of which our conscience is afraid; and give us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask except by the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Revelation 14:6-7

The Messages of the Three Angels

⁶ Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people. ⁷ And he said with a loud voice, "Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come, and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water."

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 46

¹God is our refuge and strength, a very present [b] help in trouble.

- ² Therefore we will not fear though the earth give way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,
- ³ though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.
- ⁴ There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

- ⁵ God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns.
- ⁶ The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts.
- ⁷ The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.
- ⁸ Come, behold the works of the LORD, how he has brought desolations on the earth.
- ⁹ He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the chariots with fire.
- ¹⁰ "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"
- ¹¹ The LORD of hosts is with us: the God of Jacob is our fortress.

EPISTLE John 8:31-36

¹⁹ Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰ For by works of the law no human being^[a] will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

The Righteousness of God Through Faith

²¹ But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—²² the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. ²⁶ It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

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

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Stand

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

LSB 156



HOLY GOSPEL John 8:31-36

- P The Holy Gospel according to John, the eighth chapter.
- Glory to You, O Lord.

The Truth Will Set You Free

³¹ So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." ³³ They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?"

³⁴ Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave^a to sin. ³⁵ The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. ³⁶ So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE



645 BUILT ON THE ROCK



Stand

NICENE CREED

C I believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. I acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- **P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- That our self-righteousness and contempt of others would be thwarted and we would be taught to pray, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner!"; and for our eyes and hearts to be turned to Jesus who has justified us by His work on the cross, that we may rejoice in His everlasting Gospel, which is the forgiveness of sins, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- For Christ's undershepherds, that they may faithfully preach Christ before the world and keep the faith in all adversity; and that God's people would persevere in confessing the Gospel throughout their lives, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.

- For all parents, that they would be strengthened to guide their children according to the Word; for all children, that they may reflect the love of Christ through lives of obedience to their parents and love toward the neighbor; and for all children of God, that by the Holy Spirit we may grow in righteousness and faith and dwell together in peace, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- That the leaders of the nations may abhor wickedness and boastfulness, fulfill their duties with diligence and humility, and govern in accordance with God's will, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- For those who suffer, [including_______,] that in their afflictions they may take refuge in the Lord and sing for joy because of His steadfast love, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- **P** (Special Petitions)
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- For those who partake of the Sacrament this day, that our Lord would assure them that their sins are forgiven and strengthen them to run the race set before them with courage and perseverance, until they receive the crown of righteousness laid up for them by the Christ's death, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- P God of mercy, into Your hands we poor sinners humbly place our lives, confident of Your care because of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Sit

OFFERING

If you'd like to give electronically with your offering, please see the back of the bulletin for details on donating through Zelle or Thrivent.

Stand

OFFERTORY

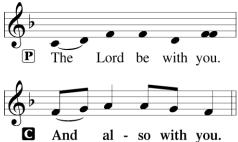
955 LET THE VINEYARDS BE FRUITFUL

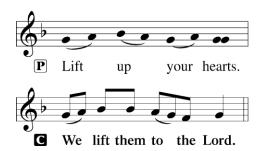


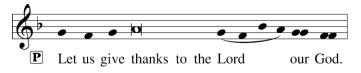
+SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT+

PREFACE

LSB 160









C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

It is truly good, right, and salutary 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 this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

LSB 161



P 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. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

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. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. 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. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. 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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

- 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."
- As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

PAX DOMINI

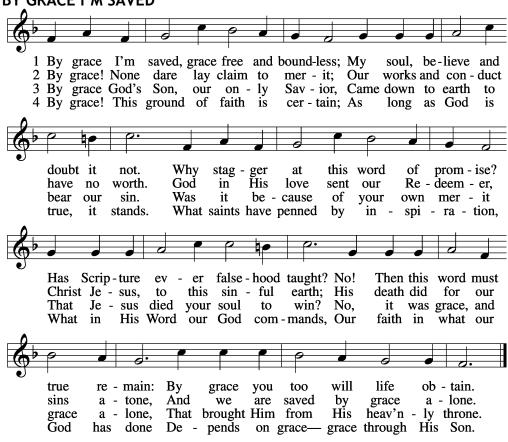
Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

LSB 163



Sit

DISTRIBUTION **DISTRIBUTION HYMNS 566 BY GRACE I'M SAVED**



VERSE 5

By grace to timid hearts that tremble, In tribulation's furnace tried, By grace, in spite of fear and trouble, The Father's heart is open wide. Where could I help and strength secure If grace were not my anchor sure?

VERSE 6

By grace! On this I'll rest when dying; In Jesus' promise I rejoice; For though I know my heart's condition, I also know my Savior's voice.

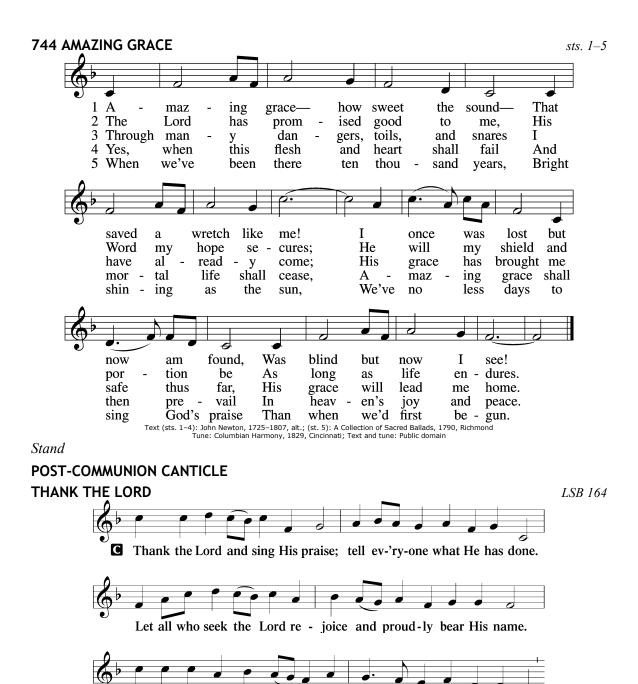
My heart is glad, all grief has flown Since I am saved by grace alone.

Text: Christian Ludwig Scheidt, 1709–61; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Tune: Cornelius Heinrich Dretzel, 1697–1775; Text and tune: Public domain

702 MY FAITH LOOKS UP TO THEE







He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

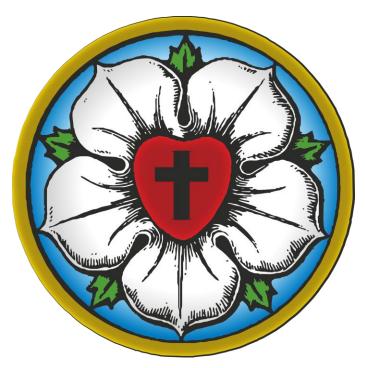
C Amen.

BENEDICTION LSB 166

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and

→ give you peace.

C Amen.



CLOSING HYMN 644 THE CHURCH'S ONE FOUNDATION

sts. 1–5





With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died. And to one hope she press - es With ev - 'rv en - dued. grace And soon the night of weep - ing Shall be the morn of song. And the great Church vic - to - rious Shall be the Church at rest. That we, like saints be - fore us, May see You face face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839–1900, alt.; Tune: Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–76; Text and tune: Public domain

DISMISSAL

- **P** Go in peace, serve the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

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READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: All Saints' Day Sunday

Revelation 7:9 – 17; 1 John 3:1 – 3; Matthew 5:1 - 12

SAINT DAYS, FEAST DAYS, & COMMEMORATIONS THIS WEEK

October 26th: Philipp Nicolai, Johann Heermann, & Paul Gerhardt – Hymnwriters October 28th: St. Simon & St. Jude – Apostles October 31st: Reformation Day November 1st: All Saints' Day

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us."

Hebrews 12:1

+ THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH LUTHERAN +

TUES	10:00	Bible Study with Pastor
	6:00	Men's Potluck Bible Study
	6:00	Ladies Potluck Bible Study
THURS	9 - 12	LWML Quilter's Group with Devotional

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

"Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people."

Revelation 14:6

During the Reformation, this text was used to refer to Luther's ministry and the Lutheran message. We have an eternal Gospel to proclaim. Christ has freed us from our sins without any works on our part. We are saved by grace alone! And, ironically enough, Luther said this should make him the "apostle of works." Once we are freed by grace, we are truly free to serve God in works that flow from thankfulness and praise.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS BAKE, CREATE, AND SPREAD JOY WITH LWML!

Our LWML Holiday Bazaar & Bake Sale is scheduled for Nov. 1

from 8 am - 1 pm. Anyone who enjoys crafting, please share any homemade items with us to sell! We also welcome any baked goods you would like to share. The money that we raise is distributed to charities in our local area as well as in the FL/GA district to support many worthwhile projects and to continue our quilt ministry.

NOMINATION COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENT

A Nomination Committee has been formed to select candidates for the following Council offices:

- Council President
- Financial Secretary
- Property Chair
- Evangelism Chair

The committee members are Abbey Wolters, Wendy Aichele, Beth Bush, and are chaired by Vice President Don Brugel.

Keep them in your prayers during these endeavors. Please prayerfully consider how you can support Messiah Lutheran by serving on the church Council.

Scan and give—it's simple and sweet,
A step that makes our mission complete.
Your love in action, shining through—
A blessing we share thanks to you.



Give Online to Messiah! Scan code with your phone & follow directions. Send Money with Zelle®

Scan in your banking app to pay



MessiahLutheranChub

m***r@gmail.com



‡elle

On Reformation Sunday, we give thanks to God for the faith and courage of Martin Luther, who on October 31, 1517, posted his **95 Theses** on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany. This bold act challenged the church to return to the truth of Scripture and became the spark that ignited the **Protestant Reformation**.

The heart of the Reformation was not rebellion—it was **renewal**. Luther and other reformers sought to restore the Gospel's central message: that we are saved **by grace alone**, **through faith alone**, **in Christ alone**, as revealed in **Scripture alone**.



The Reformation reminds us that God's Word is living and active, calling His people back to truth and freedom in Christ. As Luther discovered while studying Romans, "The righteous shall live by faith." — Romans 1:17

This Sunday, we celebrate the enduring gift of God's Word and the freedom we have in the Gospel. Let us give thanks for those who have gone before us in faith and continue to stand firm in the truth that **Christ alone is our hope and salvation.**

