



# SHARING THE LIGHT

*The mission of First Lutheran Church is to grow together in Christ through Prayer, Worship, and Education and to spread the love of Christ to our community.*

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**October 2024    Publication of    FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
LCMS Stewardship Ministry Newsletter Article – October 2024

## **“The Singing Church”**

Lutherans have historically been called “the singing church.” There is no doubt that music has been a major component in the theology and practice of the Lutheran church. Luther once remarked about music, “We can mention only one point, namely, that next to the Word of God, music deserves the highest praise.”<sup>1</sup> Music has a power and purpose that cannot be understated in our worship and the life of the congregation.

But music does more than touch the emotions. Music is a vehicle that carries both the musician and the hearer deeper into connection with the truth of the Scriptures. This is true of the most complex Bach chorale and even the simplest of songs like “Jesus Loves Me, This I Know.” Each musical selection within the church shapes the thoughts, minds and faith of the people who experience them.

This is also true of stewardship hymns. We are currently considering the verses of “Forgive Us, Lord, for Shallow Thankfulness” (LSB 788) as it shapes our understanding and practice of stewardship.

This month we take a deeper dive into verse two:

**Teach us to thank you, Lord, for love and grace  
For life and vision, for a purpose clear,  
For Christ Your Son, and for each human face  
that shows Your message ever new and near.**

The stanza begins by touching on the truth of the Law. Thankfulness is not a natural posture for fallen humanity. For sinners curved in upon themselves, thankfulness for love and grace is something that must be taught. We are those who hoard and clutch. Our confession of our shallow thankfulness highlights the need for us to learn thankfulness to God.

Thankfulness also points to what we are stewards of: love and grace! All the things we have traditionally called stewardship aren’t actual stewardship. Rather, what matters is how we steward the one, true and only treasure: the love and grace of God revealed to us in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. So, all stewardship is stewardship of the Gospel! How can we gaze at the cross and empty tomb and not be thankful?

The LCMS defines stewardship as “the free and joyous activity of God’s family — the church — in managing life’s resources for His purposes.” God’s love and mercy give us a clear purpose as we live out our Baptism and practice this joyous stewardship. All we are, all we have entrusted to us, and all we are called to do is to connect others with the love and mercy of God revealed in Jesus!

The faithful steward sings with lips and life of this love and mercy that is ever new and near. In the Scriptures. In the Lord’s House. At the Lord’s Table. This is where our stewardship song starts and ends. Our family, our co-workers and classmates, and our world need to hear this song!

– LCMS Stewardship Ministry: [lcms.org/stewardship](https://lcms.org/stewardship)

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<sup>1</sup> Martin Luther, “Preface to Georg Rhau’s Symphoniae iucundae,” in Luther’s Works, ed. Jaroslav Pelikan, Helmut T. Lehmann, and Christopher Boyd Brown, vol. 53 (Philadelphia and St. Louis: Fortress and Concordia Publishing House, 1955–), 321–322.

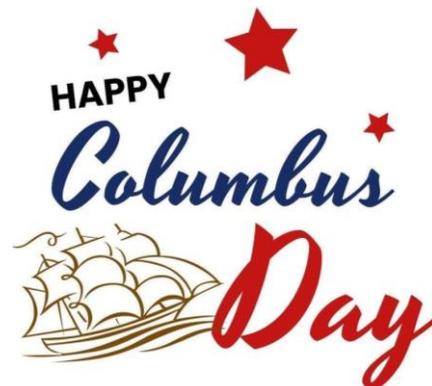


# October 2024

**Ushers** Craig Boehne, Dave Lassanske, and Don Lammerts

<b><u>Greeters:</u></b>	October 6	Connie Kean
	October 13	Patricia Caballero
	October 20	Norma Boehne
	October 27	Sharon Corey

<b><u>Readers:</u></b>	October 6 and October 20	Richard Swanson
	October 13 and October 27	Christine Geltz



## **Gatherings:**

First Wednesday Soup and Sandwich, October 2, Wednesday at 12:00 noon

Load the Van to Friends in Deed, October 4, Friday at 8:00 a.m.

Volunteers at Friends in Deed, October 12, Saturday at 8:00 a.m.

Board of Directors' Meeting, October 13, Sunday at 11:00 a.m.

Mission Development Team Meeting, October 22, Tuesday at 10:30 a.m.

Trunk and Treat, October 31, Thursday from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

<u>Sunday Worship Times,</u>	October 6, 8:30 a.m.
	October 13, 8:30 a.m.
	October 20, 8:30 a.m.
	October 27, 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School Times, Every Sunday from 9:45 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.

**Saturday Prayer Group, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. This group is currently meeting via the telephone. Let Jo Tschopp know if you want to participate.**

## **Not receiving email special announcements and/or prayer requests??**

**Electronic Newsletter:** If you are currently not receiving emails and would like to be included, please share your email address with the Church Administrator at: [admin@firstlutherantc.org](mailto:admin@firstlutherantc.org), or call:(626) 287-0968 and leave a message if you prefer to have a hard copy mailed out to you.

**Pastoral Care:** Board of Directors' President, Judy Gunther at: (626) 833-5613.



Reformation Day





## Friends in Deed

To learn more about the ministry of Friends in Deed, plan to attend the November 6<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday, Soup and Sandwich luncheon at noon time. A representative from the food pantry will be sharing ways on how this group reaches the vulnerable. We are asking that attendees bring shelf stable food items to donate to the group.

## Mission Development Team

The Mission Development, recently, spent time planning activities for the end of 2024 and six months into 2025. Currently, we are excited to present our October 2<sup>nd</sup> Soup and Sandwich Luncheon presentation given by Guide Dogs of America and Therapy Dogs. We will be able to meet the speakers and their dogs. Invite and bring your friends who have dogs.

The Trunk & Treat on October 31<sup>st</sup> from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. welcomes anyone who wants to hand out goodies, and enjoy an old-fashioned Trick or Treat experience. We even have some extra trunk decorating items for those of you who want to participate. See Jo Tschopp for further details.



## Lutheran Social Services of Southern California (LSSSC) – <https://www.lsssc.org>

*Los Angeles County Long Beach/South Bay center:* This location serves over 1,000 individuals and families each month through a comprehensive emergency assistance program. Accessing the client's overall condition at intake, our staff and benefit specialists tailor programs and partner resources, we patiently walk alongside our clients on the road to independence.

Join us on November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024 (Friday) from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the historical Mission Inn in Riverside, CA for the “There’s No Place Like Home” **2024 Gala & Awards**. Reception will be from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Program will begin at 6:00 p.m. The gala promises a wonderful evening of fun, food, and entertainment in support of the Lutheran Social Services of Southern California.

Funds raised at this event shall go towards funding emergency services for individuals and families in need.



## Community Prayer Box

Please continue to pray for our nation, the fires, our neighborhood, the upcoming elections, and world peace. The list could go on and on.

*“<sup>18</sup> The Lord is near to all who call on Him, to all who call on Him in truth. <sup>19</sup> He will fill the desire of those who fear Him. He will also hear their cry and will save them.”*

**Psalm 145:18–19**



## Sunday Worship at Home

If you are unable to attend worship, you can listen to the Lutheran Hour sermon at 8:00 a.m. on station KBRT AM 740 each Sunday.

If you have a TV and can get DirectTV, Channel 377 you can view Worship Anew at 8:30 a.m. on Sundays. This service is filmed at our Fort Wayne Seminary in Indiana. For those people who have a computer, the Worship Anew

worship service can be viewed via the internet at any time.

**You may also access and/or review the sermons online by going to:**

**<https://firstlutherantc.org/Media>**.

## Circuit Reformation Service

This special Reformation Sunday Service shall be held on October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 4:30 p.m. on the beautiful campus of Our Savior Lutheran Church in Arcadia, CA. Dr. Reverend Mike Gibson from the Pacific Southwest District will be conducting this Divine Service. All are welcome to attend as we observe this day when Martin Luther nailed his ninety-five theses to the door.



## Congregational Forum for First Lutheran – Temple City

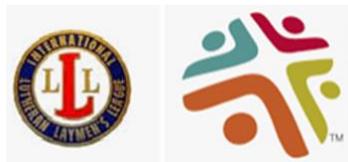
Coming up! On Sunday – October 27<sup>th</sup>, Pastor Jim Henkell (Ministry Executive for the Pacific Southwest District of the Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod) will be our Guest Pastor.

After worship, Pastor Henkell would like to meet with us for a congregational forum. This will be a means of listening and sharing thoughts with each other regarding the future of First Lutheran Church of Temple City. Plan to stay for this exciting exchange of ideas and thoughts with Pastor Henkell. Coffee time as well as the forum shall be held in the *Fellowship Room*.

***Please note that there will be no Adult Bible Study afterwards.***

## From the District: Travel Opportunity – Experience the Reformation

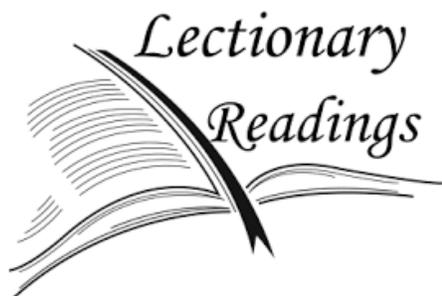
Join Pastor Bob & Sue Schroeder as they travel to Germany and "Experience Martin Luther's Reformation" and much more. Tour dates are from **April 28 to May 9, 2025**. Want more information? Visit **Imagine Tours and Travel** and use the tour code **RSchroeder25** or email Pastor Bob & Sue at: **revbob531@yahoo.com**. Target size for the group is for 20 to 25 people. They are excited to have you join them!



## Lutheran Laymen's League SoCal District Conference

You are invited to the Lutheran Laymen's League (LLL) SoCal District Conference being held at St. John's Lutheran Church, Orange, CA on **Saturday, October 26 at 9:00 a.m.**

The conference has been revamped to connect people in mission with others in mission. Connection is the keyword for this special gathering of God's people. The keynote will be Rev. Dr. Michael Ziegler, speaker of The Lutheran Hour. During breakout sessions, you will hear from missional ministries that can serve at launchpads for mission in your ministry context. A continental breakfast and lunch are included. For more information, please contact the Conference Team at: [LLSoCal3@gmail.com](mailto:LLSoCal3@gmail.com).



## Reading the Lectionaries

Here are the lectionaries for October as they travel to various books of the Old Testament, Psalms, and the Gospel as we observe Reformation Day:

	<u>Old Testament</u>	<u>Psalms</u>	<u>Epistle</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
October 6	Genesis 2:18–25	Psalms 128	Hebrews 2:1–18	Mark 10:2–16
October 13	Amos 5:6–7, 10–15	Psalms 90:12–17	Hebrews 3:12–19	Mark 10:17–22
October 20	Ecclesiastes 5:10–20	Psalms 119:9–18	Hebrews 4:1–16	Mark 10:23–31
October 27	Revelation 14:6–7	Psalms 46	Romans 3:19–28	John 8:11–36
<b>(Reformation Sunday</b>				or
<b>– observed: remember to wear red)</b>				Matthew 11:12–19

**FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH**

9123 Broadway  
Temple City, CA 91780

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**  
**DATED MATERIAL**

*October 2024*

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(626) 287-0968

E-Mail : [admin@firstlutherantc.org](mailto:admin@firstlutherantc.org)

Website : <https://firstlutherantc.org>

8:30 a.m. TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

Holy Communion every 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays only

9:45 a.m. SUNDAY SCHOOL/BIBLE STUDY

Every Sunday