



Reformation Sunday, 26 Oct. 2025
Worship at 9:30 a.m.

Gathering

The good news of God's grace that Luther proclaimed is still true for us: Jesus Christ sets us free every day to live and do the life-transforming work of the Gospel. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in witness to Christ Jesus' Gospel active and working in the world.

*Our worship order is contained in this booklet. The people's parts are indicated by **bold** type. The red hardback hymnal, *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, is our main worship resource for hymns and song. You can find hymns in the second half of the book, and are numbered at the top of each hymn. Occasionally, worship may veer from the printed bulletin – just follow the Spirit!*

A warm welcome whether you are joining us in-house or by social media. Our prayer is that worship today will be a blessing as we sing and pray and hear God's Word together. We welcome you to the Lord's Table this morning. Christ Church is a family of faith deeply rooted in our upper Bucks communities, supporting one another in faith, working together to serve God.

Please take this weekly resource home with you – use it to take notes, jot down reminders, prayer requests, remember dates. You can call (215.766.8730) or email (christpipersville@gmail.com) for prayer needs. In an emergency, please call the Parsonage at 267-362-8129.

WELCOME AND WORSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS *Worship and prayer announcements, followed by a time for prayer and centering our hearts on God.*

THE PRELUDE: time for prayer and preparation.

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

Let us pray.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our 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.**

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.**

GATHERING HYMN ELW #504, A MIGHTY FORTRESS (ON NEXT PAGE)



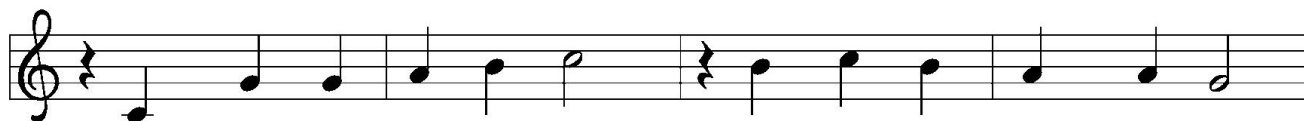
1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -
4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who



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
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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.**

GLORIA/GLORY TO GOD ELW #148

Assisting minister



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. *Silence. The Prayer of the Day is offered. We join in our hearts. The Prayer concludes: ... through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, Amen.*

Please be seated. Silence for reflection follows each reading.

Word

THE FIRST LESSON is from Jeremiah, the 31st chapter. (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. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

+ *Silence* +

PSALM 46 is read responsively by whole verse.

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

²**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**

³though its waters rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

⁴**There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

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

⁶**The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth melts away.**

⁷The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

⁸**Come now, regard the works of the LORD,
what desolations God has brought upon the earth;**

⁹behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

¹⁰**“Be still, then, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”**

¹¹The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold. **Amen.**

THE SECOND READING is from Romans, the 3rd chapter. (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. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ELW #174, CELTIC ALLELUIA



THE HOLY GOSPEL according to John, the 8th chapter. **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." The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ!** (John 8:31-36)

The Alleluia repeats. Please join Pastor in silent prayer as we prepare for:

TEACHING THE WORD / SERMON

Silence for Reflection...

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW #729, THE CHURCH OF CHRIST

1 The church of Christ, in ev - 'ry age be - set by
2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the vic - tims
3 Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a car - ing
4 For he a - lone, whose blood was shed, can cure the
5 We have no mis - sion but to serve in full o -

change, but Spir - it - led, must claim and test its
of in - jus - tice cry for shel - ter and for
church that longs to be a part - ner in Christ's
fe - ver in our blood, and teach us how to
be - dience to our Lord; to care for all, with -

her - i - tage and keep on ris - ing from the dead.
bread to eat, and nev - er live be - fore they die.
sac - ri - fice, and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.
share our bread and feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.
out re - serve, and spread his lib - er - at - ing word.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: WAREHAM, William Knapp, 1698–1768

Text © 1971 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Following the hymn, please stand at Pastor's invitation.

I ask you to confess your faith, in the words of 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.**

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us join our hearts in confidence and hope, praying to God our fortress and our hope.

A brief silence. We pray for the world, our community, and our church.

*Each petition concludes with: ...in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.** We are bidden to prayer for the needs of our hearts with the invitation: '...people of God, for what else shall we pray? The prayers conclude:*

*Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.***

MEAL

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERTORY / WE GATHER OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS / ANTHEM

We offer our love, obedience and lives in thanksgiving as a response to God's gifts and mercies. In-House the offering is collected. If you are worshipping remotely, tithes and offerings may be gathered and given by mail, given online at christpipersville.org or using the QR code. The Table is prepared.



OFFERTORY



OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. *Silence for reflection*

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. **Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, 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.**

We join in prayer and meditation as the Table is prepared.

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 right and a joyful thing to give you thanks O God, holy, almighty and merciful,

... *Pastor continues with the Eucharistic prayer. We join the prayer in our hearts. The prayer concludes:*

With the whole people of God, we give thanks
praying with trust and hope for the coming of the Kingdom
in the words our Savior taught us:

**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.**

AGNUS DEI



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e-ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

These are the gifts of God for the children of God. Come to the table of the Lord,
for all is ready. **We shall come with joy! Alleluia, Amen.**

THE COMMUNION

All who believe that Jesus Christ is truly present in the forms of bread and wine are invited to commune. You are welcome-this is the Lord's Table and He invites you! If you have taken an elements cup and prefer to commune where you are seated, please commune at any time after the invitation that you wish.

The musicians will be communed first, then those online. Then the congregation comes forward by the center aisle, the organ side first, and then the pulpit side. Receive the Host (bread) from Pastor, with the words, 'The body of Christ, given for you.' The assistant offers the chalice of wine for intinction, (dipping the bread into the wine) with the words: 'The blood of Christ, shed for you. The communicant may say: Amen. Please return to your pew by the side aisle. Anyone, child or adult, who does not wish to take communion is invited to come forward, hands folded, to receive a blessing, or remain seated and commune by prayer.

The communion song, #472 "Eat This Bread" is sung.

**Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.**

We sing the communion hymn until all have communed and Pastor has cleared the Table.

Please stand at Pastor's invitation.

TABLE BLESSING

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

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. *a brief silence* We give you thanks, almighty God

that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please be seated.

MISSION & MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Following the announcements, at pastor's invitation, please stand.

SENDING

THE BENEDICTION

Almighty God, Father, Son + and Holy Spirit bless you and keep you
now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN ELW #654, THE CHURCH'S ONE FOUNDATION



1 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,
4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war,
5 Yet she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One,



she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.
her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth:
by schisms . . rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;
and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.



From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,
Oh, bless - ed heav'n-ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace,



with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
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 to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839–1900
Music: AURELIA, Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–1876

DISMISSAL

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

THE POSTLUDE

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church
353 E. Dark Hollow Rd, Pipersville PA 18947

The Rev. Marie Caron, Pastor
Mr. Brian Maddux, Council President
Mrs. Cynthia Carper, Parish Secretary

215. 766. 8730
www.christpipersville.org + christpipersville@gmail.com

WORSHIP ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND CREDITS:

Every effort has been made to appropriately credit and acknowledge material within the service. We will immediately acknowledge any item inadvertently not credited, and apologize for any oversight. The ordo is the traditional liturgy of Holy Communion. The Gospel Verse, Celtic Alleluia: Text in the Public Domain, Music ©1985 Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker, admin. OCP Publications, Inc. 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used by permission One License #A-71138. Offertory song, Create in Me ©1978 & Agnus Dei, O Lamb of God Text: Martin A Selz © 1998, Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission, License SB125957. The hymn during communion, Refrain #493, James E Moore Jr Text & Tune © 1983 GIA Publications, Inc., agent. Used by permission One License #A-71138.

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIVE-STREAMED WORSHIP can be seen on Facebook Live and Zoom. Watch your email for links to the live-streamed service and the recorded service to be posted to our website (www.christpipersville.org).

TODAY'S BULLETINS are sponsored by Susan Bechtold in memory of Henry Bechtold.

WE WELCOME Louise Gerdemann as our organist this morning and thank her for her musical leadership.

LECTOR: Jean Graham

FELLOWSHIP HOSTS:

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS – The prayer list is printed in the newsletter and is posted on the bulletin board. Please contact the church office, 215-766-8730 or e-mail, with any prayer needs. Names will remain on the prayer list for one month unless a new request is made.

TODAY is Reformation Sunday when we remember Martin Luther nailing his 95 theses to the doors of the Castle Church in Wittenburg, Germany.

TODAY is also our 5th Sunday offering. In order to help prevent a budget deficit from occurring, members are encouraged to give an extra offering, if you are able.

ON ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY, November 2nd, we remember those who have died in the past year and joined the Church Triumphant. Please print the name of anyone who has died since last All Saints that you would like remembered in the prayers that day on the sheet next to the bulletin basket on the table as you enter the sanctuary.

THANKS TO ALL for your support of the fall book, bake and soup sale. A special thanks to all who provided soup, baked goods and volunteered. The Pipersville Library is also most appreciative of the use of our hall.

CONGREGATIONAL BUDGET MEETING is scheduled for Sunday, November 16th immediately following worship.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: A volunteer is needed each week to collect the trash and place it in the trash cart after worship. Instructions are posted on the bulletin board. Your assistance would be greatly appreciated. Volunteers are also needed to fill the candles, turn off fans/lights and change the hymn board...see Pastor Caron or Kim Campbell with any questions or to volunteer.

FELLOWSHIP PERIOD hosts are needed. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board.

LECTORS: Volunteers would be appreciated to read the lessons each Sunday. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board & copies of the lessons are available at least a week in advance.

A NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY with updated addresses and phone numbers (no photos) is to be published in a few months. Your help by verifying your address and phone number with the church office would be appreciated.

WE'RE LOOKING FOR Sunday School teachers for our all-in-one class held on the 1st and 2nd Sundays of the month and there's an opening next Sunday, November 2nd. You can sign up on the Sunday School bulletin board at the top of the stairs at the parking lot entrance doors for one or more Sundays and lessons can be picked up in advance. Please see Cindy Carper with any questions.

LIVING NATIVITY: The Palisades Area Lutheran Ministries will be performing a live Nativity on Saturday, December 6th, at 3 & 5 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, 2170 Rt 212, Coopersburg. Many volunteers are needed...actors, choir, costume prep, cookies, etc. See the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board to volunteer.

BULLETIN/WEB SITE SPONSORS: You may sponsor the Sunday bulletin or the church website in honor or memory of a loved one and we'll list your gift in the bulletin as well as social media and our website. The requested donation is \$20/week for the bulletin and \$25/month for the website. Sponsorship envelopes and a sign-up sheet are posted on the bulletin board for your convenience.

MEALS ON WHEELS: Drivers are needed for the Tinicum area on a regular basis as well as substitute drivers. Please call 215-345-6065 if you are able to deliver meals one or more times a month at lunch time.

GIANT GIFT CARDS can be purchased after worship (see Cindy Carper or Kim Szymanowski) or during the week from the church office. Gift cards are available in \$5, \$10, \$25, \$50 & \$100 denominations. Checks should be made payable to Christ Lutheran Church. (*Gift cards may not be used to purchase other gift cards.*) Giant gives 5% back to the church for every card purchased. We raised \$2,800 in 2024 and \$2,000 to date in 2025.

The Week of October 26th at a Glance

Sun. 10/26 Reformation Sunday (wear red)
9:30AM In-Person and Live-Streamed Worship
10:30AM Fellowship Period
Wed. 10/29 11AM Ensemble
Thur. 10/30 8:30AM Morning Prayer, 9:00AM Bible Study
Happy Anniversary, Craig and Gerry Trauger!
Fri. 10/31 Office Closed, Pastor's Day Off
Sun. 11/02 All Saints Sunday
9:30AM In-Person and Live-Streamed Worship, Sunday School
10:30AM Fellowship Period