

Sermon & Bible Study Series – Fall 2017

On October 31, 2017, the Church celebrates the 500th anniversary of the Reformation—when Martin Luther and others called the Church back to the Word of God, to the Gospel, to salvation by grace alone through faith alone by Christ alone.



Proper Distinction of Law & Gospel

Learning the Bible is not just, “God told us to do this,” or “God shows us our sin,” but rather, “God told us to live this way, we’ve failed, but He fully forgives us through Jesus Christ.” That last part—the bold part—that’s Gospel. One of the great legacies of the Lutheran Reformation is this way of reading Scripture in order to maintain the Proper Distinction between Law and Gospel. The Law reveals God’s Goodness and Holiness, while condemning our sinfulness. The Gospel is Good News which reveals God’s plan of salvation which comes to us as a free gift.

18th Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, October 8, 2017

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

5110 Grand Avenue, Gurnee, Illinois 60031 – (847) 244-9647

Pastor Ben Squires

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WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sundays 8:00 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.

Holy Communion: 1st, 3rd, 5th Sunday of the month

Becky Lanzito & Karen Leicht - Organists, Ann Souza - Music Director,
Mandi Stilson – Choir/New Music Accompanist

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

We are pleased you chose to be with us in worship today, and pray the Lord blesses you as he has blessed us with your presence. Our goal is to help people find the right place for them to hear God's word and serve His mission. We'd love to support you in that spiritual journey. Please take a moment to complete an attendance card and place it in the Offering plate or give to an usher. This card will help us connect with you.

NURSERY

We have two rooms available for your use. When the service is in the sanctuary, the nursery is down the hall just past the restrooms. If the service is held in the gym, the nursery is in the youth room at the far end of the gym.

SERVING TODAY

Sunday 8:00 a.m.

Sunday 10:45 a.m.

<i>Elder:</i>	Mike Bandman	Randy Gifford
<i>Comm/Asst. Elder:</i>	OPEN	Jack Warneke
<i>Acolytes:</i>	Katie Creamer	Hillary Fleming
<i>Ushers:</i>	Al Diercks, Morrie Cook	John Schultz, Tyler Flowers
<i>Lay Readers:</i>	Karen Kozlik, Thor Peplow	David Ziegler, Shari Hoppe
<i>Greeters:</i>	Novacek Family, Laura & Nicole Sabaj	Diane Rogala, Paul & Karen Krueger
<i>Fellowship:</i>	Bethel Senior Youth	
<i>Oct. Altar Guild:</i>	Diane Rogala	Diane Sanders
<i>Oct. Counters:</i>	Margie Tatgenhorst	Sue Best

ALTAR FLOWERS ARE PROVIDED BY:

Chad and Becky Anderson in celebration of their 14th wedding anniversary and
Chris Mason and Sue Walker in celebration of their mother Christine Roberts' 95th birthday.

Acknowledgements

This service is based on Morning Prayer & Matins in *Lutheran Service Book*.

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500TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REFORMATION

This service is compiled from Scripture and the Book of Concord in celebration of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation—October 31, 1517.

“Concordia comes from two Latin words meaning ‘with’ and ‘heart.’ It describes a commitment to the truth so strong and so deep, it is as if those who share it have a single heart beat. The Book of Concord contains documents which Christians from the fourth to the 16th century A.D.

explained what they believed and taught on the basis of the Holy Scriptures. It includes, first, the three creeds which originated in the ancient church, the Apostles’ Creed, the Nicene Creed, and the Athanasian Creed. It contains, secondly, the Reformation writings known as the Augsburg Confession, the Apology of the Augsburg Confession, the Smalcald Articles, the Treatise on the Power and Primacy of the Pope, Luther’s Small and Large Catechisms, and the Formula of Concord.”¹



Opening Anthem 8:00 AM “Rise and Shine & The B-I-B-L-E” Cherub Choir
10:45 AM “The Lord Is Present in This Sanctuary” Junior Choir

Preface

P: In these Last Times and in this old age of the world,
what a remarkable favor of Almighty God has arisen,

C: According to His unspeakable love, patience, and mercy,

P: He willed that the light of His Gospel and Word—
through which alone we receive true salvation—

C: This Gospel should arise and shine clearly and purely.

P: Therefore, a brief and concise Confession of faith—

C: a declaration of what we believe—

P: was prepared from God’s Word—

C: the most holy writings of the prophets and apostles.²

P: The first and chief article of faith is this:

C: Jesus Christ, our God and Lord,

**“was put to death for our trespasses
and raised again for our justification.”**

**He alone is “the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.”
Alleluia. Amen.**

P: On this article of faith rests all that we teach and practice.³

¹ Introduction/Overview, *Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions—A Reader’s Edition*, pp. 9,13.

² Preface to the Christian Book of Concord, ¶ 2.

³ Smalcald Articles, Part II, I, ¶ 1-2,5.

Opening Hymn

To Your Temple, Lord, I Come

LSB 981 sts. 1-5



1	To	Your	tem - ple,	Lord,	I	come,	For	it
2	I	through	Him	am	rec - on - ciled,	I	through	
3	While	Your	glo - rious	praise	is	sung,	Touch	my
4	While	the	prayers	of	saints	as - cend,	God	of
5	While	I	lis - ten	to	Your	Law,	Fill	my



is	my	wor - ship	home.	This	earth	has	no
Him	be - come	Your	child.	Ab - ba,	Fa - ther,		
lips,	un - loose	my	tongue	That	my	joy - ful	
love,	to	mine	at - tend.	Hear	me,	for	Your
soul	with	hum - ble	awe	Till	Your	Gos - pel	



bet - ter	place,	Here	I	see	my	Sav - ior's	face.
give	me	grace	In	Your	courts	Your	love
soul	may	bless	Christ	the	Lord,	my	rich - teous - ness.
Spir - it	pleads;	Hear,	for	Je - sus	in - ter - cedes.		
bring	to	me	Life	and	im - mor - tal - i - ty.		

Invocation and Declaration of the Trinity

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: Our churches teach in accordance with the historic Creeds:

C: **That there is one God—**

P: One undivided divine essence,

C: **And that this one God is Trinity—**

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—

P: Three distinct and coeternal persons of the same divine essence.

C: **And we believe that the Holy Scriptures truly testify to this. Amen.**⁴

⁴ Apology of the Augsburg Confession, Part I, ¶ 1-2.

Confession (Admission) of Sin

P: We believe, teach, and confess that the distinction between law and Gospel is to be kept in the Church with great diligence as a particularly brilliant light, so that the Word of God may be divided rightly. The law is a divine doctrine which teaches what is right and God-pleasing

C: *and which condemns everything that is sinful and contrary to God's will.*⁵

P: Since the fall of Adam all people are conceived and born in sin.

C: *No one by nature is able to have true fear of God and true faith in God.*

P: This inborn sickness and hereditary sin condemns and brings the eternal wrath of God on all those who are not born again through Baptism and the Holy Spirit.⁶

C: *This is the essence of a genuinely Christian life, to acknowledge that we are sinners and to pray for grace. Amen.*⁷

P: The crowd at Pentecost—confronted with their sin—they asked the Apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?” Having heard the condemnation of our sin in the Law of God, we find ourselves asking the same question. For this, we turn to the Gospel which teaches what we are to believe:

C: *Christ has satisfied and paid for all guilt, without any merit of our own, and has won the forgiveness of sins and eternal life for us.*

P: This Gospel is a comforting and joyful message which comforts our consciences terrified by the law, points us only to the merit of Christ, and raises us up again by the delightful proclamation of God's grace and favor.⁸ According to this Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, and in His stead, I forgive you your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: *Amen.*

⁵ Formula of Concord, Epitome, V, ¶ 1-2.

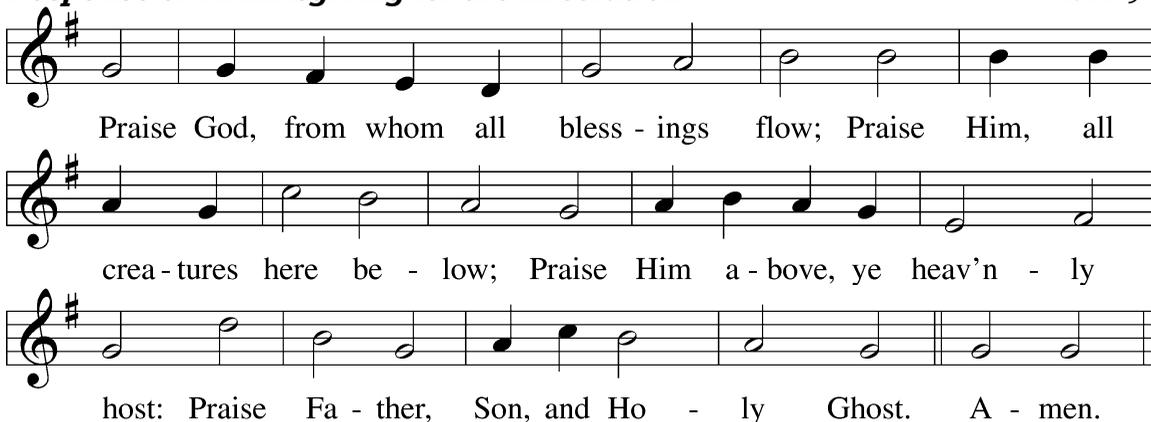
⁶ Augsburg Confession, II, ¶ 1-2.

⁷ Large Catechism, Part V, Exhortation, ¶ 9.

⁸ Formula of Concord, Epitome, V, ¶ 4,6.

Response of Thanksgiving for the Absolution

LSB 805



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Him, all
crea - tures here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly
host: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

Greeting and Collect (Prayer of the Day)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: *And also with you.*

P: Let us pray. God and Father of my Lord Jesus Christ, give to us the spirit of wisdom and understanding, of patience and compassion, that our congregation may rightly teach and share Your words of judgment and mercy. May we fulfill this mission so that by the power of Your Gospel we and others may repent of sin, trust in Your pardon, and be reconciled to live in the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: *Amen.*

Children's Message



Our Confession of Faith Regarding the Scriptures

P: We believe, teach, and confess that the only measure to which all doctrines and teachers are to be evaluated and judged are:

C: *the prophetic and apostolic writings of the Old and New Testaments,*

P: As it is written in Psalm 119,

C: *“Thy word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.”*

P: We believe, teach, and confess that this faith is not a mere knowledge of the stories about Christ,

C: *but it is God’s gift.*

P: By this gift we rightly recognize Christ as

C: *our Redeemer in the Word of the Gospel.*

P: We trust that only by His obedience, and by grace,

C: *we have forgiveness of sins,*

P: are regarded as holy and righteous by God the Father,

C: *and shall be saved eternally.*⁹

P: Hear now the Word of the Lord.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 5:1–7 (ESV)

¹Let me sing for my beloved, my love song concerning his vineyard:

My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill.

²He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it;
and he looked for it to yield grapes,
but it yielded wild grapes.

³And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah,
judge between me and my vineyard.

⁴What more was there to do for my vineyard, that I have not done in it?
When I looked for it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes?

⁵And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard.

I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured;
I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down.

⁶I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and briars and thorns shall grow up;

I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.

⁹ Formula of Concord, Epitome, 0, ¶ 1; III, ¶ 6.

⁷For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel,
and the men of Judah are his pleasant planting;
and he looked for justice,
but behold, bloodshed;
for righteousness,
but behold, an outcry!

L: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.

Epistle (New Testament Letter)

Philippians 3:4b–14 (ESV)

^{4b}If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more:
⁵circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness, under the law blameless. ⁷But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— ¹⁰that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

L: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.



Song of Praise

Glory to Our Great Redeemer



1. Glo - ry to our great Re -
(2. Glo - ry) to our great Re -



-deem -er, spot-less Lamb for sin-ners slain; my par-don pur-chased, my _ ran-som paid. Glo-ry,
-deem -er, died my death that I might live; such cost-ly grace He so _ free -ly gives. Glo-ry,

1. Refrain



glo - ry to His name. 2. Glo - ry name. Glo - ry to our per - fect
glo - ry to His



Sac - ri-fice, a Lamb whose blood cov - ered my _ shame. The wrath of God poured out and

Repeat refrain



sat - is-fied. Glo - ry, glo - ry to His name.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 21:33–46 (ESV)

³³[Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders:] “Hear another parable. There was a master of a house who planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a winepress in it and built a tower and leased it to tenants, and went into another country.

³⁴“When the season for fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. ³⁵And the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another.

³⁶Again he sent other servants, more than the first. And they did the same to them. ³⁷Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ ³⁸But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.’

³⁹And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. ⁴⁰When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?”

⁴¹They said to [Jesus], “He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons.”

⁴²Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures:

“The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord’s doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes’?”

⁴³“Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits. ⁴⁴And the one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him.”

⁴⁵When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they perceived that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶And although they were seeking to arrest him, they feared the crowds, because they held him to be a prophet.

P: O Lord, have mercy on us. C: *Thanks be to God.*

Confession of Faith

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.—And in Jesus Christ, His 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. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.

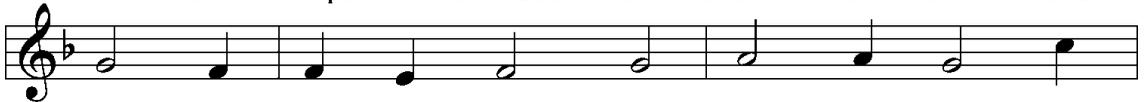
Hymn of the Day

The Gospel Shows the Father's Grace

LSB 580



1 The Gos - pel shows the Fa - ther's grace, Who sent His
 2 It sets the Lamb be - fore our eyes, Who made the a -
 3 It brings the Sav - ior's righ - teous - ness, To robe our
 4 It is the pow'r of God to save From sin and



Son to save our race, Pro - claims how Je - sus
 ton - ing sac - ri - fice, And calls the souls with
 souls in roy - al dress; From all our guilt it
 Sa - tan and the grave; It works the faith which



lived and died That we might thus be jus - ti - fied.
 guilt op - pressed To come and find e - ter - nal rest.
 brings re - lease And gives the trou - bled con - science peace.
 firm - ly clings To all the trea - sures which it brings.

- 5 It bears to all the tidings glad
 And bids their hearts no more be sad;
 The weary, burdened souls it cheers
 And banishes their guilty fears.
- 6 May we in faith its message learn
 Nor thanklessly its blessings spurn;
 May we in faith its truth confess
 And praise the Lord, our righteousness.

Sermon

“Proper Distinction of Law & Gospel”

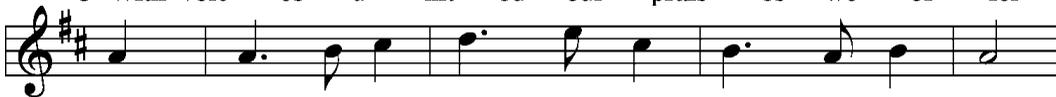
Offering & Prayer Requests

In addition to the prayer requests already received, Pastor will pause here to see if there are additional requests. Prayers can be thanksgivings, joy, requests for yourself, or requests for others.

Offertory (we join in singing as the offerings are brought forward to the altar) LSB 785, sts. 1&3



1 We praise You, O God, our Re - deem - er, Cre - a - tor;
3 With voic - es u - nit - ed our prais - es we of - fer



In grate - ful de - vo - tion our trib - ute we bring.
And glad - ly our songs of thanks - giv - ing we raise.



We lay it be - fore You, we kneel and a - dore You;
With You, Lord, be - side us, Your strong arm will guide us.



We bless Your ho - ly name, glad prais - es we sing.
To You, our great Re - deem - er, for - ev - er be praise!

Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

All: 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.

Benedicamus Domino (“Let us bless, the Lord”) & Benediction (Blessing)

P: Let us bless the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

P: It is also taught among us that faith in Jesus Christ should produce good fruits and good works and that we must do all such good works as God has commanded,

C: but we should do them for God's sake and honor, to the praise of His Holy Name.¹⁰

¹⁰ Apology of the Augsburg Confession, Part I, VI ¶ 1.

P: The Lord grant you His Fatherly mercy through Jesus Christ
 giving you forgiveness of sin and all things pertaining to life and godliness, sending
 you His Holy Spirit so that He may rule your hearts
 and you may serve Him in holiness and thanksgiving. **C: Amen.**

Closing Hymn

By Grace I'm Saved

LSB 566



1 By grace I'm saved, grace free and bound-less; My soul, be-lieve and
 2 By grace! None dare lay claim to mer - it; Our works and con - duct
 3 By grace God's Son, our on - ly Sav - ior, Came down to earth to
 4 By grace! This ground of faith is cer - tain; As long as God is



doubt it not. Why stag - ger at this word of prom - ise?
 have no worth. God in His love sent our Re - deem - er,
 bear our sin. Was it be - cause of your own mer - it
 true, it stands. What saints have penned by in - spi - ra - tion,



Has Scrip-ture ev - er false-hood taught? No! Then this word must
 Christ Je - sus, to this sin - ful earth; His death did for our
 That Je - sus died your soul to win? No, it was grace, and
 What in His Word our God com - mands, Our faith in what our



true re - main: By grace you too will life ob - tain.
 sins a - tone, And we are saved by grace a - lone.
 grace a - lone, That brought Him from His heav'n - ly throne.
 God has done De - pends on grace— grace through His Son.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>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?</p> | <p>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.</p> |
|--|--|

Announcements