

**HYMN FESTIVAL, "SOLI DEO GLORIA,"
TO LAUNCH БЕЛОIT-AREA CELEBRATION OF THE 500TH
ANNIVERSARY YEAR OF THE REFORMATION**

**Sunday, November 6, 2016 at 4:30 pm at
Our Savior's Church, 749 Bluff St., Beloit**

When Martin Luther posted his "Ninety-five Theses" on the church door in Wittenberg on October 31, 1517, no one expected the breadth of reforms in Christian teaching and practice that followed. In every dimension of Christian faith, a renewed trust in God's forgiving mercy replaced a reliance on teachings and practices that, like the sale of indulgences, were vulnerable to abuse and corruption.

Preaching a few years later, Luther said, "I opposed indulgences... but never with force. I simply taught, preached, and wrote God's Word; otherwise I did nothing. I did nothing; the Word did everything." When he began to propose reforms in worship, he wrote similar words. "This is the sum of the matter: let everything be done so that the Word may have free course."

Nearly 500 years later, the results of this evangelical confidence in God's forgiving and liberating Word are evident today in Christian communities of all types. In keeping with celebrations throughout the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, three Beloit congregations - Our Savior's, St. Paul, and Atonement - are joining forces on Sunday, November 6, 2016 at 4:30 p.m. at Our Savior's to present a hymn festival featuring great hymns of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders paired with a selection of their modern-day counterparts. Prelude music by guest organist Max Yount will begin at 4:15 p.m.

Titled "Soli Deo Gloria" ("To God Alone the Glory"), the hymn festival also includes choral selections sung by the combined choirs of the three congregations. It immediately follows the Fall Gathering of the South Rock Conference of the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin ELCA.



Faith Lutheran Church

Faithfully Growing, Welcoming, and Caring through Christ
Sunday, October 30, 2016
Reformation Sunday ~ 9:30 am

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- P:** The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.
- C:** **Amen.**
- P:** God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C:** **Amen.**
- P:** Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. (A brief silence.) Most merciful God,
- C:** **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.**
- P:** 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 of 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.
- C:** **Amen.**

~ OPENING HYMN ~

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



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
your 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!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship
Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther
Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
C: **And also with you.**



OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

The Congregation of Faith Lutheran is hereby summoned to its annual meeting on Sunday, November 13 at 10:30 am following worship. Luncheon will be provided.

NOVEMBER

Sunday, November 6—Doodles Painting “Birch Trees”

Sign up today for this fun event! It's a teacher-led class from 1-4, with all supplies provided! Cost is \$35. All are welcome. You will leave holding your 16" X 20" completed masterpiece!

DECEMBER

Sat., Dec. 3 - Secret Sister Reveal, Final Gift & Luncheon

This year's program will begin in January 2017 and run through December 2017 for all women of Faith Lutheran. **Secret Sisters** is a ministry between you and another Sister in our church family. You become her silent prayer partner and her secret encourager for the year. She doesn't know who you are, *but she will know you are there*, and praying for her and her needs. **Secret Sisters** is about encouraging and supporting one another in prayer as well as with personal notes, cards and small gifts. It is my hope that during these months your prayer life will bring you into a deeper relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ as you lift your sister and her needs up. **This is a year long commitment to lift up your Secret Sister in prayer on a regular basis. Encourage her.** Send cards, notes, etc. at least once a month (more often if possible!). **Remember your Secret Sister on her special occasions.** Mark specific dates on your calendar; include her birthday, anniversary, etc., as well as the holidays. **Keep her a secret! Don't let her know who you are!** Then we'll have a *fun* Secret Sister Reveal Party and Luncheon in December! Here you will bring her your final, very special card and gift. **Any new women who join our church during this 12-month period are welcome to become a participant.**

Sunday, December 4 - Decorate church for Christmas



Sunday, November 6, is All Saints' Day, when we remember our loved ones who have passed away. Come early to light a candle in honor of those you wish to remember.



The Out to Dinner Group has been invited to Pastor Rick & Helen's home for dinner on Friday, Nov. 11th at 6:00pm. Their address is 1915 Jonquil Place, Rockford. For more information please phone [815-566-5247](tel:815-566-5247) or [815-227-4679](tel:815-227-4679). Maps will be available at the church for your travel information. Signup sheet is on the bulletin board.

- ◆ **Thanksgiving Food Drive**
- ◆ **Through November 13**
- ◆ **Cash donations accepted**



We are looking for 2017 Council Members! Contact Kelly Miller, Sue Miller or Mike Banker. Terms are 3 years. We need you!

Today's altar flowers are presented by Evelyn Stafford, in memory of Robert Stafford



INTRODUCTION

P: On this day we celebrate the heart of our faith: the gospel of Christ - the good news - that makes us free! We pray that the Holy Spirit would continue to unite the church today in its proclamation and witness to the world. In the waters of baptism we are made one body; we pray for the day that all Christians will also be one at the Lord's table.

C: Amen

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. (A brief silence.)

ALL: 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.

Children's Church

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34

A reading from Jeremiah, the 31st chapter.

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. 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. 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. 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.

R: Word of God, Word of Life
C: Thanks be to God!

PSALM: Psalm 46 ~ A Responsive Reading ~

- R: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
- C: **Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**
- R: Though its waters rage and foam, and 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 shaken; God shall help it at the break of day.
- C: **The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake; God speaks, and the earth melts away.**
- R: The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.
- C: **“Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”**
- R: The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

SECOND READING: Romans 3:19-28

A reading from Romans, the 3rd chapter.

- R: 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. 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. But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 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;



First, We Give of Ourselves Giving in Generosity

“God’s Generosity and Our Own”

This week, our Bible text from 1 John 4:7-12 prompts the following questions about our giving and sharing gifts. How do we give in generosity? Why do we give in generosity? These are critical questions for growing disciples and stewards. For the Christian, generosity is initiated by God. It is God’s grace and love that always provides the first note in the composition of life. The writer of 1 John says, *“Beloved, since God loved us so much, we ought to love one another.”* 1 John 4:11 Our giving, our generosity is not done to elicit a response from God, but rather in a joyful response for what God has *already* done for us in Christ. God’s note of grace always underlies of life in grace and generosity.

In what ways have you experienced “giving in generosity”, either by giving or receiving?

Please think and pray generously as you consider your financial commitment to Faith Lutheran Church for 2017. We will offer our pledges on Stewardship Sunday, November 20.



SERMON
“A Holy Heritage of Faith”

~ Hymn of the Day ~

The Church's One Foundation



1 The church's one founda - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
 2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,
 4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war,
 5 Yet she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One,



she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word,
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth;
 by schisms, rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;
 and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.



From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
 one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
 yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,
 Oh, bless - ed heav'n - ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace,



with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died,
 and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued,
 and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song,
 and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
 that we, like saints be - fore us, may see you face to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900
 Music: AURELIA, Samuel S. Wesley, 1810-1876

DISMISSAL

P: The God of all grace + bless you now and forever.
 C: Thanks be to God.

ATTENTION: All high school-aged youth and their parents are asked to stay for a short meeting after worship today to hear about a work-camp mission trip next summer.

Worship

Welcome to Faith Lutheran Church. We are so happy to have you worship with us today! Please join us after worship in our Fellowship Room for beverages, snacks and conversation.

Communion is by intinction. Come forward as directed by the ushers, receive the bread with an open hand then dip it in the wine (dark) or juice (light). If you accidentally eat the bread before dipping or drop it, please ask for another piece. You do not have to be a member of Faith or be Lutheran to take Communion. Christ is the host of the meal and ALL baptized believers are welcome!

Offering ~ As always, if you are unable to attend worship, please make sure to catch up with your **offering** the next week. Or, if you'd like, please mail it to the church office and write "offering" on the envelope and it will be included in that week's offering and seen only by the designated counters for the day. Thank you for being faithful in giving generously to God's work here at Faith Lutheran!

Financials for Sunday, Oct. 23, 2016 - Week 43

Attendance - 87

Weekly Offering Actual	\$1,708.00
Weekly Offering Budget	\$2,068.00
2016 YTD Actual Offering	\$86,279.50
2016 YTD Offering Needed	\$88,294.00
Offerings YTD Toward Roof Loan	\$2,649.50

BLESSING

P: Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen

CLOSING HYMN

I Love to Tell the Story



1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
2 I love to tell the sto - ry: how pleas - ant to re - peat
3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best



of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love,
what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!
seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it like the rest.



I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;
I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard
And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,



it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else would do.
the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.
I'll sing the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

Refrain



I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry



to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

The Apostles' 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 INTERCESSION

R: Set free by the truth of God's gracious love, we pray for the church, the world, and all of God's good creation. (*A brief silence.*) Righteous God, write your law on our hearts. Unite your church. Let your word spread throughout the earth. Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

R: Earth-maker, show your power and goodness in the mountains, the depths of the sea, the rivers, and all of your creation. Teach us how to care for our earthly home. Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

R: Source of hope, you make wars to cease in all the world. Visit places devastated by war and conflict (*especially*). Break the bow, shatter the spear, and bring your perfect peace. Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

R: God our refuge and strength, you are a very present help in trouble. Comfort those who are sick or in pain, the lonely and grieving, those without a home or meaningful work. Especially we pray for
Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

R: Faithful God, call this assembly to remember the everlasting covenant you have made with us. Shape us to live in the freedom Christ gives us and to welcome others into this way of life.
Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

R: God our stronghold, the saints from every age gather around your throne. Help us to wait with patience and joy until that day when we too see you face to face.
Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

R: Into your hands, faithful God, we place ourselves and our prayers, spoken and unspoken, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: **Amen**

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

~ VIDEO DURING OFFERTORY ~

“Stars” by Skillet

OFFERTORY RESPONSE



1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;
2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,



all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.
and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray. Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever.

C: **Amen**

DIALOGUE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks and praise to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

~ COMMUNION ~

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: We come again to you. Oh God, giving you thanks that in this feast of mercy you have embraced us and healed us, making us one in the body of Christ. Go with us on our way. Equip us for every good work, that we may continue to give you thanks by embracing others with mercy and healing; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**