OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

904 Bluff Street Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613 THE LUTHERAN CHURCH - MISSOURI SYNOD

A traditional, liturgical, Biblical congregation in the heart of Cedar Falls ministering to sinners with the forgiving presence of Christ.

Rev. Michael R. Knox, Pastor (319) 231-9761

Rev. Dr. Brian Saunders, Pastor (319) 389-5526

Matthew Baker, Vicar (605) 342-0259

Church Office: 266-2509 Email: orlc@cfu.net Website: theforgivenessplace.org

The 22nd Sunday after Pentecost

The Festival of the Reformation October 29, 2023

<u>TO OUR VISITORS</u> We rejoice that you have joined us this morning to hear the Word of God, receive His gifts of life and salvation, and to respond to His faithfulness with "Psalms, hymns and spiritual songs" *Ephesians 5:19*

- ₱ Please take the time to fill out the Communion Registration/Visitors' Cards which are in the small card holders on the pew.
- ₱ Please read the announcement below regarding Communion.
- 母 Guests who will not be communing may place the Visitor's card in the Offering plate.
- ♥ Guests who intend to commune are asked to announce this intention to the Elder and give the card to the Usher as they come forward to receive communion.

OUR REDEEMER PRACTICES CLOSED COMMUNION



The Sacrament of the Altar is the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine for us Christians to eat and drink, instituted by Christ Himself. As we receive this Sacrament, the oneness of fellowship at the Altar (I Corinthians 10:17) presupposes a oneness in doctrine with the Apostles (Acts 2:42). For this reason the congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod have agreed to follow the Biblical and historical practice of Closed Communion. If you desire to receive the Lord's Supper and are not a communicant member of Our Redeemer or a sister congregation in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, we respectfully ask that you not commune this morning. Rather, we would invite you to speak with Pastor Knox,

Pastor Saunders, or Vicar Baker about Holy Communion and about becoming a communicant member of this congregation.

THOSE SERVING GOD'S PEOPLE THIS WEEK

Elder: Alan Czarnetzki
Organist: Sheryl Dekutoski
Tellers: Paula Czarnetzki, Char
Strub
Shut-Ins: Dean and Martha Garms



TODAY IS THE 22nd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Here at Our Redeemer we are observing the Festival of the Reformation. In the Gospel appointed for this day in the Church Year, you hear these foolish words of the Jews who had believed in Jesus, "We are Abraham's descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?" Had these Jews forgotten how their ancestors had lived in Egypt for 400 years as slaves or the Babylonian Exile? Had these Jews forgotten how, even now, for all practical purposes, they were slaves of Rome? Even though they were mistaken, Jesus wasn't talking about that kind of slavery when speaking about setting people free. He explains, "I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin."

Who is a slave to sin? EVERYONE! Jesus is talking about you and your fellow worshipers. In the Baptismal Liturgy we use this morning, it begins with this confession, "We learn from the Word of God that all men from the fall of Adam are conceived and born in sin and so are under the wrath of God and would be lost forever unless delivered by our Lord Jesus Christ."

The Apostle John teaches in his 1st Epistle, "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us." A few verses later he states this truth in even stronger terms, "If we say we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us." Imagine calling God a liar!

Jesus came to set free those who were enslaved to sin. This doesn't mean that He causes sinners to stop sinning. You know better than that, don't you? Rather, Jesus sets sinners free from the wages of sin, which is death, and from the effects of sin, which are fear, doubt, and guilt. This is what Jesus means when He says, "Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." This is truth: Jesus has taken your place under the curse of sin and death. Jesus has fully and perfectly kept the law and its demands for you. Jesus has paid the price of your redemption through His sacrifice on the cross of Calvary. Jesus bestows this righteousness upon you in the water of Holy Baptism. Jesus gives you His very body and blood for the forgiveness of your sins in the Sacrament of the Altar. Because Jesus has done and continues to do all this for you and for your salvation, may His words bring great comfort and joy to you and all sinners this Reformation Day: "So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."

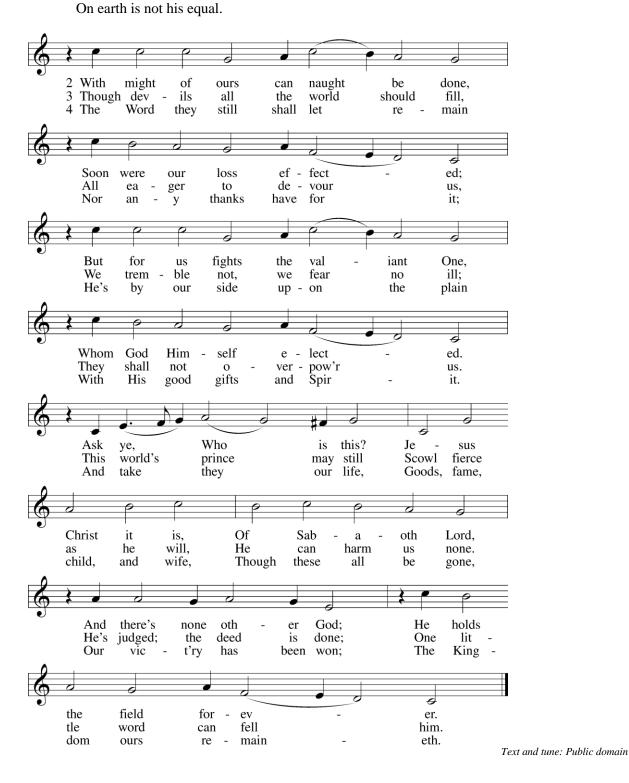
I. THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Being baptized in the Service this morning is Martin Joseph White, son of Eber and Sarah White.

Hymn of Invocation

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" LSB #656 The Choir sings verse 1, the congregation verses 2-4

Men's Choir only
 A mighty fortress is our God, a trusty shield and weapon;
 He helps us free from ev'ry need that hath us now o'ertaken.
 The old evil foe now means deadly woe;
 Deep guile and great might are his dread arms in fight;



P: In the name of the Father and of the (\clubsuit) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

The Baptismal Address

P: We learn from the Word of God that all men from the fall of Adam are conceived and born in sin and so are under the wrath of God and would be lost forever unless delivered by our Lord Jesus Christ. But the Father of all mercy and grace has promised and sent His Son Jesus Christ, Who has borne the sins of the whole world and redeemed and saved all from sin, death, and everlasting condemnation.

Through Holy Baptism the Father of all grace imparts to lost humanity these blessings obtained for man through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Therein does God the Father create new sons who are heirs of everlasting life. Our Lord Jesus promises, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved." The blessed Apostle Peter wrote and proclaimed, "Baptism doth also now save us," and, "This promise is unto you and your children."

The Apostle Paul teaches that in the waters of Baptism we are joined to the death and resurrection of our Lord as he writes, "Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, in order that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life." Born again by water and the Spirit, we are made members of the body of Christ. Living in fellowship with Christ and with His people, the Church, we grow in faith and love according to the will of God.

The Sign of the Cross

The Sign of the Cross is marked upon the forehead and the heart, a symbolic gesture which reminds all that, through Holy Baptism, God joins the individual to Christ's death and resurrection.

The Baptismal Prayer

This traditional prayer was included in the revised Baptismal Liturgy of the Reformation era prepared by Martin Luther. It is sometime referred to as "Luther's Flood Prayer" because it links God's saving action in the Old Testament, including the Flood and the Crossing of the Red Sea, to Jesus' Baptism and the Christians' Baptism into Christ.

The Reading St. Mark 10:13-16

V: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Lord's Prayer

While the Pastor lays his hand upon the head of the Baptismal Candidate, the congregation prays together the Lord's Prayer.

The Promises of the Parents and Sponsors

The Renunciation of Satan and Confession of Faith

- P: Baptism is the work of God, therefore all who have been baptized into Christ, will confess the forgiveness of sins and the birth of the life of faith which God our Father bestows in and through Holy Baptism.
- P: Do you renounce the devil, all his works and ways, and all his empty promises?
- *C*: *I do*.
- P: Do you believe in God the Father Almighty?
- C: Yes, I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
- P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?
- C: Yes, I believe 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.
- P: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?
- C: Yes, 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 Baptism in the Name of the Holy Trinity

- P: Martin Joseph White, I baptize you, "In the name of the Father and of the (★) Son and of the Holy Spirit."
- C: Amen
- P: Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace unto life everlasting.
- C: Amen

The Lighting of the Baptismal Candle

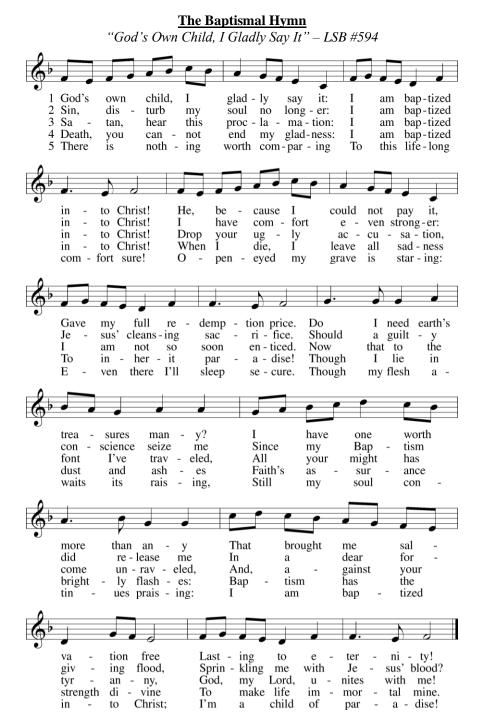
The Baptismal Candle is lit from the Paschal Candle, a Symbol of Christ's resurrection, and signifying the new life in Christ.

The Prayer for the Newly Baptized

The Benediction

- P: Martin Joseph White, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the Cross of Christ forever.

 Depart in (♣) Peace.
- C: Amen



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II. THE SERVICE OF THE WORD



Choir: I will speak of Your testimonies before kings, | [O Lord,]*

and shall not be | put to shame.

Cong: I will bless the Lord at | all times;*

His praise shall continually be | in my mouth.

My soul makes its boast | in the Lord;* let the humble hear | and be glad.

Come, O children, lis- | ten to me;*

I will teach you the fear | of the Lord.

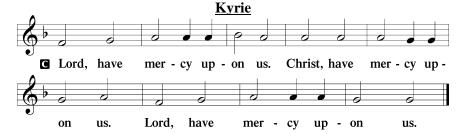
The Lord redeems the life of His | servants;*

none of those who take refuge in Him will | be condemned.

Choir: I will speak of Your testimonies before kings, | [O Lord,]* and shall not be | put to shame.

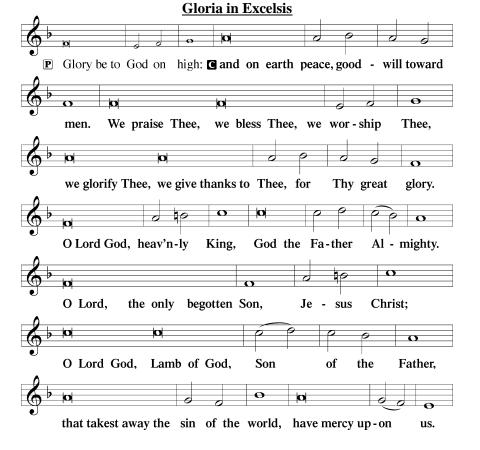
(Ps. 34:1-2, 11, 228; antiphon: Ps. 119:46)

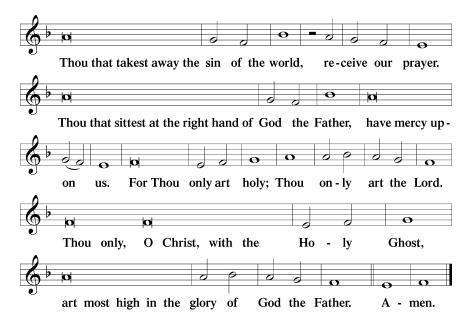




Luke 2:14; John 1:29

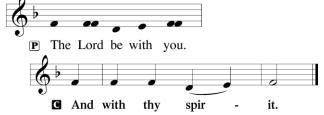
Mark 10:47





The Salutation

II Timothy 4:22



The Collect of the Day

P: Let us pray: Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people. Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and deliver us in times of temptation, defend us against all enemies, and grant to Your Church Your saving peace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Be seated

The First Reading

Revelation 14:6-7

- P: This is the Word of the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God

The Epistle

Romans 3:19-28

- P: This is the Word of the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God.

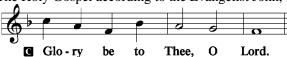




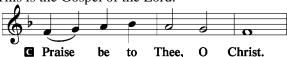
The Holy Gospel

John 8:31-36

P: The Holy Gospel according to the Evangelist John, the 8th chapter.



P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



The Nicene Creed

Having confessed the Apostles' Creed during the Baptism, the Service continues with the Hymn of the Day

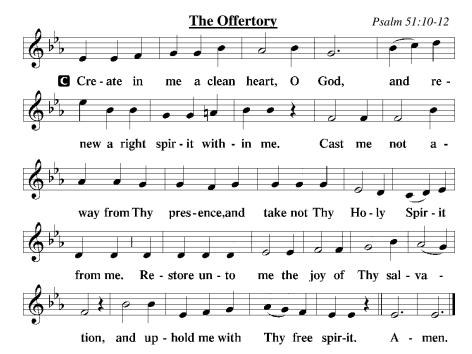
The Hymn of The Day



Text and tune: Public domain

The Sermon

Following the Sermon, please rise to sing the Offertory



The Reception of New Members

Today Our Redeemer welcomes 3 new members. Eber and Sarah White transfer to Our Redeemer from St. John Lutheran Church in Garfield, MN. Their son Martin was baptized this morning. Welcome Eber, Sarah, and Martin!

The Prayers

Various Petitions are prayed. Each petition will conclude with the response:

P: Lord, in Your mercy.

C: Hear our prayer.

The Congregation, gathered for worship in person, will now be receiving the Sacrament of the Altar. This most significant portion of the Divine Service, when our Lord Jesus Christ draws near to His people with His flesh and blood, will not be streamed. Members desiring to receive the Sacrament who are unable to be present in the Church will be visited by one of our pastors to bring them the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.

Those who have joined us online for the Service of the Word are now encouraged to pray the 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.

May the Lord bless and keep you.

Please call Pastor Knox (319/231-9761) if you would like to receive a Pastoral visit.

▼ OUR WEEK TOGETHER IN THE BODY OF CHRIST Sun. 10/29 9:00 a.m. Divine Service at Our Redeemer 10:30 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Class 4:00 p.m. Reformation Hymn Festival – St. Paul-Sumner **Wed. 11/1** 10:00 a.m. **Book Club** Midweek Bible Class (Weekly Readings) 11:00 a.m. 5:25 p.m. Adult Choir 6:30 p.m. Midweek Bible Class (Weekly Readings) 6:00 p.m. Bible Class at Peace – Shell Rock Sat. 11/4 7:00 p.m. Divine Service at Peace – Shell Rock (Feast of All Saints)

<u>HYMNS/READINGS FOR THE COMING WEEK</u> Sunday, November 5 - The 23rd Sunday after Pentecost – Feast of All Saints

BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

<u>THE SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS</u> meets from 10:30 – 11:15 each Sunday. They are currently studying the Book of Revelation.

SUNDAY SCHOOL meets from 10:30 – 11:15 each Sunday.

<u>WEEKLY READINGS/HYMNS STUDY</u> This class meets each Wednesday at 11:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. to study the weekly readings, hymns, and propers for the upcoming Sunday. It is a way to prepare for the coming week's Divine Service.

<u>THE VICAR'S BIBLE STUDY</u> This Fall Vicar Baker meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month at 9:00 a.m. The class also meets at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday evenings of the same week at Peace in Shell Rock. In November the class will meet again on the 13th.

YOUTH BIBLE STUDY The Jr. High/Sr. High Youth meet for Bible Study with our Vicar on Sunday mornings from 10:30-11:15 and on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month at 6:30 p.m. (There will be food on Wednesdays at 6:15) On Sunday mornings the youth will be studying 1 Corinthians, comparing the experience of the Christians in largely pagan Corinth with our circumstances today. On Wednesdays the youth will choose topics to discuss with Vicar.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

<u>WELCOME NEW MEMBERS</u> Today the members of Our Redeemer welcome 3 new members. Eber and Sarah White transfer to Our Redeemer from St. John Lutheran Church in Garfield, MN. Their son Martin will be baptized this morning. Both Eber and Sarah are from the area and attended High School at Valley Lutheran. Eber recently accepted a job at John Deere. The Whites were to be received as members last weekend but Martin's birth kept them from being in church last Sunday. Welcome Eber, Sarah, and Martin!

TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS are given by Al and Cheryl Nissen on the occasion of their wedding anniversary and in loving remembrance of their daughter, Teresa. "The Lord is good to all; and His tender mercies are over all His works." Psalm 145:9

<u>FLOWER CHART</u> There are a few Sundays remaining in 2023 to sign up for Altar Flowers. The flower chart is on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall – or contact Sara Lair for details (319) 266-1163; **sjlair@cfu.net**.

OUR REDEEMER BOOK CLUB—"Good News for Anxious Christians: 10 Practical Things You Don't Have to Do" by Phillip Cary is the book Our Redeemer's Book Club is currently reading and discussing. We meet Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. (right before the Midweek Pericopes study). Need a book? Contact Sara Lair (319-266-1163) Or, just drop in and listen to the discussion – we would love to see you!



MEN'S CHOIR This morning you got to hear the Men's Choir sing for the first time under the direction of Vicar Baker. They will sing again during Advent. Men – if you would like to sing with them next time, they will start rehearsing again next Sunday, November 5. There are short rehearsals following Bible study on Sunday mornings. Please speak with Vicar Baker if you have questions or are interested in joining.

REFORMATION HYMN FESTIVAL The members of Our Redeemer and Peace are invited to St. Paul Lutheran in Sumner for a Reformation Hymn Festival this afternoon, Sunday October 29 at 4:00 p.m. Members of Our Redeemer's Choir will be participating in the Hymn Festival. Our former Vicar, Rev. Tanner Post, is the pastor of St. Paul. The congregation is located at 612 W. 3rd Street in Sumner.

<u>REGULAR VOTERS' MEETING</u> The Congregation will hold a Regular Voters' Meeting on Sunday, November 19 at 1:30 p.m. Normal matters of business will be taken care of including receiving reports from Officers and Boards, Election of Officers, and establishing the Budget for 2024. Any member of the congregation may bring matters before the Voters. Please speak with Chairman Mishler to add items to the Agenda.

<u>THE YOUTH OF OUR CONGREGATION WILL BE DOING YARD CLEAN-UP</u> in the early part of November. The date has not yet been set and it somewhat depends on the weather. If you would like to have the youth come rake up leaves and haul them away, please contact Vicar Baker.

COLLEGE HILL FALL FLING Each year College Hill Lutheran Church hosts their "Fall Fling." While it is a time of fun for the students it is also a time of theological learning. Rev. Dr. Todd Peperkorn will be presenting under the theme: "One Loaf-How Christ Keeps Us Together When Everything is Falling Apart." Dr. Peperkorn writes this about his presentation – "We are more connected today than ever before, and yet loneliness, isolation, and division define everything around us. The devil, the world, and our own sinful nature all work to separate us from God and from each other. How does Christ draw us back together when everything is splitting into a million pieces? Through the Scriptures and the story of Christ's Church, the presentation will lead us to understand who we are as the people of God, and why we are one loaf, not just a bunch of cracked kernels."

Dr. Peperkorn serves as Assistant Professor of Pastoral Ministry and Missions and Director of Vicarage at the Ft. Wayne Seminary. Dr. Peperkorn will be presenting at several times on Saturday, November 11. The day will begin with Matins at 8:30 a.m. His presentations are scheduled for 9:30 a.m., 10:45 a.m., and 1:00 p.m.

OUR REDEEMER WILL OBSERVE THE FESTIVAL OF ALL SAINTS on Sunday, November 5. On this day in the Church Year, the people of God will give thanks for the salvation of those whom our gracious Lord has already delivered from this vale of tears. While we on this day remember all who have died in Christ, in particular we remember those from our congregations who died since our last observance of All Saints Day.



Our Redeemer: Martin Baedke, Sandra Ocampo, Wayne Heins, Art Springer

Peace: Dixie Neuhaus

CONGREGATIONAL FINANCES

In an effort to keep the members of Our Redeemer aware of our financial condition as a congregation, the following is provided by the Board of Stewardship and the Financial Secretary.

• Giving/income Year to Date \$177,345.88 (through September)

• Budget Year to Date: \$183.300

• Difference: -\$5,954.12