NOTE ON PARTICIPATING IN THE LORD'S SUPPER

As intended by Christ and as practiced by the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church throughout history, Closed Communion is observed by this congregation, in which the Lord's Supper is distributed only to those who:

(a) are baptized in the Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit;

(b) have been instructed in the truth of Holy Scriptures as taught in the Lutheran Confessions, have been confirmed in and are a faithful member of a congregation of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod or a synod that has altar fellowship with the LC-MS, and continues to embrace this same Lutheran faith in the same way that it is believed, taught, confessed, and practiced at this congregation;

(c) believe that in this Sacrament Christ Jesus is truly present (The Real Presence) in, with, and under the bread and wine which is the Real Body and Blood of Christ that is distributed to and orally received by you, bestowing on you the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation;

(d) that you have truly examined yourself and have repented of all your sins, and desire to receive God's forgiveness in this Holy Meal.

If you are a guest at Shepherd of the Springs Lutheran Church, we kindly ask that you first speak with our pastor before receiving this Blessed Sacrament. It is in accord with Holy Scripture that we practice Closed Communion and, therefore, it is an expression of our sincere friendship and concern for your spiritual welfare. If you desire to learn more about our beliefs we ask you to speak with our pastor.

FESTIVAL OF THE REFORMATION

Today, we commemorate the Lutheran Reformation accomplished through the work of Dr. Martin Luther (1483-1546). The Order of Divine Service reproduced in this Guide is an adapted version of an early Lutheran mass ("messe" means "communion service") written by Luther, the Deutsche Messe (German Mass) of 1526.

On October 31, 1517, Luther, a professor at the University of Wittenberg, posted 95 Theses onto the Castle Church door in a desire to debate the Roman Catholic practice of "indulgences" (selling pardons from sin's punishment). The goal of Luther and his coworkers was that the Gospel be preached so that sinners could have peace with God. The Roman system of indulgences and good works left people in doubt about their status with God; the gospel—that Jesus takes away our sins freely—crushes doubt!

Among the many reforms that followed was Luther's German Mass of 1526. Luther's aim was to create a worship form that involved the laity and taught them the truth of the Gospel. Thus, the congregation was given the role of singing many parts of the service that had previously been reserved for monastic choirs and the clergy. Luther also removed parts of the Roman mass which reflected unscriptural thinking and customs. Our celebration today will follow Luther's Messe (yet, in English!).

Rev. Gerson Flor, Vacancy Pastor

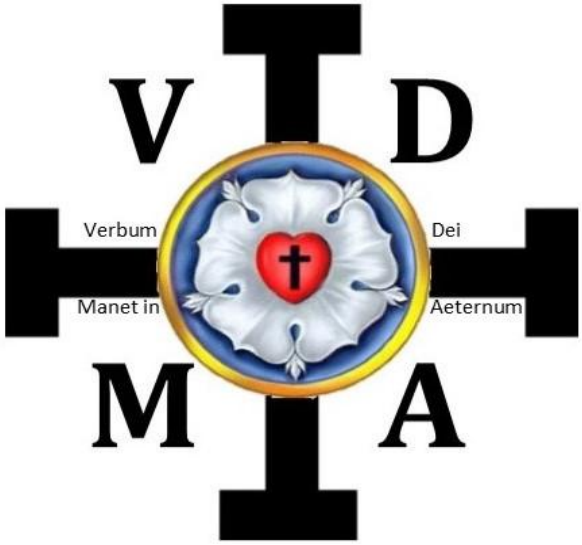
If in need of pastoral care, please contact the elders via the email or phone number below.

pastor@sslc-cos.org (719) 396-4710

www.sslc-cos.org facebook/SotSLC

A Guide to the German Mass of 1526

9:00 a.m. **October 25, 2026**



The Festival of the Reformation

In Commemoration of the 509th Anniversary of the Reformation

Shepherd of the Springs Lutheran Church
6755 Earl Drive, Suite #100
Colorado Springs CO 80918

A Confessional, Evangelical, Sacramental, and Liturgical Congregation of the Lutheran Confessions -- Where the Lutheran Reformation Lives!

MEMBER: THE LUTHERAN CHURCH – MISSOURI SYNOD

[We rise and face the Processional Cross]
Processional Hymn
"Thy Strong Word" #578

Confession of Sins and Holy Absolution p. 184

Service of the Word

Introit

I will speak of Your testimonies before kings, [O LORD,]
and shall not be put to shame.
I will bless the LORD at all times;
His praise shall continually be in my mouth.
My soul makes its boast in the LORD;
let the humble hear and be glad.
Come, O children, listen to me;
I will teach you the fear of the LORD.
The LORD redeems the life of His servants;
none of those who take refuge in Him will be condemned.

(Ps. 34:1-2, 11, 22; antiphon: Ps. 119:46)

***Gloria Patri, Kyrie* p. 186**
***Gloria in Excelsis* p. 187**
Salutation p. 189

Collect for the Festival of the Reformation – Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people. Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and deliver us in time of temptation, defend us against all enemies, and grant to Your Church Your saving peace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. **A - - - men!**

[We are seated]

First Reading of the Day **Revelation 14:6-7**
[The Everlasting Gospel]
This is the Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God!**

Gradual Hymn **"Seek Where Ye May" #557**

Epistle of the Day **Romans 3:19-28**
[Justified by Faith]
This is the Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God!**

[We rise]
Gospel Acclamation
"God's Word is Our Great Heritage" #582

The Lord be with you. **And with thy spirit.**
Holy Gospel of the Day **St. Matthew 11:12-15**
[Jesus' Testimony of Himself]
Responses to the Holy Gospel **p. 190**

Nicene Creed p. 191

Hymn of the Day
"Salvation Unto Us Has Come" #555
[stanzas 1-6]

[We are seated]
Sermon

[We rise]
Offertory **"Salvation Unto Us Has Come" #555**
[stanzas 7-10]

[We are seated]
The offering is received
God richly bless you for your support of His work among us!

[We rise] **Prayer of the Church**

Service of the Sacrament p. 194

[Please review our Communion Policy on the back of this Guide]

[We are seated for the Distribution of the Body and Blood of Christ]

Hymn **"Lord Jesus Christ, with us Abide" #585**

[We rise] **Dismissal, *Nunc Dimittis* p. 199**

Post-Communion Collect – We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. **A - - - men!**

Salutation, *Benedicamus*, Benediction p. 201

[We are seated for announcements]

[We rise for the Recessional Hymn]
"A Mighty Fortress is Our God" #656

Verbum Domini (Dei) Manet in Aeternum

"The Word of the Lord Endures Forever"

This phrase, and the symbol printed on the front cover of this guide, is based on 1 Peter 1:24-25. It became the axiom of the Lutheran Reformation. It was first used by Elector Frederick the Wise in 1522. He ordered that a similar likeness be sown onto the right sleeve of the court's official clothing. Frederick's successors, John the Steadfast and John Frederick the Magnanimous, continued the tradition. It later was adopted as the official maxim of the Smalcaldic League, an alliance of Lutheran territories created to defend Lutheran lands.

Readings for Next Sunday:
All Saints' Day

First Reading of the Day: Revelation 7:2-17
Epistle of the Day: 1 John 3:1-3
Holy Gospel of the Day: St. Matthew 5:1-12