CROSS OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
Pastor Patrick Cox

Worship for Saturday, October 24, 2026
REFORMATION DAY (Observed)

The Son of God Has Set Us Free from Sin and Death by His Grace

"Wisdom is justified by her deeds" (Matt. 11:19), and the true wisdom of God, Christ Jesus, the incarnate Son, justifies us by His deeds. He prepares His way by the preaching of repentance, but He has suffered the violence of the Law and voluntarily handed Himself over to violent men, in order that we may eat and drink with Him in His Kingdom and "remain in the house forever" (John 8:35). He is "a friend of tax collectors and sinners" (Matt. 11:18-19), and He has rescued us by His grace from the slavery of sin and death. By the proclamation of His eternal Gospel "to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people" (Rev. 14:6), "the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law" (Rom. 3:21), "that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus" (Rom. 3:26). And by the hearing of that Gospel of Christ Jesus, "whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith" (Rom. 3:25), "you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free" (John 8:31-32).

+ Please silence your cell phone.
+ Please fill out the red 'Record of Fellowship' book in your pew.

✢ DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING 2 ✢

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SONG

✢ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION ✢

INVOCATION and EXHORTATION LSB 167

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

✢ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✢

INTROIT (*see insert*)
SALUTATION LSB 172
Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

COLLECT OF THE DAY (*see insert*)

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Revelation 14:6-7
Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE: Romans 3:19-28
Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL: John 8:31-36
Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter.
People: Glory to You, O Lord.

(The Holy Gospel is read.)

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise to You, O Christ.

SONG OF THE DAY

SERMON **"If You Abide in My Word"** *from John 8:31-32*

NICENE CREED LSB 174

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH
Pastor: …let us pray to the Lord,
People: Lord, have mercy.

RESPONSIVE SONG
OFFERING

✢ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✢

PREFACE LSB 177
Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Pastor: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them to the Lord.
Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING LSB 178

LORD'S PRAYER LSB 179

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI LSB 180
Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
People: Amen.

DISTRIBUTION

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT and BENEDICTION LSB 183

CLOSING SONG

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HOLY COMMUNION

In the Sacrament of Holy Communion our Lord Jesus Christ comes to us with His true body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins. He invites to His table baptized Christians who trust His words, repent of all their sin, and forgive one another as He forgives us.

In 1 Corinthians 10:14-22, St. Paul teaches us that Holy Communion is also a public profession that unity of doctrine exists amongst those who commune at the same altar. Therefore, we ask any who are not yet instructed in the doctrine of our church or who hold membership/commune at a non-LCMS church body to abstain from receiving the Sacrament here today. If it is your desire to receive communion with us at this altar, please speak with Pastor Cox. It would be his joy to instruct you toward confirmation. *For further study see Matthew 5:23ff, 10:32ff, 18:15-35, 26:26-29; Acts 2:38, 42; 1 Corinthians 10:16, 11:17-34.*

All who are not receiving the Sacrament today are welcome to come to the communion rail to receive a blessing. Please cross your arms over your chest when you come to the rail.

- ✠ **The individual cups are offered first, followed by the chalice.**
- ✠ **The cups in the center of the trays include one drop of wine.**
- ✠ **Please let the pastor know if you need a gluten-free wafer.**

CROSS OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
Rev. Patrick Cox, (541) 988-5430
Rev. Clifford Herd and Rev. Barry Hildebrandt, Pastors Emeriti
3204 Hixson Pike – Chattanooga, TN 37415
Church Office (423) 877-7447
Email: church@cocluth.com | Website: cocluth.com | Facebook.com/cocluth

PARTICIPANTS IN WORSHIP SERVICE

READERS: (Sat) Pastor Cox | (Sun) John Wilson
ALTAR GUILD: Barbara Wyatt, Rose Dawn
ELDERS: Scott Brewster, Bob Timm, John Clemmons
USHERS: (Sat) Scott Brewster
(Sun) Jo Parham, Mat Shelby, Pastor Hildebrandt
ORGANIST: Dr. Sarah Harr DIRECTOR OF CHOIRS: Judy Zehnder
PRAISE TEAM: Nyssa Hunt and Sylvia Hildebrandt
A/V TEAM: Scott Brewster, Nyssa Hunt, Tim Riethmeier,
Mike & Monica Witherby, Bonnie Wright-Woodward