

THE LORD'S DAY

October 1, 2023

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

10:00 a.m.

PRELUDE Piano/Chancel Organ

CALL TO WORSHIP &

STRIKING THE HOUR "Amazing Grace" The Carillon Bells

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

† INTROIT "Holy Ground" Page 217

† Please stand as you are able. (Verse 1)

† HYMN "Open My Eyes That I May See" Page 563

(All Verses)

† Prayer of the Day and The Lord's Prayer

† ANTHEM "Gloria Patri" Page 813

HYMN "Psalm 1" Psalter 1^A

Sung To The Tune of: "Hosanna Loud Hosanna"

(All Verses)

WE PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER AND RECITE GOD'S COVENANT PROMISES

PASTORAL PRAYER

RESPONSORIAL "Psalm 90" Psalter 90^B

Sung To The Tune of: "Faith of Our Fathers"

(Verses 6,7)

RESPONSIVE READING: "The Heidelberg Catechism"

WE RETURN OUR TIME, TALENT AND TREASURE UNTO THE LORD

RECEIVING THE TITHES AND OFFERINGS † DOXOLOGY AND OFFERTORY PRAYER



WE LIFT OUR VOICES IN PRAISE

SPECIAL MUSIC

CONFESSION OF FAITH AND EXPOSITION OF THE WORD

† THE NICENE CREED

THE SERMON: "God's Particular Providence: The Advent of Reformation Series." Matthew 6:25-34

† HYMN "Come to the Table" Page 464 (Verse 1)

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

(Please hold the Elements until all are served.)

† Prayer After Communion

† CLOSING HYMN "Take the Name of Jesus with You" Page 235

(Verses 2,3,4)

† BENEDICTION

† ANTHEM "The Family of God" Page 419

DEPART IN PEACE TO LOVE AND SERVE THE LORD



In this constantly changing world, our goal is to reflect and recapture the historic and classical worship of Almighty God. Central to our service is the proclamation of the Word and a biblical understanding of the Sacraments in the tradition of the Evangelical and Reformed faith.

OUR MISSION

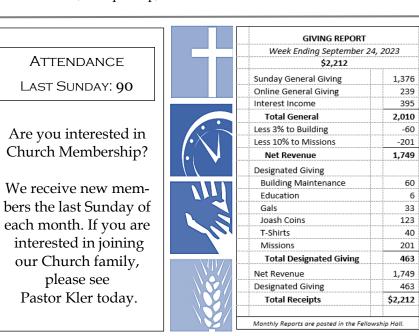
TO PRESENT CHRIST TO EVERYONE, EVERYWHERE, AT EVERY AVAILABLE OPPORTUNITY.



The Lessons for Use on the EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST ~ YEAR A Ezekiel 18:1-4,25-32 • Psalm 25:1-8 Philippians 2:1-13 • Gospel Focus: Matthew

WE AFFIRM THE FOLLOWING:

- The Holy Trinity of God Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- God has revealed Himself fully and decisively in Holy Scripture. We believe the Bible, consisting of the Old and New Testaments, to be the inspired, infallible, and authoritative Word of God and our guide for faith and life.
- There is only one way to Salvation through Jesus Christ.
- The sanctity of human life based on our creation in the image of God and our election by God for service in His Kingdom. This leads us to respectfully affirm the sanctity of life at every stage, from conception to ordinary death.
- The Biblical principles of immutable gender and sexuality: The exclusive union of one man and one woman in marriage; and fidelity to its vows. And, chastity outside of marriage for the sake of the Kingdom.
- God made all people from one man and although people can be distinguished by different ethnicities and nationalities, we are all one human race and absolute equals before God in creation, the need for repentance, and the offer of redemption.
- That the mission of the Church is to spread the Good News of the Gospel in every word and deed. Proclaiming to the world the atoning death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and seeking to bring every person into a life of faith, discipleship, and submission to Him.



The ADVENT of REFORMATION

On the last weekend in October, much of the culture will focus on candy and things that go bump at night. Protestants, however, have something far more significant to celebrate.



October 31 is Reformation Day, which commemorates what was perhaps the greatest move of God's Spirit since the days of the Apostles. But what is the significance of Reformation Day, and how should we consider the events it commemorates?

At the time, few would have suspected that the sound of a hammer striking the castle church door in Wittenberg, Germany, would soon be heard worldwide and ultimately lead to the most significant transformation of Western society since the Apostles first preached the Gospel throughout the Roman empire. Martin Luther's nailing of his Ninety-Five Theses to a church door on October 31, 1517, provoked a debate that culminated finally in what we now call the Protestant Reformation. Martin Luther – the law student turned Augustinian monk, became the center of a great controversy after his theses were copied and distributed throughout Europe. Initially protesting the pope's attempt to sell salvation, Luther's study of Scripture soon led him to oppose the church of Rome on issues including the primacy of the Bible over church tradition and the means by which we are found righteous in the sight of God.

Luther recaptured the biblical view of the priesthood of all believers, showing all people that their work had purpose and dignity because in it they could serve their Creator – not earn themselves salvation. This last issue is probably Luther's most significant contribution to Christian theology. Though preached clearly in the New Testament and found in the writings of many of the church fathers, the medieval bishops and priests had largely forgotten the truth that our own good works can by no means merit God's favor. Salvation is by grace alone through faith alone, and good works result from our faith; they are not added to it as the grounds for our right standing in the Lord's eyes (Eph. 2:8-10). Justification, God's declaration that we are not guilty, forgiven of sin, and righteous in His sight, comes because, through our faith alone, the Father imputes, (credits to our account) the perfect righteousness of Christ. Luther's rediscovery of this truth led to a whole host of other religious and societal reforms - without which - much of what we take for granted in the West would have likely been impossible.

Luther's translation of the Bible into German put the Word of God in the hands of the people, and today, Scripture is available in almost every language, enabling lay people to study it proficiently. He reformed the Latin mass by putting the liturgy in the common tongue and restored the centrality of congregational singing. Today, Luther's legacy lives on in the creeds, confessions, worship structure and musical traditions of Protestant churches worldwide.

In celebration of the mighty way in which the Providence of God used the work of the reformers, I want to rechristen the next four Sundays as: "the Advent of Reformation" (like the four Advent Sundays leading up to Christmas Day) so that we can use them to reacquaint ourselves with all that God accomplished and is still accomplishing in the Protestant movement.

Over these next four weeks leading up to Reformation Day, let us equip ourselves to be knowledgeable proclaimers and defenders of biblical truth. May we be eager to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the world and thereby spark a new reformation of church and culture!





The Chancel Flowers Are Placed by:

Paul & Susan McCuistion
In Loving Memory of Gillie Bennett



MARK YOUR **Y** CALENDAR



If the Protestant Reformation began Today ...

THE ELDERS
TEACHING & WORSHIP

Rev. H. Joseph Kler Senior Pastor / I.F.O.C. Chaplain

Rev. John O. Strauss Worship Leader / Minister of Music

THE DEACONS
Jim Leitzke, Gary Hatrick

OUR MUSICIANS
Ann Dantuma
Pianist/Organist

Donna Zenisek-Huber

SOUND BOOTH

Ric Romyn, Joe Negron,

Jonathan Kler

To contact Board President John Vosteen, please call: 813-731-2803

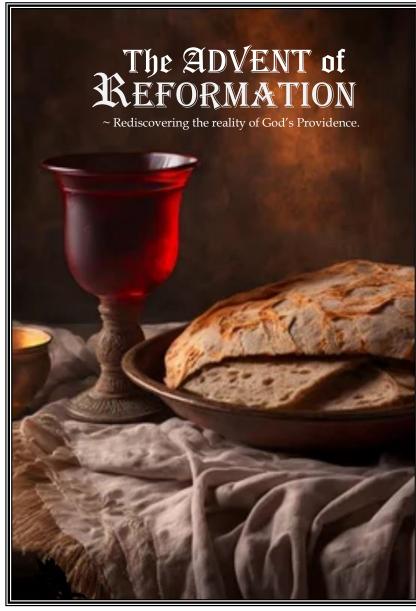
To contact the Pastor, please call: 813-323-0802



OUR VOLUNTEER STAFFED
CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:
Tuesday - Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
Phone: 813-780-6027 • Website: www.fcczhills.org
• Email: fcczh@aol.com



Let us not give up the habit of meeting together, as some are doing, but Encourage one another as the Day of the Lord draws near. -Hebrews 10:25



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