Praising Our GOD
Loving GOD's People

First Evangelical Lutheran Church



Reformation Sunday

October 25, 2026

Welcome! Today we celebrate Reformation Sunday; a time to recall with gratitude the saints who over the centuries have helped reform and renew the Christian church. With joy in our hearts, we welcome all who have come to celebrate our victory through the grace of Christ, our Lord. Following the service, you're invited to share a snack, a cup of coffee, and conversation with us in our fellowship hall.

Worship Notes:

- **Bold printed words** indicate the congregation's responses.
- For families with young children, you're invited to take advantage of our worship activity bags for children located in the lobby. A nursery for children 4 and younger is located in Room #7 of the education wing down the hall past the main bathrooms.
- For those with hearing loss, we have hearing devices available at the Welcome Window; ask an usher for assistance.
- For those with eyesight issues, we have large print bulletins; ask an usher for one.
- If you have a moment, please sign the friendship pad in the pew and pass it to others in your pew.

We Prepare Ourselves For Worship

Please observe silence in preparation for worship.

Prelude — Michelle Hanson

"If Thou Art Near"

Bach, arr. L.N. Porter; CCLI Song #1796659; © 1995 Lorenz Publishing; For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License #699128

Announcements

We Lift Our Prayers and Praise to GOD

Invocation

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

Gathering Song — #660

"Lift High the Cross"

Let us give thanks for the lives and legacy of our spiritual forebears, the Protestant reformers:
They lived and died long ago, but are alive with God and in the communion of saints.
We thank you, O God, for the forerunners: for Peter Waldo, John Wycliffe, and Jan Hus:
They fought lonely battles and died lonely deaths, but their sacrifices were not in vain.
We praise you for your servant, Martin Luther:
For his experience of your grace, his love of music and family, his translation of the Scriptures, and his bold witness to the gospel.
We are grateful, O God, for your servant, John Calvin:
For his keen intellect, his pastoral faithfulness, and his concern for the ordering of church and society according to your will.
We bless you for your servant, John Knox:
For his sturdy courage, his tireless striving, and his steadfast commitment to the authority of your Word.
We thank you also for your servants, John and Charles Wesley:
For their call to heartfelt faith, their passion for holy living, their care for the poor, and their gift of song that still leads your people in praise.
We reaffirm the reformers' commitment to the supremacy of the Scriptures:
Make us more diligent and more faithful as students of your Word.
We reaffirm their commitment to one, and only one, Mediator between you and us:
Deepen, O God, our life of prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord.
We reaffirm the reformers' commitment to justification by faith:
Help us to show our gratitude for your grace by lives of loving service.
We reaffirm their commitment to liberty of conscience:
May we be responsible stewards of our civil and religious freedoms.
O God, make us and keep us positive Protestants,
Not merely protesting against error, but bearing joyful witness to the Good News of your love.
We pray, Holy One, that ancient grudges that have kept your children apart may be buried and forgotten,

And that in this new day we may work alongside all Christians in the ongoing reformation and renewal of your Church.
This, O God, is our deepest plea:
That the reforming of your Son's Church may continue, beginning with us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray…
Gracious Father, we pray for your holy catholic church. Fill it with all truth and peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in anything it is amiss, reform it; where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in need, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC — GRACE NOTE CHOIR

"On Faith Alone"

Johnson, Denson, Pierre, Pierre; CCLI Song #4986108; ©2006 Radioquest Music Publishing, Al Denson Music, Toupas Publishing. For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

FIRST LESSON (Pew Bible p. 642) — Jeremiah 31:31-34

Our first scripture reading is from the Old Testament, the book of the prophet Jeremiah, chapter thirty-one, beginning with verse thirty-one.

> 31 The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a
> new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. 32 It
> 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. 33 But 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. 34 No 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.

This is God's word.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM (Pew Bible p. 450) Psalm 46

Our Psalm for today is Psalm forty-six. I invite the congregation to read it aloud with me.

[1] God 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;
[3] though 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.
[5] God 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.
[7] The 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;
[9] behold 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."
[11] The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

This is God's word.
Thanks be to God.

SECOND LESSON (Pew Bible p. 915) Romans 3:19-28

Our second lesson comes from the New Testament, the book of Romans, chapter three, beginning with verse nineteen.

[19]Now 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. [20]For "no human being will be justified in his sight" by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

[21]But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, [22]the right-

eousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, [23]since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; [24]they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, [25]whom 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; [26]it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

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

This is the word of God.
Thanks be to God.
Please stand, as you are able, for the reading of the Gospel.

THE HOLY GOSPEL (Pew Bible p. 871) John 8:31-36
The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, chapter eight, beginning with verse thirty-one.
Glory to you, O Lord.

[31]Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; [32]and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." [33]They 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'?"

[34]Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. [35]The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. [36]So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

The Gospel of our Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SONG OF THE DAY #591
"That Priceless Grace"

THE SERMON PASTOR MIKE KNAUFF

"Fix Your Theology and Live"

We Respond to God's Word

Affirmation of Faith — Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He 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,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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.

Prayers of the People
*(Each petition will conclude with "Lord in your mercy;" the congregation responds with **"Hear our prayer."**)*

Offering (*See back of bulletin for* **QR** *giving code)*

Offertory Music — For His Glory Ringers

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

Luther, Cruger, arr. Valerie Stephenson; CCLI Song #6288512 © 2012 Agape. For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com

Offertory Prayer
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray, Gracious God…
We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – ourselves, our time, our talents, and our treasure. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

We Celebrate Our Lord's Supper

Words of Institution

On the night of His betrayal, our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks; broke it and gave it to His disciples saying: Take and eat; this is my body given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

After supper, He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Lord's Prayer

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.

Distribution

We believe those who receive the consecrated bread and wine receive Christ's body and blood and the forgiveness of sins. We invite all who are baptized and believe in Christ to join us in communing. Children not receiving communion may come forward for a blessing. Holy Communion will be served at the altar rail this morning. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers. You may choose white grape juice or red wine. The serving station at the center of the altar rail is our hypoallergenic station with gluten-free wafers. Please return to your seats by a side aisle.

Songs During Distribution of Communion

[Next Page] *"By Grace We Have Been Saved"*
#848 *"Give to Our God Immortal Praise!"*
#542 *"O Living Bread from Heaven"*

Post-Communion Blessing

Now may this body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

By Grace We Have Been Saved



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The Benediction

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.
Amen.

Closing Song #504

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

OUR WORSHIP OF GOD IS ENDED
LET OUR SERVICE TO GOD BEGIN!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PENNY POWER:

During October, we will begin preparing boxes for Samaritan's Purse through Operation Christmas Child to distribute around the world. You may pick up boxes, directions, information and labels this month in the church narthex. These Christmas boxes contain presents for young children, so please take the time to fill the box and return it to the church by November 22nd. These boxes through Operation Christmas Child bring the message of Jesus' love to children all around the world.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD:

Supplies are being gathered this month to prepare for The Happy Stitchers packing party on Friday, November 6th at 1:00 pm for Operation Christmas Child. The supplies needed are hygiene items, though there are multiple categories for giving. For details, please contact Irena or Amelia McDaniel, and more information can be found on samaritanspurse.org

TRUNK OR TREAT CARNIVAL / CHILI COOKOFF:

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31ST 12:30 - 4:00PM This year's Trunk or Treat will be preceded with a Chili Cook-off! Bring a pot of your best chili and see if your recipe has what it takes to be the FELC Chili Cook-off Champion. Or just bring a side dish and cheer on your favorite chef. The community trunk or treat will follow with this year's carnival theme. Sign up to decorate your trunk. Invite your friends and neighbors for a fun family, all ages event.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:

The annual congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, November 8th following worship. We will be voting on new officers, council members, and the 2027 budget. Please join us; food will be provided and there will be child care available.

Voting members are those confirmed members who have both:

- Communed in this congregation a minimum of 9 times during the12 months prior to the congregational meeting (as recorded on the friendship pads), and
- Made a contribution of record to this congregation during the 12 months prior to the congregational meeting. Members under the age of 18 may use their parents' contribution to fulfill this requirement.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME REMINDER:

Just a quick reminder that daylight savings time ends on Sunday, November 1st.

THE VINE & PAGES CHRISTIAN BOOK CLUB

***Beginning November 10th*:** Looking for a wonderful opportunity to connect with other women, grow in faith, and enjoy good books? Join The Vine & Pages Christian Book Club, a new Women's Ministry gathering open to all adult women. We'll meet on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00 PM at the home of Heather Catanese. Each month, we'll select a book written by a Christian author, giving everyone a month to read before we gather for discussion, fellowship, and a glass of wine. Bring a light snack to share and come ready to exchange ideas, encouragement, and recommendations for future books. For location information or to RSVP, please contact Heather by call or text at (208) 521-2565 or email mrs.catanese@gmail.com.
If interest is strong, we may start a second group that meets another evening to accommodate more participants.

ALL SAINT'S DAY:

All Saint's Day is Sunday, November 1st. During the worship service portion of the "Prayers of the People" we will be lifting up in prayer the names of faithful loved ones that were called to the saints in light this past year (November 2025 - October 2026). If you have a loved one who passed away this year that you'd like included in our remembrance, please fill out the All Saint's form in the bulletin or pick one up at the Welcome Window in the narthex. Family members are invited to attend worship and light a candle in the memory of their loved one as their name is read aloud during the Prayers of the People.

All Saint's Day - November 1st

If you would like to include a loved one who has died this past year (November 2025 - October 2026) in our prayers on All Saint's Day, please fill out the form below and return to the church office today.

Your name: _____

Name of deceased: _____

Date of death: _____

Relationship: _____





SERMON NOTES:





How Can We Pray For You?

If you have a prayer request, please fill out a purple prayer request card and drop it in the offering plate or you can email office@firstlc.com. All requests remain confidential - only with permission are individual names placed on the written prayer list below.

Prayers for those who are ill, recovering, or going through a difficult time:
Donna Amundson; Tom Amundson; Charlotte Benson; Dean Benson; Bill Boyd; Shayla Berry; Kevin Call; Jeannie Campbell; Bailey Chamberlain; Carol Clark; Tracy Coburn; Devyn, Corden & Elias Cox; Wendy Cudmore; Dayna Dabauras; Janet Dean; Laura Dean; Millie Dean; Joan Douglas; Josephine Fife; Sharon Gilbert; Jo & Al Glissendorf; Diane Hackman; Steve Hammond; Grayson Hansen; Josie Holtz; Charles Hunt; Ann Hurley; Lexi Jensen; Vickie John; Mary Krippner; Pat Lance; Austin Leger; Allan Magnuson; Mike Martin; Adara McClure; Bob McGee; Vicky Mickelson; Cal Miller; Wendy Morgan; Bob Neff; Josh Neis; Don Newman; Heidi Parker; Mary Pilkington; Mark Pischer; Patricia Richardson; Julie Sagnimeni; Laura Schoonmaker; Betty Smith; Jason & Kelly Smith; Joyce Stultz; Julie Sundberg; Kathy Tauscher; Deborah Vavra; Chris Weaver; Joyce White; Daniel & Sarah Young

Prayers of Thanksgiving:
Tim Metcalf

Our Christian Sympathies to:

- Family and friends of Buck Horton, who passed away October 6th.
- Family and friends of Linn Watson, Jacki Potter's mother, who passed away October 15th.
- Family and friends of Wendy Morgan, Larry Hudman's sister, upon her passing on October 15th.
- Family and friends of John Davis, Paul Davis's brother, who passed October 18th.

This Week at First Evangelical Lutheran Church	
|Today| Reformation Sunday 10/25/2026	
9:00 am	Sunday School - Education Wing
9:00 am	Adult Forum - Fellowship Hall
9:00 am	Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary
10:15 am	Sunday Worship - Sanctuary
11:30 am	Fellowship Hour - Fellowship Hall
11:30 am	King's Men Rehearsal - Sanctuary
Monday 10/26/2026	
10:00 am	Staff Meeting - Library
Tuesday 10/27/2026	
9:00 am	Happy Stitchers - Fellowship Hall
9:00 am	Preschool
12:00 pm	Happy Stitchers' Cookoff Harvest Party - Fellowship Hall
1:00 pm	Preschool
6:00 pm	Girl Scout Troop #930 - Fellowship Hall
6:30 pm	Handbell Rehearsal - Sanctuary
Wednesday 10/28/2026	
9:00 am	Preschool
1:00 pm	Preschool
2:00 pm	Ladies' Bible Study - Library
5:00 pm	Praise Band Rehearsal - Sanctuary
Thursday 10/29/2026	
9:00 am	Preschool
9:00 am	Men's Bible Study
10:00 am	Kaffeeklatsch - Library
1:00 pm	Preschool
2:00 pm	ARTF Meeting - Library
Friday 10/30/2026	
10am-4pm	Friends in Stitches - Fellowship Hall
Saturday 10/31/2026	
12:30pm - 4:00pm	**FELC Community Trunk or Treat, Carnival & Chili Cookoff!** 
All Saint's Day Sunday 11/1/2026	
9:00 am	Sunday School - Education Wing
9:00 am	Adult Forum - Fellowship Hall
9:00 am	Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary
10:15 am	Sunday Worship - Sanctuary
11:30 am	Fellowship Hour - Fellowship Hall
11:30 am	King's Men Rehearsal - Sanctuary

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

Greeters: **Anne Mitchell, Sheryl Schaffer**

Reader: **Alex Dean**

Communion Assistants: **Cathi Bean, DiAnn Brown**

Ginny Conricode, Diana Murphy, Carole Mason, Pat Christenson

Usher Coordinator: **Ryan Dixon**

Ushers: **Scott Berger, Greg Stultz**

Counters: **Greg & Kathy Katainen**

Altar Guild: **Diane Sheldon, Deb Nowatzki**

Collection Specialist: **Andrew Swenson**

Streaming Technician: **Randy Kay**

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SCAN THE QR CODE FOR GIVING.

FELC LEADERSHIP

MINISTERS: **All the Members of FELC**

Senior Pastor: Pastor Mike Knauff ..... e-mail: pastormike@firstlc.com
Church Administrator: Julie Sagnimeni .....e-mail: office@firstlc.com
Family Minister: Heather Catanese.....e-mail: family@firstlc.com
Bookkeeper: Greg Stultz..... e-mail: bookkeeper@firstlc.com
Music Director: Michelle Hanson..... e-mail: musicdirector@firstlc.com
Choir Accompanist: Heidi Bessette……
Praise Band Director: Steve Galbraith……
Pastor Emeritus/Minister of Welcome: Pastor Larry Cudmore……..
Preschool Director: Barbara Carlson.....flpreschoolif@gmail.com

Office hours: Monday - Thursday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm, Friday Closed
Web Page: www.firstlc.com • Phone: 208-522-9301

Report of First Evangelical Lutheran Church

Year to date Income thru September $291,512- Year to date Expenses thru September $289,985
Year to date net Cash Flow thru September $1527
Last Week's in Worship Attendance:117, Live Stream: 45