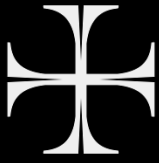


# St. Paul Lutheran Church

Reformation Sunday — October 30, 2022





## ST. PAUL CLINTONVILLE

31 North Park St  
Clintonville, WI 54929  
www.stpaulclintonville.com

**Pastor Caleb Rothfuss**  
Cell: (989) 220-8833  
Church Office: (715) 460-3143

### Welcome Guests...

We are honored to have you with us here at St. Paul in Clintonville!

- **Guest Book:** Please sign our guest book near the doors to the worship area.
- **Restrooms:** If you need them, there are bathrooms just to the sides of the main entrance doors.
- **Children:** We are grateful and glad that they are here! If you feel the need to, you can take them to the parent's room or to the back gathering area. Let us know if there are other ways we can help you focus on the Word.
- **Changing Table:** If needed these are in the parent's room and downstairs restrooms.
- **Communion:** guests, please talk with our pastor before coming up for communion so that we can talk about what we believe about it first.

*This church is part of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. [wels.net](http://wels.net)*



### THE TRUTH WILL SET YOU FREE

*"We value freedom and strive to protect freedoms. But do we truly understand freedom? Freedom for many means doing what you want without control or coercion. Jesus helps us to understand true freedom: "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free" (Gospel). Jesus says that you will never be free by living however you want. Take that attitude towards life and you'll be a slave. You'll only be free—spiritually, emotionally, eternally—"If you hold to my teaching" and therefore "know the truth."*

*A key principle Martin Luther established through the Reformation is sola scriptura, Scripture alone. Luther thought it was the answer to all of life's fundamental questions. On what basis is a belief or practice justified or rejected? Scripture alone. Who or what is the final arbiter of truth? Scripture alone. Heirs of the Reformation still bind themselves to Scripture. Does restricting ourselves in this manner curtail freedom? Just the opposite is true. God's divinely inspired truth brings freedom. It frees us from slavery to sinful delusions, the burden of guilt, and any earthly power. This week we see that when we willingly bind ourselves to truth, Jesus keeps his promise. The truth sets us free."*

#### Vision

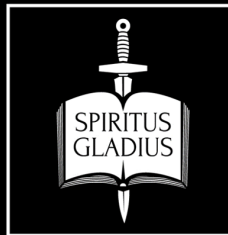
Our passion for the Gospel will make us the chosen place of worship in our community.

#### Mission

We will share the life giving and inerrant Word of God as written in the Bible.

#### Core Values

We will proclaim the law and the gospel so that all may have eternal life.



Artwork by Ian M. Welch. Copyright 2015 Ian M. Welch. All Rights Reserved. [www.paramentics.com](http://www.paramentics.com)

The Bible translation used in today's service is NIV 11.

The service music and liturgy are used, reprinted, and livestreamed with permission through our onelicense.net license A-720507.

—Reformation Service—

Hymn 877 stanzas 1-2,4-5

Reformation Song



1 Your Word a - lone is sol - id ground,  
2 Thro' faith a - lone we come to you;  
4 By grace a - lone we have been saved;  
5 And on this Ref - or - ma - tion Day



the might - y rock on which we build.  
we have no mer - it we can claim.  
all that we are has come from you.  
we join with saints of old to sing;



In ev - 'ry line the truth is found,  
Sure that your prom - is - es are true,  
Hearts that were once by sin en - slaved  
we lift our hearts as one in praise:



and ev - 'ry page with glo - ry filled. v. 2  
we place our hope in Je - sus' name.  
now by your pow'r have been made new.  
glo - ry to Christ our gra - cious King.



Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, glo - ry to God a - lone.



Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, glo - ry to God a - lone.

## **Invocation** *Call to Worship*

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Group: Amen

## **Confession and Absolution**

Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**Who made heaven and earth.**

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

*Silence for self-examination*

*Lines marked with < will be spoken by those on the baptismal font side*

*Lines marked with > will be spoken by those on the piano side*

We humbly join together...

< **I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven,**  
< **and to you, my brothers and sisters,**  
< **that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed**  
< **by my fault,**  
< **by my own fault,**  
< **by my own grievous fault;**  
< **wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me,**  
< **forgive me all my sins,**  
< **and bring me to everlasting life.**

> *The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness,*  
> *and remission of all your sins.*

< **Amen.**

> *I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven,*  
> *and to you, my brothers and sisters,*  
> *that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed*  
> *by my fault,*  
> *by my own fault,*  
> *by my own grievous fault;*  
> *wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me,*  
> *forgive me all my sins,*  
> *and bring me to everlasting life.*

< **The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness,**  
< **and remission of all your sins.**

> **Amen.**

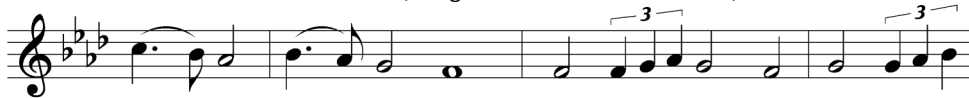
In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

# Song of Praise *hymn 630 stanzas 1-3,5-6*

*Thy Strong Word*



1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; at thy  
 2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, dark as  
 3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us right - eous; bright with  
 5 Give us lips to sing thy glo - ry, tongues thy  
 6 God the Fa - ther, light - cre - at - or, to thee



speaking it was done. For cre - at - ed light we  
 night and deep as death, broke the light of thy sal -  
 thine own ho - li - ness, glo - rious now, we press toward  
 mer - cy to pro - claim, throats to shout the hope that  
 laud and hon - or be. To thee, Light from Light be -



thank thee while thine or - dered sea - sons run.  
 va - tion, breathed thine own life - giv - ing breath.  
 glo - ry, and our lives our hopes con - fess.  
 fills us, mouths to speak thy ho - ly name.  
 got - ten, praise be sung e - ter - nal - ly.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! May the  
 Ho - ly Spir - it, light - re - veal - er, glo - ry,



thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,  
 thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,  
 thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,  
 light which thou dost send fill our songs with  
 glo - ry be to thee. Mor - tals, an - gels,



al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!  
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!  
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!  
 al - le - lu - ias, al - le - lu - ias with - out end!  
 now and ev - er praise the ho - ly Trin - i - ty!

## Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Lord God, forgive the wrongdoing of your people, and be gentle with us in our weakness. Deliver us from the bondage of our sin, and direct us to the path of righteousness; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen**

## First Reading *Jeremiah 31:31-34*

*The old covenant of law could tell people how to act. It could not create the desire to freely do so. The new covenant of grace transforms people's hearts, so they freely and joyfully follow God's will.*

<sup>31</sup>“The days are coming,” declares the Lord,  
“when I will make a new covenant  
with the people of Israel  
and with the people of Judah.

<sup>32</sup>It will not be like the covenant  
I made with their ancestors  
when I took them by the hand  
to lead them out of Egypt,  
because they broke my covenant,  
though I was a husband to them,”  
declares the Lord.

<sup>33</sup>“This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel  
after that time,” declares the Lord.

“I will put my law in their minds  
and write it on their hearts.  
I will be their God,  
and they will be my people.

<sup>34</sup>No longer will they teach their neighbor,  
or say to one another, ‘Know the Lord,’  
because they will all know me,  
from the least of them to the greatest,”  
declares the Lord.

“For I will forgive their wickedness  
and will remember their sins no more.”

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**



## Hymn 864

## A Mighty Fortress



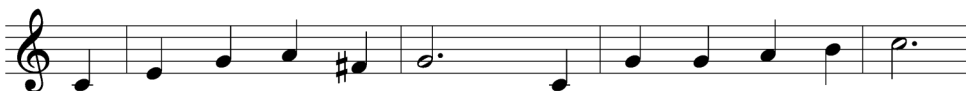
1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a trust - y  
 2 With might of ours can naught be done, soon were our  
 3 Though dev - ils all the world should fill, all ea - ger  
 4 The Word they still shall let re - main nor an - y



shield and weap - on; he helps us free from ev - 'ry  
 loss ef - fect - ed; but for us fights the val - iant  
 to de - vour us, we trem - ble not, we fear no  
 thanks have for it; he's by our side up - on the



need that has us now o'er - tak - en.  
 one whom God him - self e - lect - ed.  
 ill; they shall not o - ver - pow'r us.  
 plain with his good gifts and Spir - it.



The an - cient e - vil foe now means to work us woe;  
 You ask who this may be? Christ Je - sus, it is he,  
 The prince of dark - ness still may scowl fierce as he will,  
 And should they take our life, goods, hon - or, child, and wife,



deep guile and aw - ful might are his dread arms in  
 the Lord of hosts his name, from age to age the  
 his rag - ing harms us none. He's judged; the deed is  
 though all of these be gone, our vic - to - ry is



fight; on earth is not his e - qual.  
 same, he holds the field for - ev - er.  
 done; one lit - tle word can fell him.  
 won; the king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

## **Second Reading** *Galatians 5:1-6*

*St. Paul encourages us to stand firm in the freedom that we have in Christ*

<sup>1</sup>It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

<sup>2</sup>Mark my words! I, Paul, tell you that if you let yourselves be circumcised, Christ will be of no value to you at all. <sup>3</sup>Again I declare to every man who lets himself be circumcised that he is obligated to obey the whole law. <sup>4</sup>You who are trying to be justified by the law have been alienated from Christ; you have fallen away from grace. <sup>5</sup>For through the Spirit we eagerly await by faith the righteousness for which we hope. <sup>6</sup>For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any value. The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Acclamation** *John 8:31,32*

Alleluia.

If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples.

Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.

Alleluia.

## **Gospel Reading** *John 8:31-36*

*The truth of the gospel sets us free.*

<sup>31</sup>To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. <sup>32</sup>Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

<sup>33</sup>They answered him, “We are Abraham’s descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?”

<sup>34</sup>Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. <sup>35</sup>Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. <sup>36</sup>So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**



## Gospel Response *hymn 640*

## God's Word Is Our Great Heritage

God's Word is our great her - i - tage and shall be ours for -  
ev - er; to spread its light from age to age shall be our  
chief en - deav - or. Thro' life it guides our way, in death it  
is our stay. Lord, grant, while worlds en - dure, we keep its  
teach - ings pure through - out all gen - er - a - tions.

## Confession of Faith *Apostles' Creed*

*The Apostles' Creed is a brief statement of gospel truths taught by the apostles. This creed was created to teach and unite Christians in the truth of God's Word. The Apostles' Creed can be found on page 197 of the hymnal.*



**Hymn** 707 stanzas 1-4

Cling Tightly to the Word of God

*To the tune of Let's All Together Praise Our God*

- 1 **Cling tightly to the Word of God  
and Christ's disciple be,  
for then, beloved, you will know  
the truth that sets you free,  
the truth that sets you free.**
  
- 2 **Recall in faith the precious gift  
of your baptismal day,  
when you were joined to Jesus' death  
that washed your sins away,  
that washed your sins away.**
  
- 3 **For just as God raised up his Son  
from death by his great might,  
so too, in Christ, we now may live  
as children of the light,  
as children of the light.**
  
- 4 **Be strong! Stand firm! Come, walk the path  
that saints before you trod,  
with ready feet to bring good news  
of Christ, the peace of God,  
of Christ, the peace of God.**

**Sermon** *John 8:31-36*

## **Focus on Your True Freedom**

**Hymn** 707 stanza 6

Cling Tightly to the Word of God

*To the tune of Let's All Together Praise Our God*

- 6 **Now fix your eyes on Jesus Christ;  
"Come, follow me," says he.  
"Deny yourself, take up your cross;  
come, lose your life for me,  
come, lose your life for me."**

## **Prayer of the Church** *Reformation*

Gracious God, in mercy you sent your only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, into this world to redeem us from sin and rescue us from hell.

Through your Scriptures and by your Spirit, you have brought us to faith in your Son and have assured us that Christ has fully completed the work of our salvation. Lead us to rejoice in the message of forgiveness through faith alone in Christ Jesus. When guilt grieves our consciences and shame squelches our confidence, use your Word to encourage and comfort our souls with the good news of your unconditional love.

Almighty God, in the face of immense pressure to compromise their confession, you emboldened Martin Luther and the Lutheran reformers to take a firm stand on the truths of Scripture. Through their clear confession of faith, you restored the gospel to your church and have preserved this saving truth among us today. Send us your Holy Spirit that we exhibit the same zeal and faithfulness as the Lutheran confessors. Give us courage to confess our faith sincerely and boldly in the classroom, the workplace, the community, and to everyone we encounter who needs to hear the truth of your Word. Use our confession to bring faith in your Son to the hearts of those who do not yet believe in you.

Eternal God, you have promised to preserve and protect your church in every age. Even when it appeared that the enemies of the gospel had silenced your truth, you kept your people faithful to you and your Word. Bless all who face hardships for their faith with an added measure of your Holy Spirit so that they do not lose heart as they bear their crosses. Comfort the sick and suffering, the depressed and lonely, those who are persecuted and ridiculed for their faith, and all others who need the encouragement of your love. Fix our eyes on the cross of your Son, his empty tomb, and the sure promise of eternal life in heaven's glory.

Lord God, you know the concerns of our hearts and minds. Hear the public prayers we have spoken with our lips and the personal prayers we offer to you in our hearts, and answer them according to your gracious will. Increase our trust in your power and wisdom that we may rest secure in the plans and purposes you have for our lives; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

**Amen.**

**The Lord's Prayer** *the prayer our Savior taught us*

## Offering

*Our offering is our reaction to God's Word. Do not feel obligated to give here, we are just thankful you are here. Your offerings here support the ministry here at this church, along with the mission work of our larger synod.*

## Hymn 878

## Christ Alone the World's Redeemer



1 Christ a - lone the world's Re - deem - er, Christ, God's own be -  
2 Word a - lone, in - spired and ho - ly, Word re - veal - ing  
3 Grace a - lone, and not our work - ing, brings sal - va - tion  
4 Faith a - lone from God the Spir - it can God's gra - cious  
5 Un - to God be praise and glo - ry, to the Fa - ther,



got - ten Son, Christ, the sac - ri - fice for sin - ners,  
Christ our Lord, liv - ing, ac - tive voice of Je - sus,  
un - to all. Grace a - lone! Your gifts you give us  
gift re - ceive; not by hu - man works or ef - fort,  
and the Son, and to God the Ho - ly Spir - it;



by his death sal - va - tion won. Christ a - lone our me - di -  
sharp - er than a two - edged sword, Word to teach and to ad -  
as we hear your gen - tle call. Un - i - mag - ined love—ex -  
God is call - ing to be - lieve. Faith is liv - ing, bus - y,  
glo - ry to the Three in One. Hymned by saints of earth and



a - tor, Christ a - lone our great High Priest, in his right - eous -  
mon - ish, Word to com - fort and to heal— God's own Word en -  
chang - ing all our sin for right - eous - ness, grace on grace thro'  
ac - tive, ev - er seek - ing ways to care, in the least, the  
heav - en and by an - gels at his throne, all cre - a - tion



ness he clothes us. Christ a - lone is our true peace.  
dures for - ev - er all his coun - sel to re - veal.  
Christ re - ceiv - ing, clothed in his own ho - li - ness.  
lost, the need - y, seek - ing Je - sus ev - 'ry - where.  
joins to praise him: glo - ry be to God a - lone!

## Thanksgiving

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart, that being strengthened and comforted by your Holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**Amen**

Let us praise the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.  
**Amen.**

## Hymn 862

### Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word



1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in your Word; curb those who  
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, your pow'r make known, for you are  
3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, send peace and



by de - ceit or sword would seek to o - ver - throw your  
Lord of lords a - lone; de - fend your Chris - ten - dom that  
u - ni - ty on earth; sup - port us in our fi - nal



Son and to de - stroy what he has done.  
we may sing your praise e - ter - nal - ly.  
strife and lead us out of death to life.

# UPCOMING EVENTS AT ST. PAUL

**October 30** *Sunday*

Trunk or Treat Evangelism Effort @4pm

**November 2** *Wednesday*

Open Office @10am-12 noon

Catechism Class @ 5:30pm

**November 6** *Sunday*

Worship Service @9am

Sunday School @10:15am

Bible Study @10:15am

**November 8** *Tuesday*

Sisters in Christ starting @6pm

**November 9** *Wednesday*

Open Office @10am-12 noon

Catechism Class @ 5:30pm

**November 10** *Thursday*

Book Club @6:30pm

**November 12** *Saturday*

Men's Breakfast Bible Study @6am

**November 16** *Wednesday*

Open Office @10am-12 noon

Catechism Class @ 5:30pm

**Big Events**

**Trunk or Treat  
Evangelism Effort**  
*This Afternoon*

**Daylight Savings**  
*November 6th*

**Thanksgiving Eve  
Worship Service**  
*November 23rd*

## ~THE LORD WILING~

<p><b>Sunday, October 23rd</b> Attendance: 85 Offered: \$3,549.00 General Fund: \$2,899.00</p> <p><b>Mortgage Matching Total:</b> <b>\$11,239.52 given</b> <i>so far from our congregation before matching</i></p>	<p><i>Snacks this week</i></p> <p><i>Ushers this week</i> Nick B Coulter B Caleb G</p>	<p><i>Snacks next week</i> Dawn G Becky H</p> <p><i>Ushers next week</i> Tom G Fred L Kelly Z</p>	<p><i>Communion Help:</i> <b>November:</b></p> <p><i>Communion Clean Up</i> Dawn G 11/6 Becky H 11/6 Dawn G 11/20 Becky H 11/20</p>
<p><b>Shut In Visitors</b></p>	<p><b>October: Schleys</b></p>		<p><b>November: Angie Boughton</b></p>

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **Thanks for joining us this morning!**

Welcome, we are glad you joined us this morning! After the service, relax and enjoy some snacks. **Kids** can grab a snack and head downstairs for Sunday School! **Teens and adults**, we will gather back in the worship for a Bible Study.

## **Trunk or Treat** *this afternoon*

This afternoon we will be welcoming our neighbors to stop by and visit us during the city wide trick or treat hours. Stop by the parking lot between 4pm and 7pm today. It will be a great opportunity for us to connect with our community.

## **Book Club** *Connecting Sinai to Calvary*

The first book club will get together on Thursday, November 10th at 6:30pm. Join us as we talk about chapter one of the book. The book and discussion guide are available by the church mailboxes.

## **What a Blessing!!!**

We were told by the WELS Extension Fund (who we have our mortgage with) that an anonymous donor has graciously offered our church a matching opportunity. The anonymous donor will match your donations for paying off the mortgage from now until the end of the year, up to a total of \$20,000.

## **Planning Ahead:** *Advent Midweek Services are coming*

In a few weeks there will be several Wednesday evening services. These special services are completely different than the Sunday ones and are a great opportunity to grow deeper in the Word. On Wednesday, November 23rd at 6:30pm there will be a neat Thanksgiving Eve service. As we celebrate the things we are thankful for, make sure to praise and thank the God from whom all blessings flow. The Wednesdays after that will be our midweek Advent services.

## **Lutheran Leadership Conference:** *Registration is Open*

FYI: registration for the next Lutheran Leadership Conference is open. The event will be from January 16-18 in Chicago. Details are at [lutheranleadership.com](http://lutheranleadership.com) This time they have nearly 50 breakout sessions to choose from! Take a look! Remember, the early registration pricing ends tomorrow!

## **Tadych Marketplace Receipts:** *Fund Raiser for Sisters in Christ*

Have you shopped at the grocery store in town recently? If you turn in those receipts it helps Sisters in Christ raise funds. How simple is that! Just drop those receipts in the box by the mini-fridge (upstairs kitchenette).

## **Help Needed:** *take a look at the sign up sheets by Pastor's office*

There is a lot going on here so help us be organized and coordinate our efforts. Take a look at the sheets by Pastor's office. There are lots of service opportunities.

## **Choir Practice**

Join the crew this morning after Bible Study.

