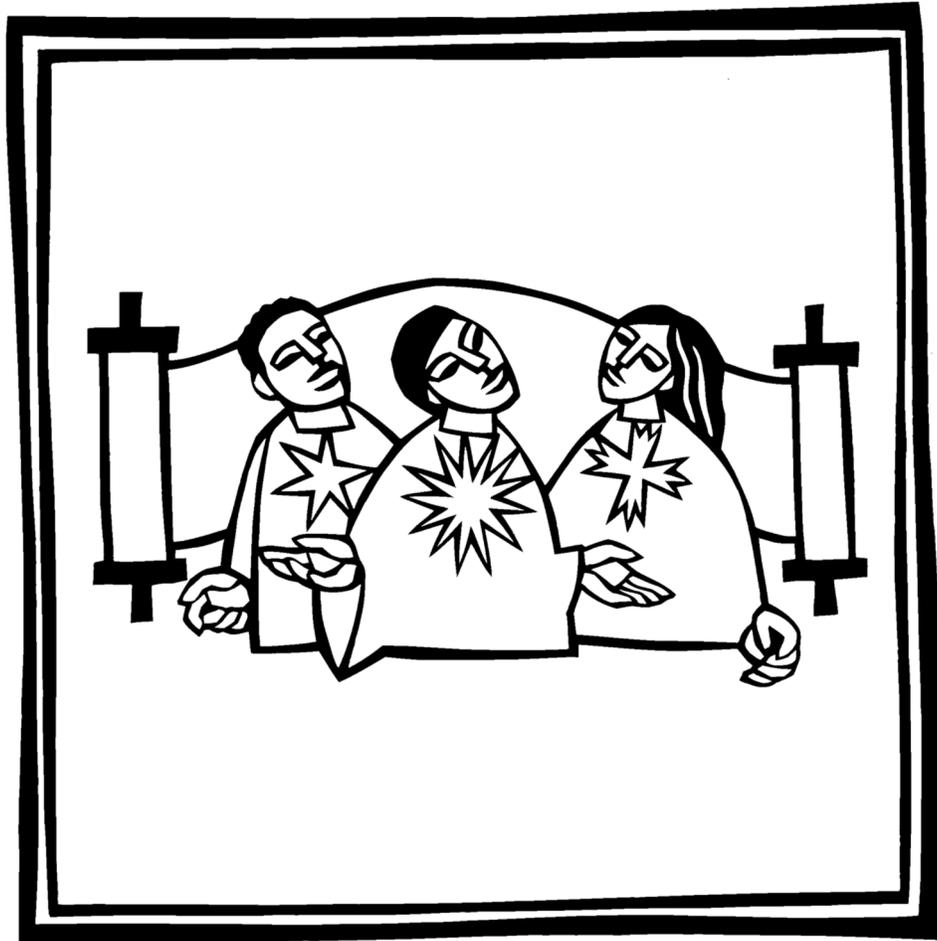


# Reformation Sunday

October 29, 2023



MEMORIAL  
**LUTHERAN**  
CHURCH

# Reformation Sunday

October 29, 2023

Memorial Lutheran Church | Nevada, Iowa

**Prelude:** "A Mighty Fortress" - setting by Kathleen Wissinger  
*Memorial Handbells*

## Welcome

## Prayer of Invocation

Gather us together this Reformation Sunday, O God,  
that we may celebrate the witness  
of our forefathers and foremothers  
and the courage that gave birth to the Reformation.  
Teach us how to honor the saints of God in ages past  
as well as in our present days.  
May the conviction of your grace written on their hearts  
be one that forms our own faith.  
Inspire us in the continuing reformation of the church  
and be present to us your in word and sacrament.  
In Christ's name we pray. Amen

*—written by the Rev. Dr. Letty Russell and posted on the Presbyterian Promise website.*

## Gathering Hymn: "A Mighty Fortress" ELW #504

## Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be God,  
the one who forms us,  
+ Jesus who bears the cross,  
the Spirit who makes our joy complete.  
**Amen.**

Let us bow before God in humility,  
confessing our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Steadfast and faithful God,  
**you have revealed the ways of justice,  
yet we fail to follow you.**  
**We are overwhelmed  
by the world's violence and suffering.  
We are afraid to risk what we have  
for the sake of others.  
For the harm we have caused,**

**known and unknown, forgive us.  
For the unjust demands we place on others  
and your creation, forgive us.  
For the ways we turn away  
from you and our neighbor, forgive us.  
Lead us back to you  
and set us on the right path;  
in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior.  
Amen.**

Beloved in Christ,  
God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.  
God's compassion is beyond compare.  
In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.  
In + Christ, you are already and always forgiven. **Amen.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

Gracious God, we pray for your holy catholic church. Fill it with all truth and peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in anything it is amiss, reform it; where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in need, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### **First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34**

*Lector: Gloria Jacobson*

<sup>31</sup>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. <sup>32</sup>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. <sup>33</sup>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. <sup>34</sup>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.

The Word of the Lord,  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm 1**

*All read together.*

- 1 Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,  
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!**
- 2 Their delight is in the law of the LORD,  
and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.**
- 3 They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season,  
with leaves that do not wither;  
everything they do shall prosper.**
- 4 It is not so with the wicked;  
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**
- 5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes,  
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.**
- 6 For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.**

## **Second Reading: Romans 3:19-28**

*Lector: Gloria Jacobson*

<sup>19</sup>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. <sup>20</sup>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.

<sup>21</sup>But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, <sup>22</sup>the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, <sup>23</sup>since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; <sup>24</sup>they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup>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; <sup>26</sup>it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

<sup>27</sup>Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. <sup>28</sup>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.**

## **Children at Heart Sermon**

**Hymn of the Day: "Lord Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word" ELW #517**

### **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

### Sharing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

### Offering

**Music Voluntary:** *"Be Thou My Vision"* - setting by Cathy Moglebust  
*Memorial Handbells joined by Stacie Link, Emily Dalthorp, Margaret Olson, Christine Heintz, Denise Rehor, Marsha Kane, Danny Golden, Kenzie Alderson, and Dario Zafarrano on hand chimes.*

### Offering Prayer

God of power, God of plenty,  
all things belong to you.  
We bring your gifts to the table,  
that all might be fed.  
Form us into the body of your Beloved,  
Jesus Christ, our Savior.  
**Amen.**

### Great Thanksgiving

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

## Words of Institution

### 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

Jesus invites you to this table.  
Come, eat and live.

### Hymn during Communion

*"Lamb of God" WOV Setting 5*  
*"Be Thou My Vision" ELW #793*  
*"Jesus Loves Me" ELW #595*



☐ 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, grant us peace.

### **Prayer after Communion**

Blessed be your name, O God,  
for we have feasted on your Word,  
Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts.  
Strengthened by this food,  
send us to gather the world to your banquet,  
where none are left out and all are satisfied.  
In Jesus' name we pray.

**Amen.**

### **Blessing**

The God of glory,  
+ Jesus Christ, name above all names,  
and the Spirit who lives in you,  
bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

**Sending Hymn:** *"Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing"* ELW #545

### **Dismissal**

Go in peace. God is at work in you.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude:** *"A Mighty Fortress is Our God"* - Leavitt/Ferguson  
*Lois Theesfield, organ*

## Prayers for Healing

If you have a prayer request, please email [pastorkathleen@mlcnevada.org](mailto:pastorkathleen@mlcnevada.org) or [emily@mlcnevada.org](mailto:emily@mlcnevada.org), or call the church office at 515-382-6509.

*Please keep Larry & Deb Parker and family in your prayers following the death of Larry's brother, +Ron Parker*

*Please keep Connie Krupp and family in your prayers following the death of her husband, +Larry Krupp*

*Please keep Nancy Christian and family in your prayers following the death of her husband, +Larry Christian*

*Please keep Norma Jean Smith and family in your prayers following the death of her son, +Darrel Smith*

*Prayers for the family and friends of +Tina Palmisano following her death (sister-in-law of Virginia Palmisano-Goettsch)*

*Prayers for the family and friends of +Georgiann Grant following her death*

Jerry Eilers	John Bass	Norma Dannan
Mike Neal	son-in-law of Ron & Gloria Jacobson	friend of Betty Runge
Helen Johnson	Carol Vincent	Jami Tharp
Wayne Kinyon	Cassie Harrell	Fred Samuelson
Kathy Lynn Johnson	Jean Smith	Jaylee Bartleson
Christina King	Annette Dalthorp	Sheila Collingwood
Sherry Kluever	Ellie Lynch	mother of Lyndsey De Vos
Dick Settle	Ernie Ruhde	Judy Coverdale
Kim Elliott	Sierra Parr	George Forsyth
Marsha Kane	cousin of Kim Stieler	Janeen Driscoll
Pr. Marcia Kisner	Janet Jacques	Lynn Harris
Marlene Waddell	Easton Farrington	Julie Sutherland
friend of Virginia Palmisano-Goettsch	Janice Hartz	Jan Cook
Sandy Muesburger	Jackie Byers	
friend of Virginia Palmisano-Goettsch	daughter of Shellie Black	
	Donna See	

**Hospitalizations.** *If you are in the hospital or are going to be in the hospital and want us to be aware of it, please call the church office or have someone call on your behalf. Unless directed otherwise, your name will be placed on the prayer list and included in electronic notifications.*

## Announcements

### All Saints Sunday November 5

We have records of the names of Memorial members who have joined the Church Triumphant in the last year. Their names will be read during a special time of prayer on All Saints Sunday. We are mindful that many of you may have lost others who are dear to you in this past year. If you would like for their name to be read, please email the church office at [emily@mlcnevada.org](mailto:emily@mlcnevada.org) or add their name to the list located in the Narthex or on the bulletin board by Fellowship Hall.

### Council Nominees in Time of Discernment

Please pray for our Council nominees who are discerning their call to Church Council for 2024-2026. A quick reminder for those who have been nominated: **please submit your Response to Nomination form to the office by Friday, November 17.** We will elect new Council members during worship on Sunday, November 19.

### Spending Plan Forums: Sunday, November 5 and 12

As the Finance Team finalizes Memorial's General Fund Spending Plan (budget) for 2024, we will be holding two Spending Plan Forums on November 5 and 12 in Fellowship Hall following worship. This is your opportunity to hear more about the upcoming Spending Plan and to ask any questions you may have.

### November Beer & Theology

Join us for Beer & Theology at Cubbies on Main this Thursday, November 2 at 6:30 PM. Our conversation this month will center around animals, the flood, difficult neighbors, and love. Hope to see you there!

### Senior Thanksgiving Luncheon

Nevada Parks and Recreation's annual Senior Thanksgiving Luncheon will be held Tuesday, November 21 at Memorial at 11:30 AM. Free-will donations will be accepted. Reservations must be made in advance by calling 515-382-4352.

If you would like to donate toward the preparation of the meal, monetary donations are being accepted until Monday, November 13, and can be brought to Memorial's office. Thank you!

### Attention Youth and Families: Join us at *Wednesday Night Live!*#

Calling kids and youth of all ages of Memorial Lutheran! **You're invited!** This year we are starting something new... We want to invite you to bring a friend and join us for *Wednesday Night Live!* Come and engage with God, Scripture, and other young people each Wednesday evening from 6:30-7:30 PM. To sign up, grab a registration form at church or you can fill out the online form here: <https://bit.ly/459i0xu> or by visiting [mlcnevada.org](http://mlcnevada.org).

## A Special Note Regarding Tithe.ly Fees#

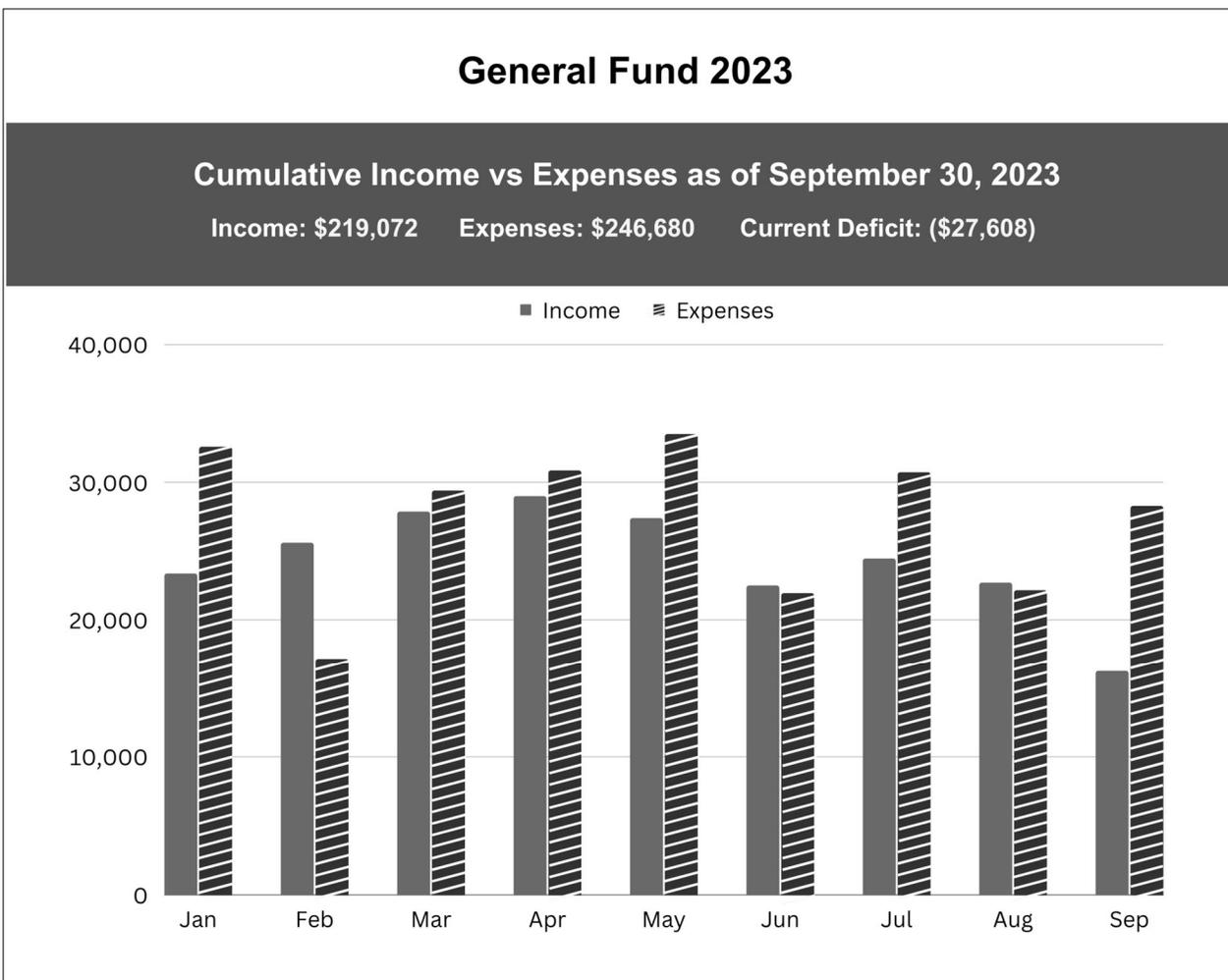
We so appreciate all that give using the online/mobile giving platform Tithe.ly! If you haven't already, please consider including Tithe.ly processing fees as part of your one-time and recurring gifts. To do this, simply check the "Cover Fees" box when setting up your gift. If you have already set up a recurring gift and would like to start including the fees, you'll need to delete this gift and set it up again with "Cover Fees" checked.

## Important Reminder Regarding Giving to Special Projects

We so appreciate gifts received for special projects such as "A Welcoming Space = A Welcoming Place" (heating and cooling) and "Drive for the Drive" (pavement). If you would like to support these projects, please make sure to specify the project name with your gift. This ensures that your gift goes directly to the project and helps us keep an accurate record of funds received / still needed. Thank you for your support!

## Online Giving with Tithe.ly

Thank you for joining us for worship today! If you would like to support our ministries, online gifts can be made using <http://tithe.ly/give> or by scanning the QR code. ***Did you know?*** In Tithe.ly, you can select to give to the General Fund, A Welcoming Space = A Welcoming Place (heating and cooling project), or the Drive for the Drive pavement project!



## *Save the Date*

### **Wednesday Night Live**

When: Wednesday, November 1, 6:30—7:30pm

### **Thursday Morning Bible Study**

When: Thursday, November 2, 8:30—9:30 am

Where: MLC Chapel

### **Beer & Theology (first Thursday of every month)**

When: Thursday, November 2, 6:30 pm

Where: Cubbies on Main

### **All Saints Sunday**

When: Sunday, November 5

### **Spending Plan Forum**

When: Sunday, November 5 following worship

### **Ministry Endowment Fund Reception**

When: Thursday, November 9

### **Spending Plan Forum**

When: Sunday, November 12 following worship

**Memorial Lutheran Church**  
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Kathleen Lotz, Pastor | Lois Theesfield, Director of Music Ministry  
Emily Dalthorp, Parish Administrator for Outreach & Engagement  
Mike Coverdale, Custodian