



Saint Michael's Lutheran Church



Reformation Sunday

ELW setting 3

October 25, 2026

10:00 a.m.

(*Indicates Please Stand)

GATHERING

PRELUDE

How Firm a Foundation

Early American tune
Setting by Dale Wood

* INVOCATION

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.

* OPENING HYMN

#504

A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR LORD



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who



to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
 ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
 vour us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
 fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
 God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
 weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,

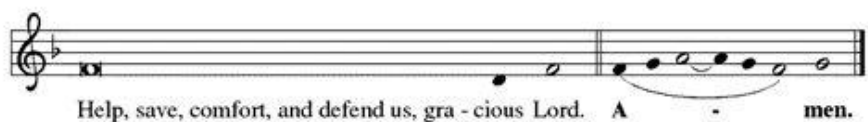
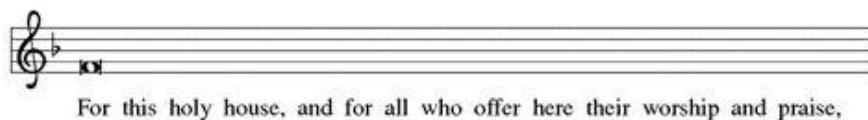
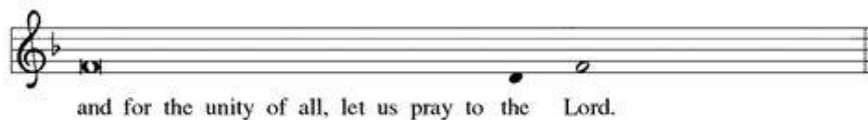
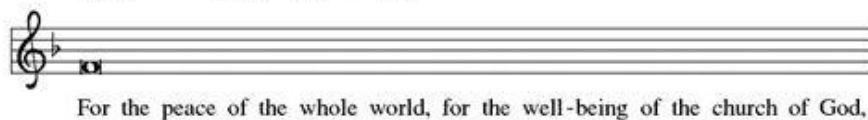
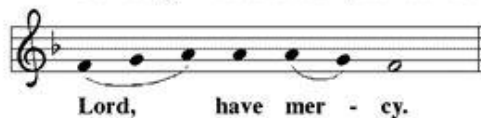
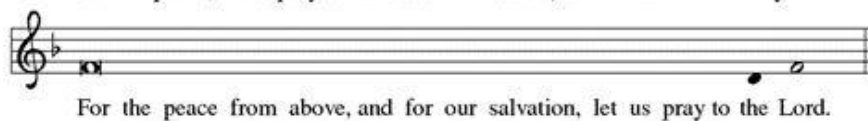


has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
 in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
 goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
 they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

KYRIE



* PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

O Lord God, you are the holy lawgiver, you are the salvation of your people. By your Spirit renew us in your covenant of love, and train us to care tenderly for all our neighbors, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen

WORD

LESSON

Romans 3:19-28

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. ²⁰ For no human will be justified before him by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

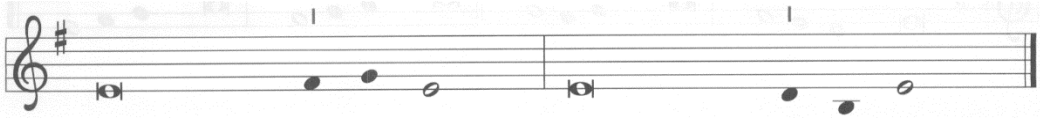
²¹ But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed and is attested by the Law and the Prophets, ²² the righteousness of God through the faith of Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³ since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴ they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶ it was to demonstrate at the present time his own righteousness, so that he is righteous and he justifies the one who has the faith of Jesus.

²⁷ Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law? That of works? No, rather through the law of faith. ²⁸ 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.

Psalm 46

Sing responsively



- ¹ God is our ref-¹ uge and strength,
a very present¹ help in trouble.
- ² **Therefore we will not fear, though the¹ earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths¹ of the sea;**
- ³ though its waters¹ rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble¹ with its tumult.
- ⁴ **There is a river whose streams make glad the cit-¹ y of God,
the holy habitation of¹ the Most High.**
- ⁵ God is in the midst of the city; it shall¹ not be shaken;
God shall help it at the¹ break of day.
- ⁶ **The nations rage, and the¹ kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth¹ melts away. R**
- ⁷ The LORD of¹ hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob¹ is our stronghold.
- ⁸ **Come now, regard the works¹ of the LORD,
what desolations God has brought up-¹ on the earth;**
- ⁹ behold the one who makes war to cease in¹ all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the¹ shields with fire.
- ¹⁰ **“Be still, then, and know that¹ I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted¹ in the earth.”**
- ¹¹ The LORD of¹ hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob¹ is our stronghold. **R**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



*HOLY GOSPEL

John 8:31-36

The Holy Gospel according to John
Glory to you, O Lord.

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

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

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Mark A. Grorud

* HYMN

#652

BUILT ON A ROCK VS 1,3,5



1 Built on a rock the church shall stand, e - ven when stee - ples are
 2 Sure - ly, in tem - ples made with hands God the Most High is not
 3 Christ builds a house of liv - ing stones: we are his own hab - i -
 4 Yet in this house, an earth - ly frame, Je - sus the chil - dren is
 5 Through all the pass - ing years, O Lord, grant that, when church bells are



fall - ing; crum - bled have spires in ev - 'ry land, bells still are
 dwell - ing— high in the heav'n's his tem - ple stands, all earth - ly
 ta - tion; he fills our hearts, his hum - ble thrones, grant - ing us
 bless - ing; hith - er we come to praise his name, faith in our
 ring - ing, man - y may come to hear your Word, who here this



chim - ing and call - ing— call - ing the young and old to rest, call - ing the
 tem - ples ex - cel - ling. Yet God who dwells in heav'n a - bove deigns to a -
 life and sal - va - tion. Where two or three will seek his face, he in their
 Sav - ior con - fess - ing. Je - sus to us his Spir - it sent, mak - ing with
 prom - ise is bring - ing: "I know my own, my own know me; you, not the



souls of those dis - tressed, long - ing for life ev - er - last - ing.
 bide with us in love, mak - ing our bod - ies his tem - ple.
 midst will show his grace, bless - ings up - on them be - stow - ing.
 us his cov - e - nant, grant - ing his chil - dren the king - dom.
 world, my face shall see; my peace I leave with you. A - men."

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

*** APOSTLE'S CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

*** PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

Each portion of the prayers ends with one of these responses:

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.
(The prayers conclude:)

Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Bless we the Lord
Thanks be to God!

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

* PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

ANTHEM

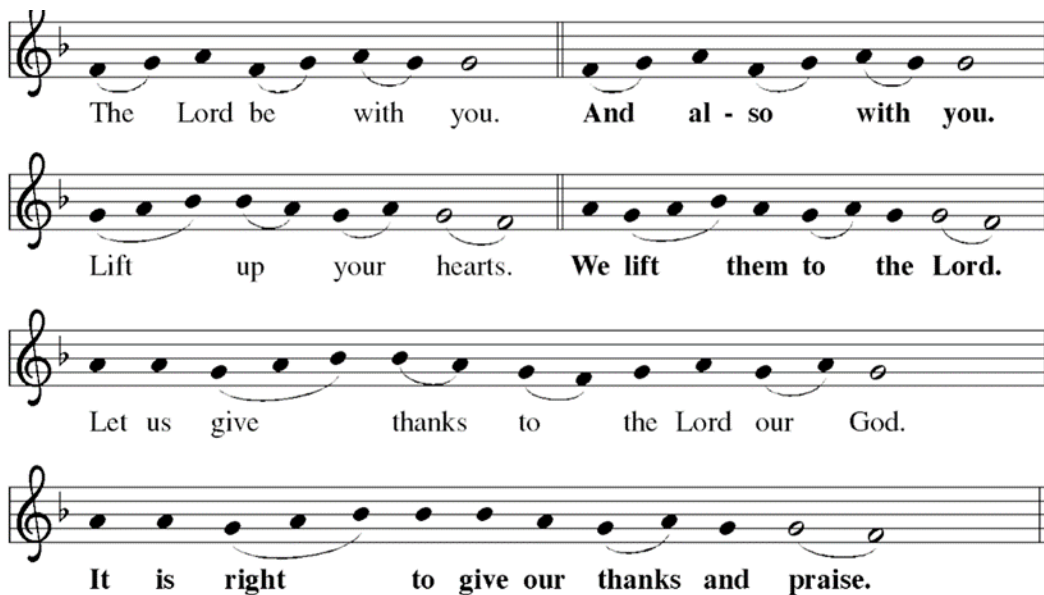
Jesu, Jesu

Ghana folk song
Arr. by Dorothy Christopherson

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Risen One,
you call us to believe and bear fruit.
May the gifts that we offer here
be signs of your abiding love.
Form us to be your witnesses in the world,
through Jesus Christ, our true vine. **Amen.**

* GREAT THANKSGIVING



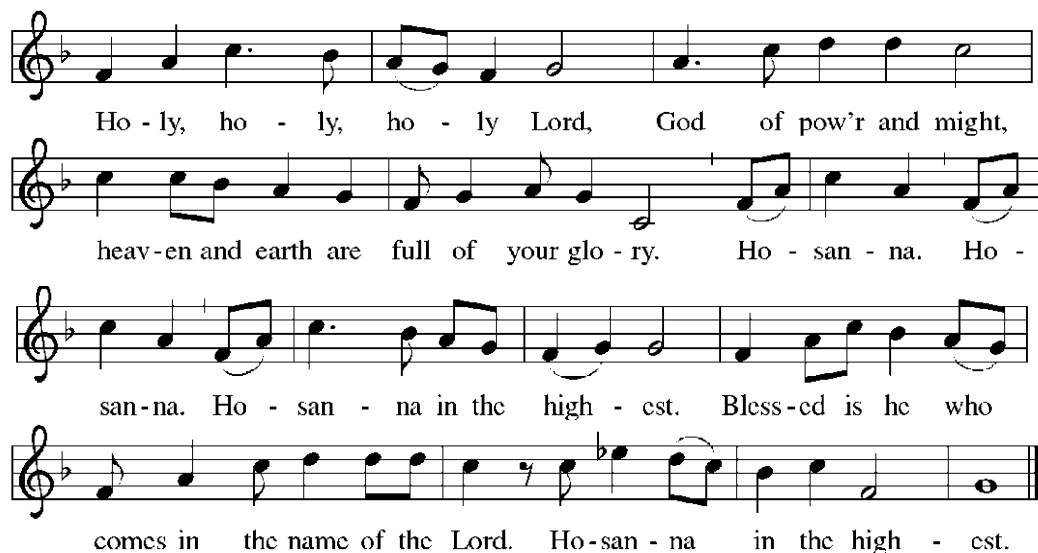
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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.

PREFACE FOR PENTECOST SEASON



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

* WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

* 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.

*** INVITATION TO COMMUNION:**

God feeds us with tender mercy.
Come to the table.

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.

Please bring your offering with you as you come forward to receive Holy Communion. Communion distribution is by intinction. The communion bread or gluten-free wafer will be placed in your hand. Take the bread or wafer and dip it into the chalice of wine. Do not have your fingers touch the wine

LET US BREAK BREAD TOGETHER

P 471

Let us break bread together on our knees,
Let us break bread together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun.

O Lord, have mercy on me.
Let us drink wine together on our knees,
Let us drink wine together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.

Let us praise God together on our knees,
Let us praise God together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.

***COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and always keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

LET US PRAY.

*** POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

Shepherding God,
you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love.
Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness
and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. **Amen**

SENDING

* BLESSING

May God who comes among us,
Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,
grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness,
and good news to share today and always.
Amen.

HYMN

#729

THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IN EVERY AGE



1 The church of Christ, in ev - 'ry age be - set by
2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the vic - tims
3 Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a car - ing
4 For he a - lone, whose blood was shed, can cure the
5 We have no mis - sion but to serve in full o -



change, but Spir - it - led, must claim and test its
of in - jus - tice cry for shel - ter and for
church that longs to be a part - ner in Christ's
fe - ver in our blood, and teach us how to
be - dience to our Lord; to care for all, with -



her - i - tage and keep on ris - ing from the dead.
bread to eat, and nev - er live be - fore they die.
sac - ri - fice, and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.
share our bread and feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.
out re - serve, and spread his lib - er - at - ing word.

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Believe the good news.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Onward, Christian Soldiers

Lani Smith

Tune: ST.GERTRUDE

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SERVING TODAY

Greeter	Diana Van Dam
Assisting Minister	Kyle Runestadt
Reader	Diana VanDam
Altar Guild	Laura White
Cookies & Conversations	Ingrid Hollinger
Counters	Melba Grieshaber, Ingrid Hollinger
Interim Pastor	Pastor Mark A. Grorud
Organist	Dr. Alla Borzova

SERVING NEXT WEEK

Greeter	Lisa Ferraro
Assisting Minister	Ken D'Arinzo
Reader	Deb D'Ariinzo
Altar Guild	Laura White/Diane VanDam
Cookies & Conversations	Melba Grieshaber
Counters	Ken D'Arinzo/Melba Grieshaber
Interim Pastor	Pastor Daniel DeLoma
Organist	Dr. Alla Borzova

Indoor Worship Protocol

We are still careful of one another's health in the post Covid time and encourage you to keep following safe protocols.

Pastor Mark Grorud, Interim Pastor
Church Office (203) 966-3913
Nancy Rowe, Admin (203) 966-3913
Alla Borzova, Director of Music
Ken D'Arinzo, Council President
Website (Stephen Galyas; webmaster)

mgrorud@gmail.com
saintmichaelsoffice@gmail.com
saintmichaelsoffice@gmail.com
music@StMichaelsLutheran.org
SaintMichaelsPresident@gmail.com

WEEKLY NEWS
October 26 - November 2

ONLINE? KEEP THE CONVERSATION GOING...

Please use **#stmichaelsnewcanaan** as your hashtag on social media during the week. **“Like”** our Facebook Page: St. Michael’s Lutheran Church, New Canaan, CT.

COMMUNION CARDS: To remain on the active member voting list, you must submit at least one communion card per year and one financial contribution per year. If you have not filled out a communion card yet this year, please do so soon. They are located on the table near the entrance, and you can drop it in the offering plate on your way up to communion.

CARE AND HEALING: Elaine Bakios, Stephen Bakios, Ken Bielemeier, Joe Boehm, Shari Bruner, Robert Carpenter, Angela Castillo, Jill Ferenc, April Gurciullo, Rita Hausdorff, Jack Koch, Mark Kramm, Riley Johansen, Peter Linacre, Pam Lowell, Baylor (Boomer) Manchuck, Claire Miethke, Richard Miller Jr., Judy Mirczak, Ann Moores, Jim Moores, Benton Morse, Doris Ann Peter, Joey Peter, Nancy Reichart, Helga Turk, Jan Weitzel, and Jen Wolfe.

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING for all those celebrating birthdays this week, including Christopher Gerwig (October 26), Thomas White (October 29), and Gwendolyn Runestad (October 30).

MISSION PARTNERS: in the Gulf States, Martin Luther Church, (ELCA) Mobile, Alabama, and our NEW ENGLAND SYNOD PARTNERS, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Palestine and the Holy Land, and the Lutheran church in Honduras

38 IN ATTENDANCE ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18

WAYS TO CONTRIBUTE TO ST. MICHAEL'S

Please place checks or cash in envelopes located on the table near the entrance and put the donation in the brass plate as you come forward for communion. If cash, please be sure to identify yourself on the envelope. Anonymous loose plate cash does not need an envelope.



If there is no designation, we will assume that the contribution is for the general funds of St. Michael's. Or you can direct all or part of your donation to: Flowers, Eternal Light or to other special St. Michael's funds. To use a credit card or contribute directly from your bank account, scan the QR code below which links to St. Michael's account in the tithe.ly church giving system. Note that the first field at the top is the designation for the gift which can include ELCA ministries.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, October 25

9:00 am Choir Rehearsal
9:30 am Sunday School
10:00 am Worship
11:00 am Cookies & Conversation
11:15 am Choir Rehearsal

All Saints Sunday, November 1

9:00 am Choir Rehearsal
9:30 am Sunday School
10:00 am Worship
11:00 am Cookies & Conversation
11:15 am Choir Rehearsal

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

For pastoral services, Pastor Grorud can be reached at (402) 620-8032 or via his email address mgrorud@gmail.com. He is in the church office Tuesday and Thursday afternoons.

Need access to the church? Please plan on coming during office hours: Nancy will be in on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons this week.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Andrew Downing
Catherine Downing
Alex Kindopp
Kennedy Kindopp
Alexis Noeldner



**To be remembered
on ALL SAINTS SUNDAY**

November 1, 2026

If you have loved ones who passed away and wish them to be remembered in the Prayers of the Church on **All Saints Sunday, November 1**, please call the church office at 203-966-3913, email at saintmichaelsoffice@gmail.com or drop this off with the following information by Tuesday, October 27. Thank you.

Please remember in prayer:

Your Name:
