

Reformation Sunday



Before Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, you name it, and even the Sunday bulletin- before them all- there was a note left on the church door which got read on the way into the building. It was the method, quite old-school, to get information out to people so that they could read all of the important stuff.

Martin Luther chose to nail his 95 Theses on the Wittenberg Church door that morning, so that the intelligentsia of the Roman Church could finally hear and see his debate points that he so desperately wanted them to hear. It might be safe to say that Luther wanted to “wake them up”, get them to come to their senses so that they could see their practices as out of line and get back to the secrets of life contained so clearly in the Scriptures. It was not to be.

People depended upon the clergy to tell them what was in the Bible, since there were so few copies. Recall each one needed to be hand copied, so it was always easier to have someone tell you what was in the Good Book. Yet it appeared that not all the “telling” was on the up and up. Only that which allowed the church to continue to engage in wrongful practices was ever allowed to surface.

Luther would not sit back and take it. He called the church out to reform. These 95 points were like an attempt to start the discussion, which would then get them to come to a corrective agreement. I wonder if Luther ever was truly surprised at the arrogance of the church which held fast to their political and doctrinal position, despite the fact it was clearly contrary to Scripture.

History marks this as the beginning of the Reformation. The world would be a different place as a result of the work of Martin Luther and those who followed his reform.

Pastor Jonathon Kosec

OUR WORSHIP TODAY

GATHERING AND MEDITATION TIME

Welcome Books, Prayer Requests, and Announcements

CONFESSSIONAL PRAYER

Pastor: Almighty God, we come before your presence this day mindful of our promises to be your people and the many times we have fallen short. We really mean to follow but are so easily distracted by just about anything. The end result of that is the fact we don't do the things we have promised we would do, and we don't even think of the things we should be doing. It is as if our feet are stuck in the mud and we simply can never get a way clear to get out of the mess we are in. For that, dear Lord, we make our confession to you this day.

ALL: Most merciful God, we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by the things 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

ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Our Lord hears our prayers this day, and has offered to give us the grace of forgiveness. As a result of the love of God, the work of Jesus, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Go and sin no more, that the rest of your life might be pure and holy and modeled after our Lord Jesus in all we say and all we do, we pray and celebrate this morning in His Holy Name, **Amen.**

HYMN 446 O Jesus, I Have Promised 1, 4

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY (Unison): **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.**

Alleluia. If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free. Alleluia.

FIRST LESSON: Jeremiah 31:27-34

New Living Translation (NLT)

“The day is coming,” says the Lord, “when I will greatly increase the human population and the number of animals here in Israel and Judah. In the past I deliberately uprooted and tore down this nation. I overthrew it, destroyed it, and brought disaster upon it. But in the future I will just as deliberately plant it and build it up. I, the Lord, have spoken!”

“The people will no longer quote this proverb: ‘The parents have eaten sour grapes, but their children’s mouths pucker at the taste.’ All people will die for their own sins—those who eat the sour grapes will be the ones whose mouths will pucker.

“The day is coming,” says the Lord, “when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and Judah. This covenant will not be like the one I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand and brought them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant, though I loved them as a husband loves his wife,” says the Lord.

“But this is the new covenant I will make with the people of Israel after those days,” says the Lord. “I will put my instructions deep within them, and I will write them on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. And they will not need to teach their neighbors, nor will they need to teach their relatives, saying, ‘You should know the Lord.’ For everyone, from the least to the greatest, will know me already,” says the Lord. “And I will forgive their wickedness, and I will never again remember their sins.”

THE SECOND LESSON: Romans 3:19-28

New Living Translation (NLT)

Obviously, the law applies to those to whom it was given, for its purpose is to keep people from having excuses, and to show that the entire world is guilty before God. For no one can ever be made right with God by doing what the law commands. The law simply shows us how sinful we are.

But now God has shown us a way to be made right with him without keeping the requirements of the law, as was promised in the writings of Moses[a] and the prophets long ago. We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. And this is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are.

For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God’s glorious standard. Yet God, in his grace, freely makes us right in his sight. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins. For God presented Jesus as the sacrifice for sin. People are made right with God when they believe that Jesus sacrificed his life, shedding his blood. This sacrifice shows that God was being fair when he held back and did not punish those who sinned in times past, for he was looking ahead and including them in what he would do in this present time. God did this to demonstrate his righteousness, for he himself is fair and just, and he makes sinners right in his sight when they believe in Jesus.

Can we boast, then, that we have done anything to be accepted by God? No, because our acquittal is not based on obeying the law. It is based on faith. So we are made right with God through faith and not by obeying the law.

Hymn 316 The Church's One Foundation 1,3,5

THE HOLY GOSPEL: John 8:31-36

New Living Translation (NLT)

Jesus said to the people who believed in him, "You are truly my disciples if you remain faithful to my teachings. And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

"But we are descendants of Abraham," they said. "We have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean, 'You will be set free'?"

Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave of sin. A slave is not a permanent member of the family, but a son is part of the family forever. So if the Son sets you free, you are truly free.

The Gospel of our Lord.

PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST.

SERMON "It All Comes Down to Jesus"

Pastor Jonathon Kosec

SERMON HYMN: 22 A Mighty Fortress 1,2,4

OUR CONFESSION OF FAITH: The Apostles Creed (C)

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 Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE OFFERING:

After the consecration of the Offering, we will sing the Doxology:

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, Praise him, all creatures here below, Praise him above, Ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

-PRAYERS OF PRAISE, WORDS OF INSTITUTION, LORD'S PRAYER

THE DISTRIBUTION

All are invited to come together around this table as those who belong to the household of Christ, brothers and sisters who in our baptized lives live out the death and resurrection of Jesus. The family of the reborn and the reconciled, who inhabit a universe of grace, are invited to share. It is our Lord's Table, you are welcomed here! Gluten free wafers are available, and non-alcoholic white grape juice is served on the inner rings of the communion tray.

THE DISTRIBUTION

THE COMMUNION BLESSING

HYMN 588 Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise 1,4

THE BENEDICTION & THE DISMISSAL

P. Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C. **Thanks be to God**

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WELCOME TO OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN! Thank you for joining us as we worship our Risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! We are happy you are here! As a kindness to one another, ***please place your cell phones on muted*** for the time we are together in worship. If you are a visitor, let us know you are here!

IN OUR PRAYERS: It is our joy and our privilege to share in these petitions to Almighty God. If you have them ready before the service, hand them to Pastor when you have them completed, otherwise Pastor will specifically ask for the requests, as well as any updates on prior prayer requests.

THANK YOU: I appreciated everyone's willingness to give some time last week to "experiment" with the order of some of our items in the worship service itself. I heard mixed reviews about the prayer request move, more positive than negative, so we will again ask for prayer requests at the beginning of the service. The offering will return to its usual place, as it appears to be the best place for it within our worship service. Again, I appreciate the congregation's willingness to take the moment to experiment to see if one way is superior to another. It can only happen if we try. We appreciate your participation and your presence! Pastor Jon

OFFICIAL NOTICE: MEETINGS OF THE CONGREGATION: The first meeting will be held on Sunday, November 13, 2016 For the purpose of nominating people to serve on the Church Council. Nominations will be accepted for the following Council positions; Vice-President, Outreach/Evangelism and Member-at-Large. The length of each term is three years. If you are interested in learning more regarding any of the positions please speak with a member of the Nominating Committee. The Members of the Nominating Committee are Jeanne Keyser, Jeff Cisco or any member of the council.

The second meeting will be held on Sunday, November 20, 2016 for the sole purpose of electing the three officers. Each of these meetings will immediately follow the Worship Service and all are encouraged to attend. Time will be kept to a minimum.

The third meeting will be the Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, January 22, 2017. This meeting will also follow the Worship Service.

Our Savior Lutheran Church, LCMC

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Website: <http://www.oslc-lcmc.com>

Worship Time: Sunday 10 A.M.

Bible Study Twice Monthly, Wednesdays at 10:00 AM

Rev. Jonathon Kosec, Lead Pastor

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