

HERE WE STAND. THE LUTHERAN DIFFERENCE



October 31, 1517 is a date that historians recognize as the start of the Reformation. It is widely accepted that Martin Luther was not the first or the only reformer. Nevertheless, Luther is recognized as a central figure in the Reformation. As a pious, learned monk his goal was to sweep out of the Church (non Biblical) Johnny-come-lately teachings at variance with the Gospel. "Back to the Bible" was and still is the cry of the Reformation.

October 31, 1517 is the date that Luther took a document called the Ninety-Five Theses and had it nailed to the Castle Church doors in Wittenberg Germany.

The heart of the Reformation is all about God's great gifts to mankind, the good news of free forgiveness in Jesus Christ. Luther sought to emphasize these treasured truths through three specific phrases. They were truths taught by the early Church fathers as well as by the prophets, evangelists, and apostles. They are:

Faith Alone

We are saved by faith alone in Christ Jesus our Savior.
Romans 3: 28

Scripture Alone

The Bible is God's inspired Holy word and is the only source for learning of God's salvation and for the teaching of the Church.

*Ephesians 2: 20
2 Timothy 3: 15-16
Revelation 22: 18-19*

Grace Alone

It is only by the grace of God, His undeserved love and mercy that we are saved.

Ephesians 2: 8-9

Historically, the Lutheran Church has steadfastly stood firm on these Biblical principles.

In the face of trial, persecution, death, excommunication, and exile, the Lutheran Church has always been a back-to-the-Bible community of faith.

Furthermore, Lutherans believe that the Bible is given to the people of God for the sake of the good news of Jesus. The Lutheran Confessions contain a detailed confession of how theology is Christology.

Here we stand.

Honesty requires us to speak the truth in love. The first thesis of Martin Luther was that the whole life of the Christian is to be of continual repentance. From a careful study of Romans, the Psalms, and the early Church Fathers, Luther saw that righteousness, forgiveness, and salvation were clearly gifts of God.

Surprise!

Sad to say, many Lutherans are not Lutherans. This is true in every branch of Christianity. Most Christians do not have a clue to what their particular denomination believes, teaches, and confesses. Moreover, most denominations have radically departed from their historic teachings.

THERE IS A DIFFERENCE AMONG LUTHERANS.

There are different Lutheran denominations such as:

- The Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA)
- The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS)
- The Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)
- The Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS)

THERE IS A DIFFERENCE.

All who come to our church will:

Hear of the love of God in Christ Jesus.
Be called to lay their sins and burdens at the foot of the cross in repentance.
Be fed with the truth of God's Word.
Be encouraged in the walk of faith.

For more information contact any one of the following
LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD (LCMS) Congregations

Bethany
Eldon
573-392-4603
Christ the King
(Bagnell Dam) Lake Ozark
573-365-5212

Faith
Jefferson City
573-636-4602

Grace
Holts Summit
573-896-8824
Hope
Osage Beach
573-348-2108
Immanuel
Honey Creek/Jefferson City
573-496-3451

St. Paul's
California
573-796-2735
St. John's
Babbtown/Meta
573-229-4512
St. John's
Schubert/Jefferson City
573-395-4591
St. John's
Stringtown/Lohman
573-782-3191
Trinity
Jefferson City
573-636-6750

As members of the **Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod**, we strive to adhere to the historic teachings of our Church Body. While there is so much we do not know, we believe that our public doctrine is in sync with Scripture, in step with the Gospel, and holds to what the historic Christian Church has taught throughout the ages. Thus, on this Reformation weekend, we humbly yet joyfully confess:

HERE WE STILL STAND.

Jesus Christ is Lord, Savior of all, co-Creator of the universe with the Father and the Spirit.



The Bible is an infallible Word from God to teach us the way of salvation and able to equip us for every challenge in life.



We believe that Jesus Christ, true God and true man, came into this world in fulfillment of the Hebrew Bible to offer Himself on Calvary's cross as the redeeming sacrifice for all sin.



We believe whoever trusts in Jesus as Savior has eternal life as well as abundant life.



We believe that the moral code of God's law is still relevant for all mankind and is summed up in the Ten Commandments.



We believe that God has sanctified marriage between one man and one woman, and sex outside of marriage is immoral.



We believe that life is sacred from conception to the grave, yes, even from eternity.



We believe that all people are sinful and God calls all people to repentance and to the salvation He freely offers in Jesus.



We believe the risen Lord Jesus Christ offers all people God's steadfast love through His Word and His mighty grace-giving miracles of Baptism and the Lord's Supper.



We believe the moment a child of God dies that individual is taken to paradise to live with Christ forever, while the body awaits the glorious resurrection on the last day.

