

OCTOBER 27, 2024
REFORMATION SUNDAY



We are made right with God through grace.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	John 8:31-36	The truth will set you free
Monday	Jeremiah 31:31-34	A new covenant
Tuesday	Romans 3:19-28	Righteousness through faith
Wednesday	Ephesians 2:1-10	From death to life
Thursday	Galatians 2:15-20	Jews and Gentiles are saved by faith
Friday	2 Timothy 1:8-14	Thanksgiving and encouragement
Saturday	Psalms 46	God is our protection
Sunday	John 11:32-44	Jesus raises Lazarus

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law. Romans 3:28 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty and merciful God, give us the humility to accept that we are in need of your undeserved kindness to have a relationship to you through faith in Christ. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, you are our help in time of need. We thank you for this meal and pray for all who are in need of food that we may live in peace through Christ our Lord. Amen. (Psalm 46:1)

A Blessing to Give:

May you live in peace through faith in Jesus Christ.



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HYMN OF THE WEEK

*We've Come This Far by
Faith*



WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- How do you react when you witness a wrongdoing?
- Why is our relationship to God based on faith and not our own good works?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Romans 3:19-28.

In this reading written by Paul, he is adamant: there is no place for saying we have a relationship to God because we have faithfully lived out the law. No one can have a right relationship with God based on the law *“for through the law comes knowledge of sin”* (v. 20b). We are to be aware that all of us have sinned and fall short of a right relationship to God. We are all in the same boat that is adrift from God because of our broken lives. Paul is seeking a humility in the church in Rome—and elsewhere—based on God’s goodness and our common need for divine mercy. We give thanks for a relationship to God based on *“faith apart from works prescribed by the law”* (v. 28). Faith in Christ replaces any potential spiritual arrogance with the humble, yet joyous message that we are saved by grace through faith. For Paul and the church throughout the ages, that humble awareness is all we need to enjoy a life of faith with God through Christ.

Discuss: How does faith in Jesus Christ give you a thankful heart and give you peace?

Pray: **Eternal God, help us to see in your mercy and grace the path to joy in your presence and the love for others through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, what kind words can you say to someone who needs encouragement?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

The beginning of the Reformation is associated with Martin Luther’s posting of the 95 theses (statements of belief) on the front door of the University Chapel in Wittenberg, Germany on October 31, 1517. Think or talk about what you believe. Write some “I/We believe” statements on red streamers or strips of red paper (red is the liturgical color for Reformation Day). Hang them in a visible place in your home this week as a reminder of the Reformation.



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org