

St. Paul Lutheran Smithville

Reformation Sunday – October 25th, 2026

*Please stand, as able, where marked with an asterisk**

Congregational responses are in bold

Prelude

“Reformation Song”

Music and Words by Tim

Chester and Bob Kauflin

c. 2017 Sovereign Grace Praise (BMI)

Welcome

***Confession and Forgiveness**

L: ...and calls us to new life.

C: Amen

L: ...let us confess our sin... Merciful God,

C: We confess that we too often trust in ourselves rather than in your grace. We measure our worth by what we accomplish, cling to traditions without examining their purpose, and resist the changes through which your Spirit may be working. We have failed to love our neighbors as ourselves, remained silent when we should have spoken, and forgotten that your church is always being called to renewal. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may live as people set free by your love.

L: ...in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

***Gathering Hymn:**

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

ELW 504

***Greeting & Call to Worship**

L: ...but through faith in Jesus Christ.

C: We come to worship the God whose love sets us free!

L: ...reform the church in every generation.

C: Open our hearts to your Spirit, that we may be renewed in faith and strengthened in service!

L: ...our hope and our salvation.

C: With grateful hearts, we proclaim God's grace and rejoice in the freedom we have in Christ!

A: Let us pray. Gracious and reforming God,

C: you have called your church to be a living witness to the freedom found in Jesus Christ.

When we become comfortable in our traditions, stir us to examine them in the light of your Word.

When we become divided, remind us that we are united through your grace.

When we become fearful of change, give us courage to follow where your Spirit leads. Renew your church in every generation, that we may proclaim your Gospel boldly, serve our neighbors faithfully, and trust not in our own righteousness but in the saving love of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Responsive Reading: Psalm 46

R: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

**C: Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea,**

R: though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

**C: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

R: God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;
God will help it when the morning dawns.

**C: The nations are in an uproar; the kingdoms totter;
he utters his voice; the earth melts.**

R: The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

**C: Come, behold the works of the Lord;
see what desolations he has brought on the earth.**

R: He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
he breaks the bow and shatters the spear;
he burns the shields with fire.

**C: “Be still, and know that I am God!
I am exalted among the nations; I am exalted in the earth.”**

R: The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Second Reading: Romans 3:19-28

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

L: The Holy Gospel according to the book of John, the eighth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

***Gospel Reading:** John 8:31-36

L: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children’s Sermon

Sermon: Missy Schroeder, Indiana-Kentucky Synod
Director for Evangelical Mission

Hymn of the Day: “Built on a Rock” ELW 652

The Nicene Creed ELW pg. 104

***Sharing of the Peace**

C: And also with you.

Offering: “Jesus, What a Beautiful Name” Choir
Words and Music by Tanya Riches
c. 1995 Tanya Riches and Hillsong Publishing
(admin in US and Canada by Integrity’s Hosanna! Music/ASCAP)
c/o Integrity Media, Inc.

Offertory Prayer

The Prayers

A: ...Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: ...through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

L: Remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

The Lord's Prayer

ELW pg. 112

****Final Blessing***

****Sending Hymn:*** “The Church of Christ, In Every Age” ELW 729

****Dismissal***

A: Go, share the Good News!

C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude