



Saint Michael's Lutheran Church



Reformation Sunday

ELW setting 3

October 26, 2025

10:00 a.m.

** Please stand.*

GATHERING

PRELUDE

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Martin Luther

* 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.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Merciful God,

you free us to love others,
but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,
but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.

You surround us with patience, kindness,
and generosity,
but we grow weary in doing what is right.

In your mercy, forgive us.
Do not give up on us.
Heal us, break our bonds,
and show us the path of life.
Amen.

You belong to Christ Jesus
and you are God's children through faith.
In the cross of $\oplus$ Christ,
and through the power of the Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.
Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

Amen.

*** HYMN #504**

A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD

KYRIE

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb

who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich-es, wis - dom, and

strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of

God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon-or,

glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was

slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

* PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

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.

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.

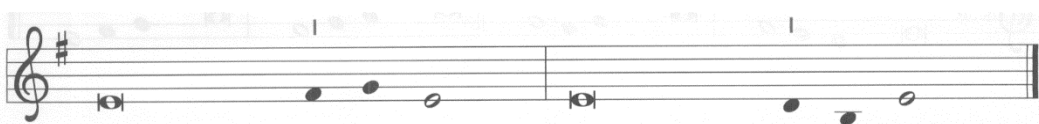
²⁷ Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law? That of works? No, rather through the law of faith. ²⁸ For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

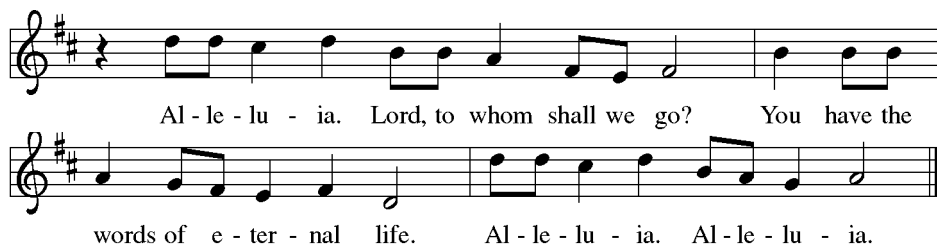
Psalm 46:1-7

Read 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



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.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Mark A. Grorud

*** HYMN #729 THE CHURCH OF CHRIST, IN EVERY AGE**

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.

Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Bless we the Lord
Thanks be to God!

(The prayers conclude:)

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

* PEACE

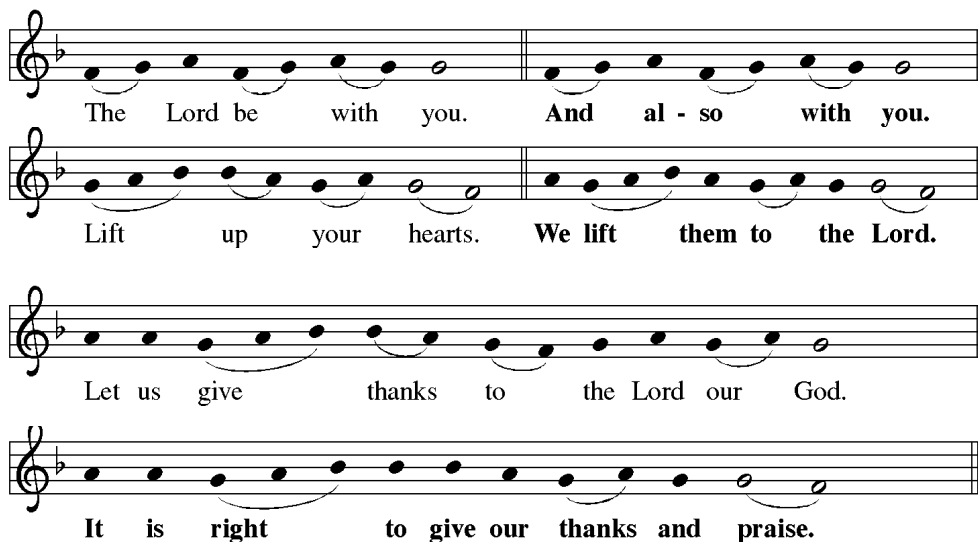
The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

MEAL

* 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.**

* PREFACE DIALOGUE



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

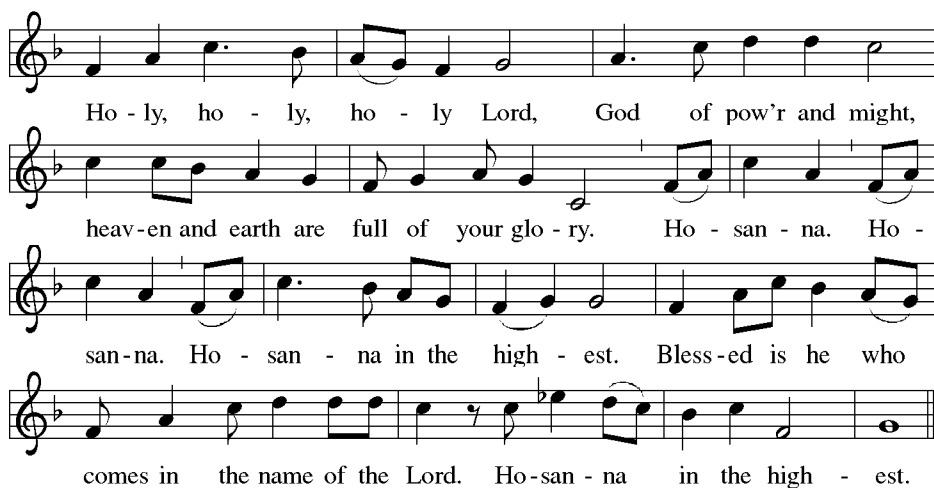
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

* PREFACE FOR PENTECOST SEASON

* HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



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

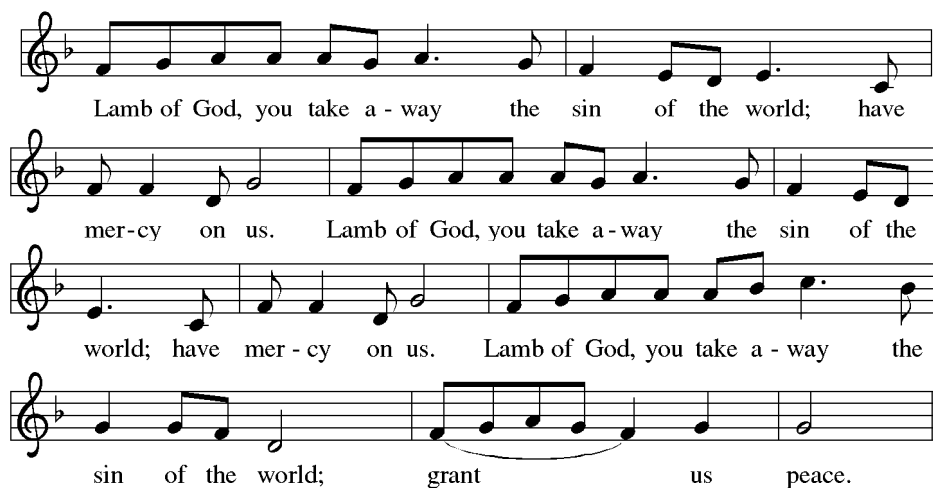
Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us,
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever.

Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION:

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.
Come and eat at God's table.

LAMB OF GOD



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 rice cracker will be placed in your hand. Take the bread or cracker 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.

* 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

The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope ☩ bless you now and always. **Amen.**

* HYMN 654

THE CHURCH'S ONE FOUNDATION

* DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE *Toccata on "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"* Setting by Emma Lou Diemer

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IN OUR PRAYERS

Prayer Request books can be found at each entryway. Requests written in the Prayer books will be included in today's prayers; someone is added to the Prayer List by a note to Pastor or the church office, and will run for **four consecutive Sundays**. Requests may be renewed.

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING are offered for all those celebrating birthdays this week including Christopher Gerwig (October 26), Thomas White (October 29), Gwendolyn Runestad (October 30), and Jeffrey Gerwig (November 1).

CARE AND HEALING: Heather Bakios, Stephanie Barrella, Ken Bielemeier, Joe Boehm, Shari Bruner, Robert Carpenter, Angela Castillo, Althea Ericsson, Eric Ericsson, Jill Ferenc, April Gurciullo, Rita Hausdorff, Jack Koch, Mark Kramm, Riley Johansen, Liam Ledbetter-Dunn, Pam Lowell, Baylor (Boomer) Manchuck, Claire Miethke, Richard Miller Jr., Judy Mirczak, Ann Moores, Jim Moores, Benton Morse, Doris Ann Peter, Joey Peter, Toni Rohde, Jan and Harv Weitzel, Charles Yost.

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

CHOIR

Our choir has resumed singing. They rehearse on Sundays from 9 till 9:40 AM and after the coffee hour: from 11:15 till noon. The choir will continue singing on Sundays based upon availability of the choir members. They need your voices to sing all styles of music: from easy classical to contemporary, gospel, spirituals and even jazz. The music selections depend on the availability of choir members. If you play an instrument and would like to share your talent with the congregation, please, let Alla know.

SERVING TODAY

Greeter
Assisting Minister
Reader
Altar Guild
Cookies & Conversations
Counters
Interim Pastor
Organist Dr. Alla Borzova

Diana VanDam
Ken D'Arinzo
Diana VanDam
Laura White
Ingrid Hollinger
Melba Grieshaber, Roger Heine
Pastor Mark Grorud

SERVING NEXT WEEK

Greeter
Assisting Minister
Reader
Altar Guild
Cookies & Conversations
Counters
Interim Pastor
Organist

Ingrid Hollinger
Roger Heine
Jan Weitzel
Laura White

Roger Heine, Ingrid Hollinger
Pastor Mark Grorud
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
president@StMichaelsLutheran.org

ST. MICHAEL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH WEEKLY NEWS
October 26 - November 1

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.

OFFERING ENVELOPES: Please use the offering envelopes in the pew rack if you make a cash donation, and write your name on the front of the envelope. This allows us to ensure we are keeping track of members' cash contributions placed in the offering plate without their numbered envelope.

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 in the pew card holder and you can just drop it in the offering plate on your way up to communion.

FLOWERS AND ETERNAL LIGHT THIS WEEK

Flowers this Sunday were given by Norma Gerwig in honor of her son Chris and her husband Jeff both celebrating birthdays.

Eternal light given by Elaine Utley in honor of her sister, Claire Miethke's birthday.

FLOWER AND ETERNAL LIGHT CHARTS

Thank you for helping to beautify the church for worship! The next available dates to sign up are for the month of November.

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY – NOVEMBER 2

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 2**, please fill out the sheet in the bulletin or call the church office at 203-966-3913 no later than Tuesday, October 28.

21 IN ATTENDANCE ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19

This Week: October 26 - November 2

Sunday, October 26

9:00 am & 11:15 am Choir Practice

11:00 am Cookies & Conversation

11:00 am Planning Workshop for Advent Community Event

Upcoming Events

Sunday, November 2 – All Saints Day

9:00 am & 11:15 am Choir Practice

10:00 am Worship

11:00 am Cookies & Conversations

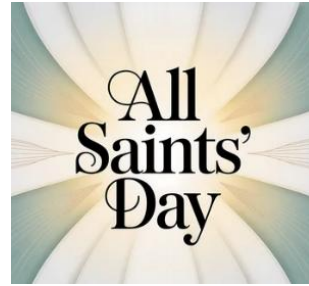


For pastoral services, Pastor Grorud can be reached at (402) 620-8032 or via his new email address **mgorrud@gmail.com**. He is in the church office Tuesday and Thursday afternoons.

Need access to the church? Please plan on coming during office hours: Tuesday and Thursday 12:30 - 4:30pm.

New Canaan Historical Society: Normal hours of operation are Tuesday-Saturday 10 am - 4 pm. They are closed on Sundays and Mondays. If you need access to the sanctuary on Saturdays, please let Nancy know and she will confirm with the historical society to ensure someone will be available to let you in.

Parsonage - There is a new tenant effective October 1. The three (3) parking spots closest to the former playground side will be reserved for them.



To be remembered
on **ALL SAINTS SUNDAY**
November 2, 2025

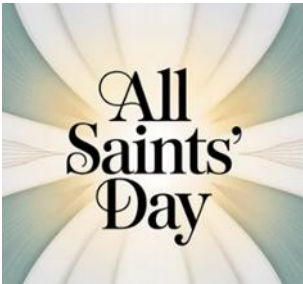
If you have loved ones who passed away and wish them to be remembered in the Prayers of the Church on **All Saints Sunday, Nov. 2**, please call the church office at 203-966-3913, email saintmichaelsoffice@gmail.com, or fill out the following information and return to:

St. Michael's Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 1508
New Canaan, CT 06840

by **Tuesday, October 28.**

Please remember in prayer:

Your Name: _____



To be remembered
on **ALL SAINTS SUNDAY**
November 2, 2025

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New Canaan, CT 06840

By Tuesday, October 28.

Please remember in prayer:

Your Name: _____