



CROSSLink

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Worship Services:
Saturdays 5:30PM (Sanctuary)
Sundays 8:30AM (Sanctuary)
Sundays 10:45AM (LOFT)

October 2018

From the Pastor's Desk...



“How Firm a Foundation”
Isaiah 43:1-7

Dear Fellow Redeemed,

Here's a preview of the Reformation Sermon for October 27-28. This is NOT a license to miss worship that weekend! This is only intended to whet your appetite for those wonderful Reformation emphases that are heard weekly, but especially the end of each October.

Everything seems to be crumbling, doesn't it? It feels as if so much is falling apart all around us. Trust in institutions is waning at an alarming rate. This includes what is often called “the institutional church”. Standards of conduct are disappearing. Civility and civil discourse are disappearing. If you don't believe that, compare political “debates” today to debates from the 70's and 80's. Things have changed.

We are living in what sociologists call “Post-Modern” times. One of the features of such times is the idea that there is no such thing as absolutes. There is no absolute right and wrong. There is no absolute truth. Everything you and I believe is relative. God as the absolute standard and ground of being has been discarded. This has frightening implications.

Some of these implications include: marriage (the foundation of any society throughout history) has been redefined. Human sexuality is whatever I decide it is. We are drifting from being a society of law and order to one of anarchy and chaos. What used to be wrong is now considered right; what used to be right is now viewed as wrong. You get the point.

What does one do in such times? Is there a firm foundation on which we can rely? Christians at the time of the Reformation (the sixteenth century for those keeping score) faced an institutional church which had set the truth of God's Word aside in favor of human opinions and standards. This proved to be a disaster in terms of people's faith. In what or whom do we believe?

In prayerfully searching the Bible, Luther came upon the solution. More accurately, the solution was given to him by our good and gracious God. The ONLY true foundation; the only FIRM foundation is Jesus Christ. And the ONLY way of know Jesus in any firm and certain way is through the sure foundation of God's Word - the Bible. God's unchanging revelation to sinful mortals.

One of the best places in the Bible to see this firm foundation - Jesus - is the Prophet Isaiah. **Isaiah 43:1**
“Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; You are Mine.”

God's inspired Word gives you two reasons to “fear not”. The first is the fact that God, through Jesus' death and resurrection, has REDEEMED you. He has “purchased and won you from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil. Not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood, and with His innocent suffering and death. That I may be His own, and live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness.” (The Small Catechism-Second Article explanation).

The blood of Jesus has won you to God. You are His precious possession right now. You are “His own”. Being righteous because of Jesus’ shed blood makes you innocent. Being both righteous and innocent makes you blessed. Happy. Happy now. Happy forever. That’s security! No firmer foundation exists!

Now that you are eternally secure, built on the sure foundation of God’s forgiveness and salvation, you can face anything. Isaiah continues, **“When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, nor shall the flame scorch you.”** Then Isaiah gives the reason why: **“For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.” (Isaiah 43:2-3)**

What better foundation can you have than the one you have right now? God Himself! The creator and sustainer of the universe (see **Isaiah 43:1**). The Almighty God. The All-Knowing God. The Always Present God. The God who loves you to the point that He allowed His only Son to be hung-execution style-on the tree. To become a curse for you. On your behalf. Instead of you! (**Galatians 3:13**)

The God revealed in, by, and through Jesus is always FOR you. Even in the worst of times. And also in the best of times. What great news! What a solid foundation in uncertain times!

“When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie, My grace, all-sufficient, shall be thy supply.
The flames shall not hurt thee; I only design Thy dross to consume and thy gold to refine.”
The Lutheran Hymnal #427:5

I quoted this stanza in order for you to hear the last stanza of this hymn. Get ready to see the firmest of foundations in Jesus:

“The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose I will not, I will not, desert to his foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake, I’ll never, no never, no never, forsake!”
The Lutheran Hymnal #427:7

We’ll see you in the Divine Services Reformation Weekend for “the rest of the story”!

Resting on Jesus,
Pastor Bill Metzger
Psalm 46

Sunday Morning Adult Bible Class

Angels – what do you know about them? How did they come to be? Why do they exist? How is God using them? Join us in Adult Bible Class for “Angels” beginning October 21 at 9:45 AM in the fellowship hall. Coffee and goodies provided. Invite and bring a friend.

News from the Preschool

Jean Hoger, Director

In September we spent a lot of time talking about ourselves. We talked about how old we are. We talked about what letters are in our names. We talked about our homes and families and pets. We were measured and weighed. We drew self-portraits. While we are so very different, we are alike in many ways. Everyone wants to be included. Everyone wants to be liked. What an awesome time to talk about our Creator and his great love for each and every one of us!

Our 4 year-olds went to the Hollows the last week of September. We were able to hike around the lake and enjoy looking off the pier. Each child had a pair of binoculars and a clipboard of nature plants and animals to look out for on our walk.

Our Taffy Apple sale will close on October 5. The apples will be here on the October 12 and can be picked up that evening during our open house or after services on the October 13 and 14.

During October all classes will go to the Fire Station and learn some simple fire safety rules. We'll see a fire fighter dress up in his gear. The kids will be able to try on the fire helmet. We'll also be able to climb up in the engine. We have two preschoolers whose dads are fire fighters!

Our Small Children: Big Community Helpers project for October will be collecting gently used or new children's winter hats, gloves, mittens, and boots. If you have anything to share, you can drop it in the bin that will be in the hallway by the bulletin board. Thanks!

We thank you for your continued support and prayers.

OWLS Hoots and Happenings



OWLS will meet Thursday, October 4 at noon in the lower level of the LOFT. Lil Hansmann will provide a dessert, beverages and a devotion so bring a sandwich for yourself or some leftovers to warm up. Bring your favorite game or join in cards, dominoes, puzzles and conversation with friends. Books and magazines can be exchanged; any left at the end of the meeting are donated to Bethesda Shop in Crystal Lake to support the ministry of Bethesda Lutheran Home in Watertown, WI.

OWLS are planning a trip to enjoy fall at All Seasons Orchard in Woodstock on October 18. Please see the OWLS bulletin board for time and travel info. Sign up if you plan to go.

ATTENTION EVERYONE!!

Looking ahead: for the fourth year, OWLS will packing meals at FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN on November 15. We will leave in carpools about 8:30 AM and work there from 9:30-11:30 AM. This is a great opportunity for all of the Holy Cross community to join in this project. You will enjoy it and accomplish great things that morning. Please join us. There will be a sign-up sheet posted so we know exactly who is coming so they can have our work stations ready for us. Afterward we will go out to lunch at a favorite place: LAMB'S FARM.

LWML Weekend October 6 & 7

We will be celebrating LWML (Lutheran Women's Missionary League) Weekend on October 6 and 7. This year's theme is Our Rest in a Changing World. Such a great reminder that Jesus is truly a steady Hand in our tumultuous lives. We will be taking a free will offering after the Saturday night and Sunday morning church services. Please consider donating to our worthy Mite cause. With your help, LWML was able to meet our goals and supported 9 worthwhile organizations in our latest biennium (2016-2018), including Bible Storybooks in Swahili, Reaching the Homebound and Belize Mission Feeding program. If you have any questions regarding the LWML organization or would like information about our group at Holy Cross, please contact Viki Dettmann. Thank you.

College Care Packages

We will again be sending college care packages to our Holy Cross students away at college. If you have a student who would like to receive a package filled with goodies, sermon CDs, and gifts, please give the student's name and address, food allergy info. and your contact name and phone number/email address to Ellen Gezella by **Sunday, October 14.**

If you would like to donate items for the packages we will have tear off lists on the narthex and LOFT bulletin boards. Donations should be placed in the designated collection boxes by **Sunday, October 21.** Donations toward shipping costs or gift cards are also appreciated, and can be place in offering plate marked clearly for "college care" donation.

Thank you from the Human Care Ministry for supporting our young adults as they are away from home. It is comforting to them to know their Holy Cross family is remembering them in thoughts and prayers.

Oktoberfest October 27

MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS FOR the ninth annual “mini-Oktoberfest” on Saturday, October 27 at 6:30 PM (following the 5:30 worship service). *ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT* grilled brats, hotdogs, sauerkraut, German potato salad, red cabbage, and desserts will be served. Music will bring back memories of our German heritage and celebrate our Reformation. Take a guess on our “Pennies for Pipes”. Come and enjoy the evening of fellowship with other Holy Cross members and friends. Tickets will be sold before and after worship church services. Advanced tickets are \$12 each or \$30 for families-kids 12 and under are free. Tickets purchased at the door will be \$15 each. CARRY-OUT will be available for \$12/plate. All proceeds go to the CROSS fund for debt reduction. Mark your calendar for Saturday, October 27 and purchase your tickets now. See you all there – don’t forget to bring a friend.

CPR Certification/Recertification Class

This year’s CPR certification/recertification class, coordinated by our Human Care Ministry, will be held on Monday, October 29 at 7:00PM at the Barrington Countryside Fire Protection at 22222 North Pepper Road in Barrington. Look for signup sheets in the narthex and LOFT. The class is limited to approximately 20 people.

Church Website

Do you have an interest in web design and maintenance? We are looking for someone with HTML and CSS coding knowledge to update the Holy Cross web site each month. This volunteer opportunity doesn't take a lot of time, but it's important to keep members and the public informed.

Responsibilities include uploading the monthly CrossLink newsletter (member and non-member versions) and updating news and upcoming events on the home page based on requests, or being proactive by posting events listed in New & Notes or CrossLink. There may also be periodic requests to revise text, replace Preschool information or documents, and replace or add photos as requested.

What you need: a willing heart, software to edit HTML and CSS files, and FTP software to transfer files from your computer to the online host server. Photo editing software is a plus for cropping or resizing to fit, and the ability to convert Microsoft documents to PDF and combine PDF files (i.e., inserting a monthly calendar into the end of the newsletter) would be great. If you would like to serve Holy Cross in this way, please contact the church office for more information.

Next GIFT Class

Our next GIFT class will meet Tuesdays – November 6, 13, 20, and 27 from 7:00-8:30 PM in the lower level of the LOFT. Each class is 90 minutes and explores the gifts of Jesus, Baptism, Communion and fellowship. No registration is required. Completion of this class can lead to membership at Holy Cross if desired. Please join us!

Invitation from Prince of Peace

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Crystal Lake invites members and guests of LCMS congregations throughout McHenry County to a ten-week class on the study of the Psalms beginning October 15. The class will be from 7:00-8:00 PM and will focus on eight different types of Psalms, the biblical contexts, history, culture and theology of the Psalms. Dennis Favaro, a member of Prince of Peace, will be leading the Psalm Study. The ten-week class is organized as follows:

Oct. 15	Introduction to the Psalms	Nov. 19	Psalms of the Heavenly King (Ps. 93)
Oct. 22	Psalms of Praise (Ps. 8)	Nov. 26	Psalms of the Earthly King (Ps. 2)
Oct. 29	Psalms of Lament (Ps. 22)	Dec. 3	Psalms of Wisdom (Ps. 37)
Nov. 5	Psalms of Thanksgiving (Ps. 107)	Dec. 10	Psalms of Torah (Ps. 1)
Nov. 12	Psalms of Trust (Ps. 23)	Dec. 17	Summation of Psalm Study

October

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
	1	2	3 6:00P Handbells 7:00P Choir 7:00P KFC/Confirmation	4 OWLS 7:00P Bible study	5	6 5:30P Worship
7 8:30A Worship (sanctuary) 9:35A FISH Club 9:45A Adult Bible study 10:45A Worship (LOFT)	8 6:30P Board of Elders	9	10 6:00P Handbells 7:00P Choir 7:00P KFC/Confirmation	11 10:00A Prayer Shawl 7:00P Bible study	12	13 5:30P Worship 7:00P Taizé Service
14 8:30A Worship (sanctuary) 9:35A FISH Club 9:45A Adult Bible study 10:45A Worship (LOFT)	15 7:00P Governing Board	16 7:30P Dartball	17 6:00P Handbells 7:00P Choir 7:00P KFC/Confirmation	18 OWLS 7:00P Bible study	19	20 5:30P Worship
21 8:30A Worship (sanctuary) 9:35A FISH Club 9:45A Adult Bible study 10:45A Worship (LOFT)	22 7:00P Human Care	23	24 6:00P Handbells 7:00P Choir 7:00P KFC/Confirmation	25 10:00A Prayer Shawl 7:00P Bible study	26	27 5:30P Worship Oktoberfest following worship
28 8:30A Worship (sanctuary) 9:35A FISH Club 9:45A Adult Bible study 10:45A Worship (LOFT)	29 7:00P CPR training in Barrington	30	31 6:00P Handbells 7:00P Choir 7:00P KFC/Confirmation			

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