AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Aaron Dawson

Reformation Sunday

October 25, 2026

PRELUDE
ANNOUNCEMENTS/WELCOME
TEMPLE TALK Sue Coffin

INVOCATION
P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Congregation: Amen**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION (pg. 56 LBW)
P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
C: Amen
P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
P: Most merciful God, **C: we confess that we are in bondage 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: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, 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 **LBW #229 "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"**

GREETING (pg. 57 LBW)
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.**

HYMN OF PRAISE (pgs. 58-59 LBW)
P: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.
C: Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father: We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God: You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen

SALUTATION (pg. 62 LBW)
P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.** *P: Let us pray.*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Almighty God, gracious Lord, pour out your Holy Spirit upon your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your Word, protect and comfort them in all temptations, defend them against all their enemies, and bestow on the Church your saving peace; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

FIRST LESSON: Deuteronomy 34:1-12

RESPONSIVE PSALM PRAYER: Psalm 1

L: 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!

C: Their delight is in the law of the LORD, and they meditate on his law day and night.

L: 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.

C: It is not so with the wicked; they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

L: Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

C: For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked is doomed.

SECOND LESSON: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

Please stand for the procession of the cross, bowing as it passes by, and remain standing until the cross is returned to its base.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION **LBW #559 "Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" (Please rise)**

GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 22:34-46

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 22nd chapter. **Congregation sings: Glory to you, O Lord.** (After Gospel is read) *P: The Gospel of the Lord.* **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

SONG OF RESPONSE **LBW #564 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON Pastor Aaron Dawson

HYMN OF THE DAY **LBW #230 "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word"**

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We

acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
L: Lord, in Your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE
P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

OFFERING & OFFERTORY (pg. 66 LBW) **(Please rise) Congregation Sings: Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

OFFERTORY PRAYER (pg. 67 LBW) *P: Merciful Father,* **C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

GREAT THANKSGIVING (pgs. 68-69 LBW)
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 to the Lord our God. **C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.**
P: It is indeed right and salutary…we praise your name and join their unending hymn:
C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER (pgs. 69-71) & LORD'S PRAYER

LAMB OF GOD (pg. 72 LBW) **Congregation Sings: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

POST COMMUNION BLESSING, CANTICLE & PRAYER (pgs. 72 LBW) **(Please rise as you are able) Congregation sings: Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev'ryone what he has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name. He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

BENEDICTION
P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. **C: Amen**

CLOSING HYMN **LBW #365 "Built on a Rock" (Vs. 1, 3, & 5)**

DISMISSAL
P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Open our hearts to your Word, O Lord, and renew our faith by your truth.
May we worship with grateful spirits and follow Christ
with courage, humility and joy. Amen.

NEWEST PRAYER CONCERNS:

Jeffrey Lachenmyer (father/Jennifer Smith) Genet Dixon
Family of Karen Fleming (grandmother/Jennifer Smith)

CONTINUED PRAYER CONCERNS:

DeAnn McMorris	Janie Howe	Loretta Elliott	Tracy O'Donnell
Hannah Shebesta	Robert Pilarski	Tom Finger	Rich Friemel
Angie Trenberth	Tracie Sisneros	Jim Perry	Mary Kempfer
Kim Ross	Kay Thomas	Sondra Sipes	Barb Corbly
Marty Mirocha	Melvina Heap	Paul Albers	Kim Wyre
Annette Carlson	Wilma Suits	Brian Dietz	Roberta Arthur
Steve Schluter	Glenn Behnke	John Keith	Pen Pendleton
Denny Doyle	Lee Briggs	Carla Adkins	Jessica Hawn
Gabbi Reynolds	William Benton	Steve Ritchie	Sharon Lohen
Mary Mallicoat	Merrill Wattjes	Joan Percival	Bob & Jenny Hobby
Joyce Williamson			

NURSING HOMES/ASSISTED LIVING:

Dave Overholt	LouAnn Baugher	Pr. Barb Busboom	Luella Loschen
Joan Mathis	Martha Stanfill	Paul Wolters	Keith Dohleman
Earl Smith			

MILITARY (Bolded names are known to be in an area of higher danger):

Jon Stiebner	Alex Short	Brandon Elrod	Kasey Fenimore
Levi Loschen	Ryan Falletti	Riley Falletti	Eli Baker
Matthew Mislan			

ALTAR GUILD	Terri Kirby, Sondra Sipes
ACOLYTES	Jake Holland, Carson McClain
GREETERS	David Hulse, Donna Hustedt
LECTOR	Deanne Rosenbeck
PRAYER LEADER	Andrew Peck
WORSHIP STEWARD	Ron Howe
USHERS	Rod & Sandy Heiser, Mike Tome

WELCOME Today is Reformation Sunday, a day to remember with gratitude those who called the church back to God's Word and the good news of salvation through faith in Christ. We rejoice in the freedom, grace and hope we have in Jesus and welcome all who have gathered to worship Him.

FLOWERS TODAY are provided by *Richard & Marleen Peavler* in celebration of their 57th Wedding Anniversary on October 25th.

FLOWERS TODAY are provided by *Bill & Jody Schlueter* in celebration of their 69th Wedding Anniversary on October 26th.

ANNUAL QUILT SALE will be held for the next several weeks. Quilts made by our ALC Quilters are on display in the sanctuary and available for purchase for $40.

TRUNK-OR-TREAT will take place this afternoon from 3:00-5:00 p.m. in the park across the street from the church. There will be candy, games, food and more! Please plan to attend!

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES are due to the church office by noon this Monday, October 26th, for the November newsletter.

MEMORIAL SERVICE for Shirley Barnes will be held here at ALC at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 31st. There will be no visitation before the funeral.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS next Sunday, November 1st. Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour on Saturday night.

MEN'S BREAKFAST will be held on Saturday, November 14th, at 8:30 a.m. in the ALC Youth Hall. All men of the church are encouraged to attend. To help prepare breakfast or donate food, please contact Tom Edwards at 217-840-1929.

PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS Pastor Aaron holds open office hours on Monday's and Tuesday's from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m. and on Thursday mornings from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. He is also available by appointment Sunday through Thursday.

TREASURER POSITION We are still looking for someone to take over as Treasurer for ALC as DeAnn McMorris is stepping down due to health reasons. This position only takes about *8-10 hours a month*. Please prayerfully consider taking over this position. You may contact the church office for more information.

PORTALS OF PRAYER for the fourth quarter (October-December) are still available to pick up in the Narthex and outside the church office.

CELEBRATING HOLY COMMUNION If you are a baptized believer, trusting that the life giving and sustaining power and presence of Christ is truly present in bread and wine, we welcome you to the Lord's table. Children who commune in their home congregations are welcome to commune; those who are not currently communing at the Lord's table are invited to come forward for a blessing keeping their hands to their sides. The center of each tray holds light colored, non-alcoholic juice for those with special circumstances. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request for those with allergies.

ATTENDANCE FROM LAST WEEK:
9:00 a.m. Worship Service – 125

CANTEEN RUN is in need of blankets (single to king size). They can be used but please make sure they are clean. Also, please make sure they are not too heavy for the guys to carry around. We are also in need of men's hoodies or sweatshirts. Thank you in advance for any donations!

ATTENTION USHERS When you are ushering on a Sunday morning, please check-in with the Worship Steward on duty when you arrive. This assures the Worship Steward knows you are here and can assign you the area you are to cover.

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READINGS:
Revelation 7:9-17; Psalm 34:1-10, 22; 1 John 3:1-3; Matthew 5:1-12

THIS WEEK

Sunday, October 25
9:00 a.m. Worship Service
10:00 a.m. Sunday School
Women's Bible Study
3-5:00 p.m. Trunk or Treat
6:00 p.m. NO High School Youth Group

Monday, October 26
12:30 p.m. Quilting

Tuesday, October 27
5:00 p.m. Bell Choir Practice
6:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Wednesday, October 28
1:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study
6:00 p.m. Confirmation

Thursday, October 29
9:00 a.m. Bible Study

Saturday, October 31
11:00 a.m. Shirley Barnes Memorial Service

Sunday, November 1
9:00 a.m. Worship Service
10:00 a.m. Sunday School
Women's Bible Study
6:00 p.m. High School Youth Group

Radio Broadcast Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m. on WPXN 104.9FM