



First Lutheran Church

Sunday, October 26, 2025 | Reformation Sunday
Installation of Pastor Matthew Rossler



Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

DREAM BIG MOMENT |

GATHERING HYMN

A Mighty Fortress

LeAnn Mouw
ELW #505

1. A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing; our helper frees us from the flood of mortal ills prevailing. For still our ancient foe, forsworn to work us woe, with guile and dreadful might is armed to wage the fight: on earth there is no equal.
2. If we in our own strength confide, our striving turns to losing; the righteous one fights by our side, the one of God's own choosing. You ask who this may be: Christ Jesus, it is he, the Lord of hosts by name. No other God we claim! None else can win the battle.
3. Though all the world with devils fill and threaten to devour us, we tremble not, we trust God's will: they cannot overpower us. Though Satan rant and rage, in fiercest war engage, this tyrant's doomed to fail; God's judgement must prevail! One little word shall triumph.
4. God's Word shall stand above the powers, shall end all their thanksgiving. The Spirit and the gifts are ours, for God with us is living. Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also; though all of these be gone, they yet have nothing won. The kingdom's our forever!

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P: Merciful God, **C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love; in your great compassion blot out our offenses. Release us from the guilt and shame we carry, and renew a right spirit within us. Teach us your ways, and uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

MUSICAL MESSAGE

Then Sings My Soul (How Great Thou Art)
Choral Setting by Mary McDonald

Jubilate Choir

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Eternal light **C: Shine in our hearts. Eternal wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance. Eternal compassion, have mercy on us. Turn us to seek your face, and enable us to reflect your goodness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

MUSICAL MESSAGE

Here I Am, Lord | arr. Bill Ingram

Alleluia Ringers

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalm 46:1-4

R: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

C: Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea,

R: though its waters roar and foam, 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

SECOND READING

Romans 8:38-39

³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

R: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW pg. 205

Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word. Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred. Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL

John 8:31-36

P: The Holy Gospel according to John, the 8th chapter. **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

³¹ Then 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.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Genelle Netland

SONG OF THE DAY

Your Words

Let me hear Your words, above all other voices Above all the distractions in this world (2 times)

For Your words bring life, And Your voice speaks promises
Lord Your love offers more, Than anything else in this world

***Chorus: Your words give us life that's never ending, Your words bring us love that never fails
Everything else will fade away, But what will remain, are Your words.***

That I speak Your words, more than ours more than ever. Let us share Your love with all the world
Chorus

The grass will wither and the flowers will fall But the word of our God will last forever
The grass will wither and the flowers will fall But the word of our God will last forever ***Chorus 2 times***

INSTALLATION OF PASTOR MATTHEW ROSSLER

PASTOR MATTHEW ADDRESS

SONG OF PRAISE

We Believe

In this time of desperation, when all we know is doubt and fear.
There is only one foundation: we believe, we believe.
In this broken generation, when all is dark You help us see.
There is only one salvation, we believe, we believe.

***Chorus: We believe in God, the Father. We believe in Jesus Christ.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, and He's given us new life. We believe in the crucifixion.
We believe that He conquered death. We believe in the resurrection, and He's comin' back again.
We believe.***

So, let our faith be more than anthems, greater than the songs we sing.
And in our weakness and temptations, we believe. We believe! ***Chorus***

Let the lost be found and the dead be raised in the here and now let love invade.
Let the church live loud; our God will say, "We believe, we believe."

And the gates of hell will not prevail for the power of God has torn the veil.
Now we know Your love will never fail. We believe, we believe.
We believe in God the Father. We believe in Jesus Christ.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, and He's given us new life.
We believe in the crucifixion. We believe that He conquered death.
We believe in the resurrection, and He's comin' back, He's comin' back again.
He's coming back again. We believe, we believe.

SHARING OF PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

NOISY OFFERING

October: Churches United

OFFERING

OFFERTORY SONG

Holy, Holy, Holy

ELW #473

1. Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores you.
My heart is glad to say the words: You are holy God. **(Sing 2x)**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Loving God, **C: receive this offering for the building up of your kingdom: the proclamation of your word and the loving of our neighbor. Amen.**

COMMUNION

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

C: 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.

Distribution

Post Communion Blessing

Post Communion Prayer

C: Gracious God, at this table you have nourished our body and soul with food and drink. As you have been food and drink for us, transform us to be food and drink for one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN

Be Thou My Vision

ELW #793

1. Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
thou my best thought both by day and by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.
2. Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.
Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tow'r,
raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
3. Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou and thou only, the first in my heart,
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.
4. Light of my soul, after victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

SENDING

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

POSTLUDE





ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME PASTOR MATTHEW!

Join us today after our worship service for a special treat in the Fellowship Hall in honor of Pastor Matthew Rossler!

NOVEMBER IS FOOD PANTRY MONTH

We are seeing volunteers to serve in the Becker County Food Panty from 11:30am-3:30pm on Tuesday & Thursdays in November. If you would like to volunteer, sign up at the volunteer table.

WE CARE RECEIPTS

Save your Central Market! The Rebekah Circle is collecting receipts and turning them in for \$\$\$\$. Money raised goes toward the Circle's ongoing support of local ministries and organizations. A collection basket is outside of the church office.

NEW MEMBER WELCOME

Thinking of becoming a member of FLC? Our next new member Sunday will be December 7. For information on how to join, contact Sonny in the church office, or fill out the form on our website: firstlutheranchurch.com/membership

FLC PHOTO DIRECTORY

The 2025 directories are now available! Pick up your copy in the church office. Cost is a suggested donation of \$5.

TURKEY BINGO

Wednesday, November 12
Bingo! Bingo! Bingo! Our annual Turkey Bingo fundraiser is just one month away! Join us on Wednesday November 12 from 5-7:30 for a hot turkey dinner and bingo galore. If you're interested in 'sponsoring' this event, please stop by our table downstairs to donate today.

"THE WAY THROUGH: HEALING, LEADERSHIP & LOVING OUR NEIGHBOR IN THE PLACES WE LIVE"

Sunday, November 23 @ 10:30am
***Wednesday, Dec 3 @ 6:30pm**
note date change*

Presenter:

Dr. Julie Smith-Ylilniemi, PhD
We will explore how our personal and collective healing from cultural and intergenerational trauma can deepen our capacity to love and serve others. We'll consider how faith, spirituality, place, and leadership intersect, and how we can live out our call to care for our neighbors with courage, compassion, and authenticity.

BLESSING CLOSET NEEDS

With the cold weather setting in, we are in serious need of men's & women's winter jackets (sized large & XL proffered) and blankets or sleeping bags. Please bring your donations to the church office.



COMMITMENT SUNDAY NOVEMBER 16!

10 DAYS OF PRAYERS

If you missed any of the 10 Days of Prayers videos, they are available on our FLC YouTube Channel:



DREAM BIG DONATIONS

If you are making a donation to the Dream Big Capital Campaign, please note in the memo line "Dream Big".

Prayers for God's People

Ongoing prayers for:
Bill Wegschie, Cole Woltjer,
Doreen Tollefson, Vern, Marge
Prechel, Gretta Frisch, Judy Wood,
Larry Kiono, Tyler Wilson, Iain,
JoAnne Higley, Katie Harper,
Wayne Breitwieser, Kermit Bratholt,
Mike Fillmore.

Prayers of comfort for those who
mourn the loss of a loved one,
including families of
Daniel Thompson
Charlotte Buehler and Kari Herr.

Thanks for worshipping with us!



Lead Pastor: Joe Skogmo
Associate Pastor: Matthew Rossler
Music Director: Karen Bimberg

GIVE ONLINE

Prefer electronic giving?

Set up an automated method and frequency that works best for you by using the **QR code**.

Then, if you like, drop the **green laminated slip** in the offering plate.

