

**First English Lutheran Church  
Butler, Pennsylvania**

**Service of Holy Communion  
Reformation Sunday  
October 27, 2024  
10:00 a.m.**

**GATHERING**

**PRELUDE**

“Praeludium in G Major”

- J.S. Bach

“Andante in a”

- Georg Philipp Telemann

“Ein Feste Burg Ist Unser Gott”

- Dietrich Buxtehude

**WELCOME**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,  $\text{✠}$  of the Holy Spirit. Amen.  
**Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*The congregation may sit, kneel, or adopt another posture appropriate for confession.*

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what 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.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister in

the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

*The congregation may stand.*

### **GATHERING HYMN**

“Rise, Shine, You People!”

Red Book #665

### **GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

### **KYRIE**

*page 98 in the front of the red book*

### **THIS IS THE FEAST**

*page 101 in the front of the red book*

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. 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.**

*The congregation may sit.*

## **THE WORD**

### **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

#### **FIRST READING**

**Jeremiah 31:31-34**

*The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the Lord means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the Lord will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.*

<sup>31</sup>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. <sup>32</sup>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. <sup>33</sup>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. <sup>34</sup>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.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 46**     (*read responsively*)

<sup>1</sup>God is our refuge and strength,  
a very present help in trouble.

<sup>2</sup>**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,  
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**

<sup>3</sup>though its waters rage and foam,  
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

<sup>4</sup>**There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

<sup>5</sup>God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;  
God shall help it at the break of day.

<sup>6</sup>**The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;  
God speaks, and the earth melts away.**

<sup>7</sup>The Lord of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

<sup>8</sup>**Come now, regard the works of the Lord,  
what desolations God has brought upon the earth;**

<sup>9</sup>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.

<sup>10</sup>**“Be still, then, and know that I am God;  
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the  
earth.”**

<sup>11</sup>The Lord of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

**SECOND READING     Romans 3:19-28**

*Paul’s words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law.*

*We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ's death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.*

<sup>19</sup>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. <sup>20</sup>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.

<sup>21</sup>But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, <sup>22</sup>the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, <sup>23</sup>since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; <sup>24</sup>they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup>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; <sup>26</sup>it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

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

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*The congregation may stand.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

### Hallelujah



Hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah,



hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah!

## **GOSPEL JOHN 8:31-36**

The holy gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John, the eighth chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.*

<sup>31</sup>Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; <sup>32</sup>and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” <sup>33</sup>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?’”

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

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The congregation may sit.*

## **SERMON**

*The congregation may stand.*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

“Here on Jesus Christ”

Purple Book #1024

## **NICENE CREED**

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.  
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence  
for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need.

*The congregation may kneel or sit.*

*After each petition, the assisting minister bids:*

Hear us, O God:

*The congregation responds:*

**Your mercy is great.**

*The presiding minister concludes:*

We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of Jesus  
our great high priest.

**Amen.**

*The congregation may stand.*

## **THE MEAL**

### **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The congregation may sit.*

## OFFERING

### ORGAN OFFERTORY

“The Lord’s My Shepherd”

- Robert Elmore

*The ushers present the offerings and gifts of bread and wine for communion.*

### CHOIR ANTHEM

“On Faith Alone”

- Johnson/Denson/K. Pierre/S. Pierre

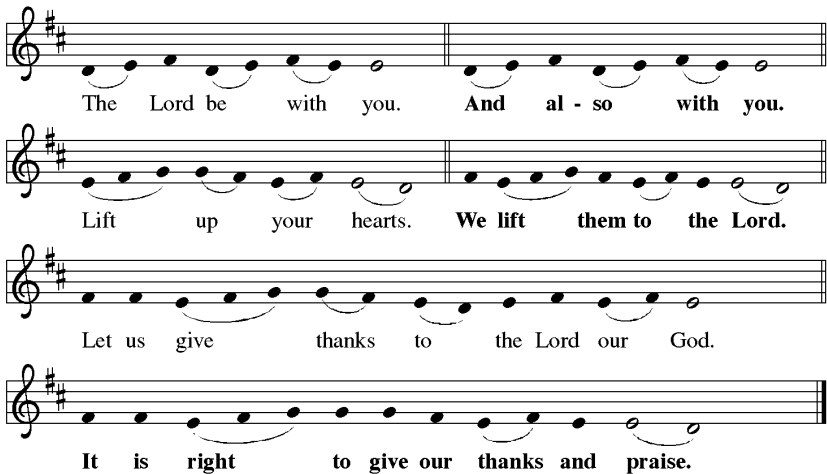
(Jim Cunningham, *trumpeter*)

*The congregation may stand.*

### OFFERING PRAYER

*led by the assisting minister*

### GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of  
 pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est. Blessed is he who comes in the  
 name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

We praise you, all-holy God,  
 for you have made this whole creation,  
 Even the universe beyond our knowing....*(the prayers continue)*  
 And so we proclaim the mystery of our faith:  
**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again...***(the prayers continue)*  
 We praise you, all-holy God,  
 the Father, the Son, the Holy Spirit,  
 today, tomorrow, and forever.  
**Amen.**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

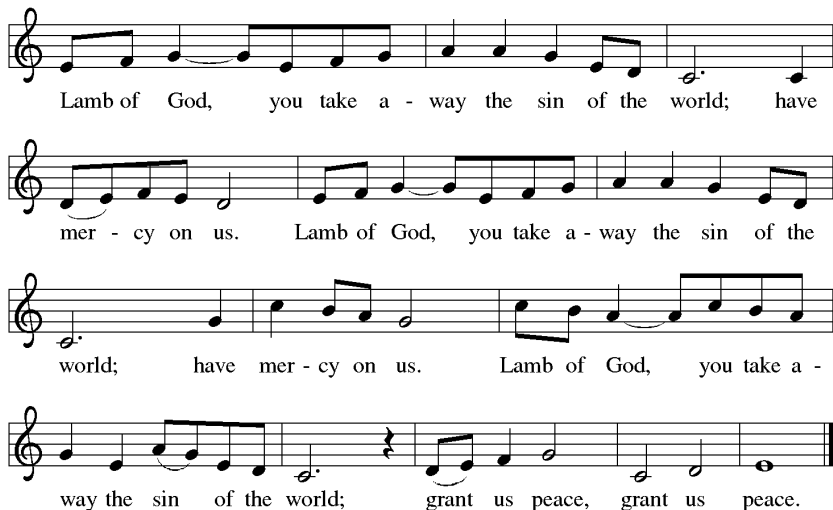
As Jesus our Savior has taught us, let us pray:  
**Our Father, who art in heaven,**  
 hallowed be thy name,  
 thy kingdom come,  
 thy will be done,  
 on earth as it is in heaven.  
**Give us this day our daily bread;**  
 and forgive us our trespasses,  
 as we forgive those  
 who trespass against 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.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

### LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -  
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

*The congregation may sit.*

### SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT

*All are welcome to Holy Communion today. Lutherans believe that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine. The ushers will invite you forward to receive. Gluten free wafers are available; please let the pastor know if you wish to receive them. If you are able to receive either bread or wine (but not both), please know that you still receive the full communion.*

*After all have received, the congregation may stand.*

### HYMN DURING COMMUNION

“That Priceless Grace”

Red Book #591

### BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**Amen.**

## SONG AFTER COMMUNION



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful -  
filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre-pared in the  
sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the na - tions  
and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.  
Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*led by the assisting minister*

### THE SENDING

#### **BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look with favor upon you and give you peace.

**Amen.**

#### **SENDING HYMN**

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

Red Book #504

#### **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

**Thanks be to God.**

#### **POSTLUDE**

"A Trumpeting"

- Dale Wood

*Praise him with trumpet sound – Psalm 150:3*

## SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

The Rev. Kimberly van Driel	<b>Presiding Minister</b>
Maggie Babinka-Repic	<b>Assisting Minister</b>
Sue Morrow	<b>Communion Assistant</b>
Chuck McMichael	<b>Reader</b>
Christiaan van Driel	<b>Crucifer</b>
Shane Kamerer	<b>Acolyte</b>
Signe Mitchell	<b>Organist</b>
Jim Cunningham	<b>Trumpeter</b>
Harry Cunningham	<b>Sr. Choir Director</b>
Jim Cunningham	<b>AV Assisting Minister</b>
Gracie Love	<b>PowerPoint Minister</b>
Judy and Bill Vilcheck	<b>Ushers</b>
Jim and Jeanette Cunningham	<b>Counters</b>
Roxanne Glagola	<b>Altar Guild</b>

*Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Amy Lavorini in memory of loved ones.*

*All are welcome to join us for social hour following the worship service.*

## THIS WEEK AT FIRST ENGLISH

Mon., 10/28	5:00 PM	Community Dinner
	8:00 PM	NA Meeting (Social Hall)
Thurs., 10/31	10:30 AM	Bible Study (Social Hall)
	7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal
	7:30 PM	NA Meeting (Downstairs)
Sat., 11/2	9 AM – 1 PM	DAR (Social Hall)
	10:30 AM	ACA Meeting (Downstairs)
	12:00 PM	NA Meeting (Downstairs)
Sun., 11/3	9:00 AM	Bible Study (Pastor's Office)
	10:00 AM	Worship
	5:30 PM	AA Meeting (Downstairs)

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**We mourn with the family of Dorothy Croupe**, who died in resurrection hope on October 17, 2024. Rest eternal grant her, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon her.

**Attention all Community Dinner volunteers!** Our retreat will be Saturday, November 2 from 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. at the Duffy Highlands Clubhouse, 200 Muirfield Ct., Butler, PA 16001.

**November 3 is All Saints Sunday.** We will remember those who have died in Christ over the last year. If there is a name you would like to include in the prayers, please notify the office by Thursday, Oct. 31.

**The church office will be operating remotely on Tuesday, Nov. 5.**  
First English will serve as a polling place for the election.

**The Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod is electing a bishop in 2025.** There will be an informational meeting on Saturday, Nov. 9 at 9:30 a.m. at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, 2500 Brandt School Road, Wexford, PA, 15090. This time of prayer, questions and discussion focused on the bishop election is especially geared for Synod Assembly voting members, but all are invited to join. More news about the bishop election can be found at [swpasynod.org/bishop2025](http://swpasynod.org/bishop2025).

**Meals on Wheels Baking Sunday is Nov. 17.** Please bring your items, labeled and packed ready for the freezer in non-returnable containers, to First English by noon on Nov. 17. Monetary donations can be made out to *Butler Meals on Wheels*. Please see the poster in the social hall for the list of accepted baked goods. Thank you for your goodness!

*A Time for*

*peace*

*Interfaith Prayer Service*

Thursday, November 7th

7:00 p.m. at the YWCA

120 W. Cunningham St.

Butler, PA 16001

*Join us as we pray for peace following the 2024 election.*

hosted by the Butler Clergy Network

## Lutheran Disaster Response

# Hurricane Relief: 3 in 3 Challenge

The Council has committed \$2,000 of church funds to the Lutheran Disaster Response hurricane relief efforts and challenges the congregation to give an additional \$3,000 over the next three weeks to reach a total gift of \$5,000.

Gifts to LDR "Hurricane Response" will be used in full (100%) to assist those affected by hurricanes, until the response is complete.

There are two ways to give:

- **through your regular offering check**
- **directly to Lutheran Disaster Response via the QR code below**

*If you choose to give directly to LDR, please send Caitlyn a confidential email so that your gift can be included in the total.*

Scan to  
give online



Give through your congregation or make your check out to Lutheran Disaster Response and send to:

**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America,  
ELCA Gift Processing Center, P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA  
22116-8009** and write *"Where needed most"* or *"Hurricane Response"* on your check's memo line.

## PRAYERS

Family of Dorothy Croupe; family of Pat Lunsford (aunt of Caitlyn Morgan); Cindy Regis & all those who are affected by the hurricanes; Laura Warmbrod's mother; Rob; Jamie Maluk & family; David Fisher & family;

Tommy, Jenny, & Aspen Zarnick; family of Richard Daller (brother of Betty Turner); Scott Tammaro; George Schaney; Stephen Wright; Steve; Jim Chapin; family of Beth Chambers; Don Eckels; Valerie Kurth; family of John Mileski; Cindy Halin; Mike Gibson; Dennis; Debra Williamson; Amy Waldron; Evelyn Shaulis; Bill Brown; Ben & the Keeler family; Tracy Tucci; Iman; Aryl Bashline; Julie, Greg & family; family of Kenneth Mathias; Pr. Jim Dollhopf & family; Bruce Solomon; family & friends of Walter Szczurek; Paul Eicholtz; Frank Miller; Tad Sellers

## **NEXT WEEK'S READINGS**

**Isaiah 25:6-9**

*The banquet of the Lord*

**Psalm 24**

They shall receive blessing from the God of their salvation. (Ps. 24:5)

**Revelation 21:1-6a**

*A new heaven and a new earth*

**John 11:32-44**

*The raising of Lazarus*

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