

Worship with Us **Reformation Sunday**

Presiding Minister: Pastor Erin Evans

Christ Lutheran Church, 917 Evergreen Avenue, Millvale, PA 15209

CLC Council and Congregation

Leonard Jansen, President
Ed Kapsha, Director of Music and Liturgy
Steve Slepecki - Seminarian
Pat Bauer - Children's Music Director
Patty Ellison - Office and CLC Kids Support
Sherrie Lane and Michelle Hilliard - Sextons



Christ Lutheran Church
917 Evergreen Avenue, Millvale, PA 15209
Phone 412-821-4300 ~ Fax 412-693-9742
CLC Website: <https://www.clcmillvale.com/>
Youtube: clcmillvale Twitter: ChristMillvale
Facebook and Instagram: #CLCMillvale
Email to: ChristLutheran917@gmail.com

CLC Weekly Update - October 30, 2022

IN-PERSON WORSHIP

This Sunday, October 30th at 9:30AM



WORSHIP WITH US

Reformation Sunday

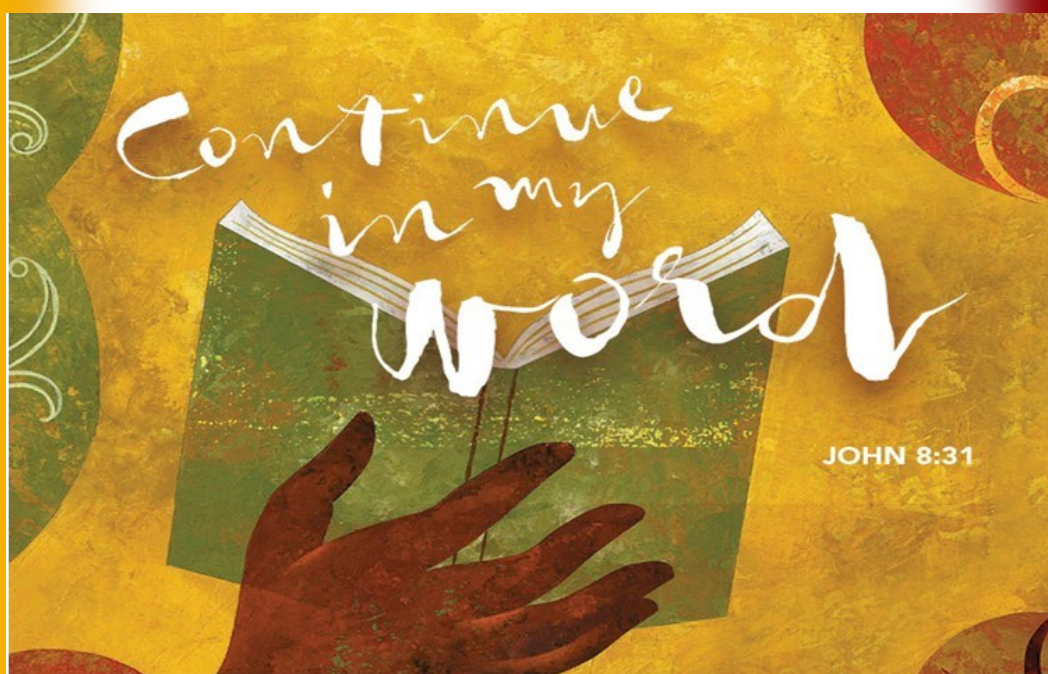
First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

Psalms 46

Second Reading: Romans 3:19-28

Gospel: John 8:31-36

Pastor Erin Evans preaching



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. ~

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From the Pastor's Desk:

Stewardship Series Part 1

Traditionally, Fall has been the time when the church thinks about Stewardship. I'm not exactly sure why but we could take a few guesses...

- As the weather turns cold and the leaves fall, we start to think about preparations for winter and what we have stored up for ourselves, versus given to God.
- With Thanksgiving approaching, we might ponder all we have to be thankful for, and whom we have to thank for it.
- Some of the readings from scripture we hear in church this season lend themselves to thinking about money as our main resource to use.
- We need to vote on the budget for the coming year in the fall, so let's think about what we've done and we are doing with our money.

All of these things are true, but Stewardship is a year-round endeavor, not just an autumnal activity. Our stewardship, our use of our time, talents, and treasure, is a daily choice and response to what we have been given.

Each week, we collect an offering in worship. Each week, members send in tithes and support to the ministry of the church. Each week, we pay bills, pay salaries, feed the hungry, and support ministries both locally and globally. Each month, unless you have your offering automatically deducted from your checking account like I do – you must make a decision. What will you give?

Stay tuned for Part 2 next week!

Pastor Erin



ADULT EDUCATION CLASS

**Wednesdays at 7:00pm
(11/2, 11/9, 11/16)**

**Pastor Erin leads
"Psalms and Prayers."**



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Home Communion Training

Do you have a few hours once a month to make a visit to one of our homebound members or a member in a nursing home facility?



Pastor Erin would like to train a team of folks to make these visits and provide regular care and connection for these members who are unable to attend worship. Please plan to attend information sessions after worship on either Sunday, Dec. 4th or Sunday, Dec. 11th.



In Hope of the Resurrection to Eternal Life:

We extend our sympathy to Janet Holland and her family, upon the death of her husband Bill. William (Bill) Holland passed away October 17th, and services were held October 22nd. Please keep the family in your prayers.

PRAYER of the DAY: Gracious Father, we pray for your holy catholic church. Fill it with all truth and peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in anything it is amiss, reform it; where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in need, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.



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All Saints Sunday is November 6th

We'll remember by name all those from our congregation who have died over the past year, but we also invite you to remember your loved ones who now live with God. Please bring a picture or two and place them on the tables around the church to remind us that we are always surrounded by a "great cloud of witnesses".



Congregational Meeting - Elections and Budget

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING



Our Congregational Meeting will take place on Sunday, November 20th, to approve the budget for 2023, elect new council members, and elect call committee members. You'll receive a letter in the mail with all the pertinent details next month.

Please mark this on your calendar, read the materials sent to you, and plan to attend!

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food pantry update

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

WEDNESDAYS

5:00PM-7:00PM

IMMEDIATE NEEDS:

MACARONI AND CHEESE



The Food Pantry is Open Mondays and Fridays from 9:30am to 11:30am, and on Wednesdays from 5pm to 7pm.



Community Dinner

Thanks to all who made our Dinner a delight! It feels great to get back into the swing of things and we'd love to restart our Neighborhood Table dinners soon. We have the funding and the volunteers - **let's make a plan!**

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SUNDAY STEAM

SUNDAY SCHOOL for PRE-K THROUGH GRADE 6
SUNDAYS AT 8:30AM

Sunday STEAM is a one room school house model for kids PreK through 6th grade. We share bible stories and incorporate STEAM lessons to go with the theme for the day. We have several main teachers to cover basics and provide consistency, along with special guest teachers covering things in their field or area of interest. We'll do science experiments, art projects, problem-solving and make music. Join us each week for some chemical reactions!

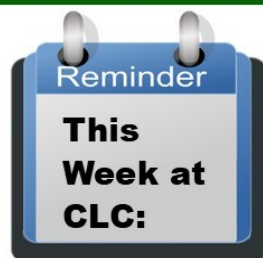
This Week at CLC:

Sunday

October 30 - 8:30am Sunday STEAM
9:30am WORSHIP @ CLC

Monday

October 31 - 9:30 to 11:30am FOOD PANTRY;
5 TOPS CLUB
Halloween



The Food Pantry is Open Mondays and Fridays from 9:30am to 11:30am, and on Wednesdays from 5pm to 7pm.

Sunday

November 6 - 8:30am Sunday STEAM
9:30am WORSHIP @ CLC

OCTOBER						
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
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30	31					

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NEW! Squirrel Hill Health Center Mobile Medical Unit At CLC

Do you need a local Dr. you can walk to? Need a quick check up or conversation and not sure where to go? The Mobile Medical Unit RV will be parked here on **NORTH AVENUE, TWICE A MONTH**, for all your primary care needs! See the Flier below for more information and dates.

SQUIRREL HILL

HEALTH CENTER



SHHC'S MOBILE MEDICAL UNIT IS COMING TO MILLVALE

Squirrel Hill Health Center's mobile medical unit provides primary healthcare services to Pittsburgh communities, regardless of patients' income level or insurance status. We treat patients of every age.

PAYMENTS AND INSURANCE: SHHC ACCEPTS ALL INSURANCES AND OFFERS A SLIDING FEE SCALE FOR THOSE WHO ARE UNINSURED.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT SHHC, PLEASE CALL
(412) 904-5284**

CLINIC DATES:

-  1PM - 4:30PM | THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20TH
- 1PM - 4:30PM | THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3RD
- 1PM - 4:30PM | THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17TH
- 1PM - 4:30PM | THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1ST
- 1PM - 4:30PM | THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15TH
- 1PM - 4:30PM | THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29TH



Christ Lutheran Church Millvale

917 Evergreen Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15209

****Mobile Unit Will Be Parked on North Ave****

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



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Misinformation?

Joseph Imhoff



Five hundred and five years ago Martin Luther used the door of All Saints' Church in Wittenberg, the customary 'Facebook' and 'Twitter' of the early Sixteenth Century, to post ninety-five points for disputation concerning indulgences and other abuses he found counter to scripture in the Church. The date was October 31, 1517, a cover letter being forwarded with it to Albert of Brandenburg, Archbishop of Mainz. These **95 Theses** were posted at other churches and soon copies and translations appeared all over Germany and Europe.

Pope Leo X was not happy. The Catholic Church centered at Rome was not happy. The selling of indulgences by Johann Tetzel was raising money for the rebuilding of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, a problem even in today's churches. Luther's position was only God could forgive sin, not the Pope. He was quickly charged with heresy, the term 'misinformation' is today's equivalent.

After many meetings on the subject including one at Augsburg from which Lutherans gained **The Augsburg Confession**, the statement of what Lutherans believe, the Diet (an assembly, not food) of Worms (a town in Germany, not a slimy thing) convened in 1521 where he presented his defense to Charles V, Holy Roman Emperor. The result was his excommunication. The rest is history!

As I was preparing this article for Reformation Sunday the October edition of Living Lutheran arrived in my mail box. In it is a timely article by J. R. Jones, 500 Years of God's word in the common language (recommended reading). It is about what is known as the **"September Testament"**. In September of 1522 Martin Luther published his translation of the New Testament from the original Greek. This certainly wasn't the first translation into a language other than Greek or Latin, the Latin Vulgate (common) was the standard in the Western Church. From early on there were translations in a variety of languages and by 1199 Pope Innocent III banned unauthorized versions. If you didn't read Latin, which was almost everyone, you had to rely on the priests to tell you what it meant. With time on his hands, cooped up in the Wartburg Castle, Luther started in December of 1521 to make the Word of God available in German to all whom he considered a 'priesthood of believers'! It would not be until 1534, and with a lot of help from others, that his entire Bible in German would be published. ~

Read the complete story of Joe's reference to "500 years of God's word in common language"

The true story of Martin Luther's "September Testament"

by J.R. Jones, September 2022 at "Living Lutheran" online:

<https://www.livinglutheran.org/2022/09/500-years-of-gods-word-in-common-language/>



Who Needs to be Freed?

Martin Luther disliked the idea that adherents to his ideas would call themselves “Lutherans,” preferring the term “Christians” instead. Luther wanted the focus to be on what Christ had done, not on what he had done. So perhaps Luther would be distressed to see so many faithful people not only calling themselves Lutherans five centuries later, but also celebrating Reformation Sunday as a church holiday! Lucky for Luther, the focus of Reformation Sunday is not on Luther’s writings or accomplishments but on the freedom in Christ that is at the heart of the gospel message.

In today’s text from John’s gospel, Jesus’ audience also quibbled over terminology. When Jesus told them, “The truth will make you free” (John 8:32), they were suspicious about what exactly he meant by “free.” They rejected any implication that they or their ancestors might previously have been slaves in need of being set free. However, Jesus wasn’t talking about politics or history. He was referring to a kind of slavery that transcends context: the slavery of sin. All people have been enslaved by sin, and all people need God’s mercy. We are bound by the individual sin of personal choices and by the societal sin of complex systems that are beyond any one person’s control.

The weight of all that sin can feel crushing, but at the heart of the Reformation message is the truth that, through Christ’s death and resurrection, God has already offered us unconditional forgiveness for all our sins, no matter how heavy. We don’t need to earn God’s mercy because it is a gift offered without reservation or requirement. God’s grace is given to us for free and to make us free. Thanks be to God, the chains are gone! That is the good news at the heart of Luther’s teachings, and it is the good news at the heart of our celebration on Reformation Sunday and every day. ~

Upcoming Commemorations

Reformation Day

Monday, October 31, 2022

By the end of the seventeenth century, many Lutheran churches celebrated a festival commemorating Martin Luther's posting of the Ninety-five Theses, a summary of abuses in the church of his time. At the heart of the reform movement was the gospel, the good news that it is by grace through faith that we are justified and set free.

All Saints Day

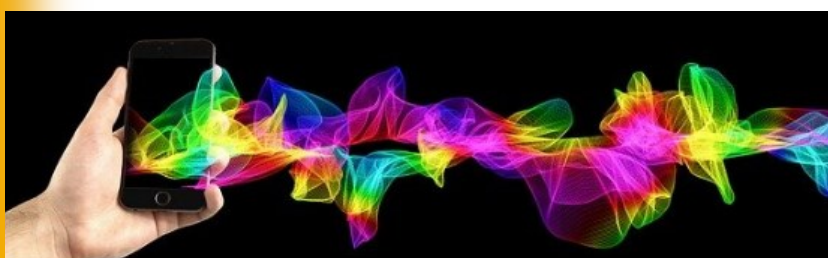
Tuesday, November 1, 2022

The custom of commemorating all of the saints of the church on a single day goes back at least to the third century. All Saints Day celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who make up the body of Christ. On this day or the following Sunday, many congregations will remember the faithful who have died during the past year.

Martín de Porres, renewer of society, died 1639

Thursday, November 3, 2022

Martín was the son of a Spanish knight and a freed Black woman from Panama. As a lay brother in the Order of Preachers (Dominicans), he engaged in many charitable works in Lima, Peru. He founded an orphanage, a hospital, and a clinic for cats and dogs.



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Pastor Erin Evans: displays for CLC Weekly Updates, Heading Logo-In the Neighborhood, Food Pantry Updates, Sunday

Steam, Community Dinner

Worship with Us: red-background-waves-1392319652qJk_Needpix.com

Reformation Sunday: Worship Elements (stained glass window) and NicePng_paint-brush-png_42616 and NicePng_wig-png_59009

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CLC Website: <https://www.clcmillvale.com/>
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