CROSS OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
Pastor Patrick Cox

Worship for Sunday, October 25, 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 ✢

PRELUDE: **"All You Works of God, Bless the Lord"** *(J. Wayne Kerr)*

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN: **"All You Works of God, Bless the Lord"** **LSB 930**

✢ HOLY BAPTISM ✢

THE HOLY BAPTISM OF BRANDON ASHLEY WHITE LSB 268

✢ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✢

INTROIT *(see insert)*
KYRIE LSB 168
THIS IS THE FEAST LSB 171
SALUTATION LSB 172
COLLECT OF THE DAY

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.**

ALLELUIA and VERSE LSB 173

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.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY **"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"** **LSB 656**

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

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

OFFERING
VOLUNTARY: **"Thy Strong Word"** *(John Behnke)*

OFFERTORY LSB 176

✢ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✢

PREFACE and PROPER PREFACE LSB 177
SANCTUS and PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING LSB 178
LORD'S PRAYER LSB 179
THE WORDS OF OUR LORD
PAX DOMINI and AGNUS DEI LSB 180

DISTRIBUTION LSB 181
DISTRIBUTION HYMNS
"Thy Strong Word" **LSB 578**
"Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness" **LSB 563**

THANK THE LORD LSB 181
POST-COMMUNION COLLECT LSB 183
BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN: **"Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer"** **LSB 918**

ORGAN POSTLUDE: **"Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer"** *(J. Bert Carlson)*

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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.**

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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