Sermon Study Guide for October 25, 2026

Our Savior Lutheran Church and School

Theme: Luther's Gospel rediscovery reoriented our relationship with God around the forgiveness of sins. Jesus set us free from sin, death, and the power of the devil. But for what? We are free now to love our neighbor, secure in the salvation Jesus won for us. Let's live as God's freed and free people!

Getting Started: (sharing with each other)

1. Share something you know about Martin Luther and the Lutheran Reformation.

2. If you were confirmed, what do you remember about your confirmation day?

In the Word: Begin by reading Psalm 46 aloud

3. What words or phrases in this psalm might have inspired Martin Luther to write "A Mighty Fortress"? (this is the psalm Luther used to write his most famous hymn!)

4. What does it mean to "be still and know that I am God"?

In the Word: Read Ephesians 2:1-10

5. How does Paul describe the believers in Ephesus before they came to faith? Look especially at verse 1, 2, and 5. What is our status or ability before "God made us alive with Christ"?

6. Locate and describe the uses of the words "love" and "grace" in this passage.

7. How does Paul describe “faith” in verses 8-9, and why is that so significant?

8. According to verse 10, what is our purpose once we are “in Christ”?

Pulling It All Together

1. The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod is a Gospel-centered and Bible-based church. We want to keep the heart of the Good News of Jesus Christ, who died and rose to save sinners through the forgiveness of sins, at the center of all we do (Gospel-centered). We also want to stand firmly on the Word of God as the source of truth and what we are to believe, teach, and confess (Bible-based). What does it look like if a church is Gospel-centered, but not Bible based?

2. Conversely, what does it look like if a church is determined to be Bible-based but is not Gospel centered? How do we hold onto both?

3. In John 8, Jesus told His disciples, “If you are truly my disciples, then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free” (verse 31) and “if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.” (verse 36) When considering these words and Psalm 46 and Ephesians 2, what does Jesus set us free <u>from</u>?

4. If Christ set us free from sin, etc., what did He set us free <u>for</u>? (see Ephesians 2:10). Why is it so important to remember both as we go through life?

Prayer: Thank God for all the faithful Christian people over the centuries who have pointed the Church back to the pure teachings of the Gospel and the truths of Scripture. Ask for the Holy Spirit to “keep us steadfast in Thy word” and faithful to His teaching. Ask for the Holy Spirit to empower the Church by the Gospel so that we might be motivated by God’s love to love others and serve in Jesus’ name.

Next Week: All Saints Day is November 1, which falls on a Sunday this year. We remember those who have gone to be with the Lord in the past year, and look forward to the heavenly reunion. All of us are made saints of God through faith in Jesus Christ, with heaven as our eternal home.