



Holy Trinity

LUTHERAN CHURCH

N A R B E R T H

Growing in Faith ~ Making a Difference ~ Open to All

Reformation Sunday
October 25, 2026

196 Woodbine Avenue, Narberth, Pennsylvania 19072

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Christopher Ertelt, Music Director

You are a child of God and you are welcome here: whatever your faith commitment, experience, or level of doubt, mental or emotional health, physical abilities, financial or employment status, race, ethnicity, or primary language; whatever your gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation. We welcome you whether you are a parent or caregiver; whether you are a fussy baby, an energetic toddler, a 'tween, or a teen; whether you are an inquisitive young adult, exhausted adult, or wise senior citizen; whether you are single, in a relationship, married, divorced, or widowed; whether you struggle with an addiction to drugs, alcohol, or anything else. We welcome you however you found us: on the internet, from your neighbor or friend, or passing by our Giving Garden. We welcome those who hurt and those who celebrate, those who worship every week or just this once, and in whatever you choose to wear. We extend a special welcome to those who could use a prayer right now. We welcome you to join us as we grow in faith through worship, study, and friendship. We welcome you as we seek to make a difference through combating food insecurity, ministering with those in need, and committing to racial equity. And we welcome you to help us be fully open to all. Whoever you are and wherever you are from, you are a child of God and you are welcome here.

+ GATHERING +

Prelude:

"Jesu, Joy of Our Desiring"

Johann Sebastian Bach

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.

C: **Amen.**

L: Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

L: Compassionate God,
**we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness
in the world and in our own hearts.**
Creation groans from overuse.
Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.
Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.
Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others.
Turn our hearts back to you.
Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.
Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.

C: **Amen.**

L: Hear this good news:
We have peace with God through ✝ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

C: **Amen.**

Gathering Song: Rise, Shine, You People! (ELW 665)



- 1 Rise, shine, you peo - ple! Christ the Lord has en - tered
- 2 See how he sends the pow'rs of e - vil reel - ing;
- 3 Come, cel - e - brate; your ban - ners high un - furl - ing,
- 4 Tell how the Fa - ther sent the Son to save us.



our hu - man sto - ry; God in him is cen - tered. He comes to
he brings us free - dom, light and life and heal - ing. All men and
your songs and prayers a - gainst the dark - ness hurl - ing. To all the
Tell of the Son, who life and free - dom gave us. Tell how the



us, by death and sin sur - round - ed, with grace un - bound - ed.
wom - en, who by guilt are driv - en, now are for - giv - en.
world go out and tell the sto - ry of Je - sus' glo - ry.
Spir - it calls from ev - 'ry na - tion God's new cre - a - tion.

Greeting:

- L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C: **And also with you.**

Song of Praise:

1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;

yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.
yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.
yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.

Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;
Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;
Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;

ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.

Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;

yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

Prayer of the Day

L: Let us pray together...

C: Gracious God, 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.

+ WORD +

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

L: A reading from Jeremiah, the 31st chapter.

³¹ The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³² It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³ But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴ No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.

L: Word of God. Word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 46

- ¹ God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
- ² **Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**
- ³ though its waters rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.
- ⁴ **There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.**
- ⁵ God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;
God shall help it at the break of day.
- ⁶ **The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth melts away.**
- ⁷ The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.
- ⁸ **Come now, regard the works of the LORD,
what desolations God has brought upon the earth;**

⁹ behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

¹⁰ **“Be still, then, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”**

¹¹ The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Second Reading: Romans 3:19-28

L: A reading from Romans, the 3rd chapter.

¹⁹ Now we know that, whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world may be held accountable to God.

²⁰ For no human will be justified before him by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹ But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed and is attested by the Law and the Prophets, ²² the righteousness of God through the faith of Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³ since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴ they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶ it was to demonstrate at the present time his own righteousness, so that he is righteous and he justifies the one who has the faith of Jesus.

²⁷ Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law? That of works? No, rather through the law of faith. ²⁸ For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

L: Word of God. Word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation:



Al-le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia.



Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Gospel Reading: John 8:31-36

L: The Gospel according to St. John the 8th chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

³¹ Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” ³³ They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free’?”

³⁴ Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵ The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶ So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon: Rev. Jessica Zurcher

Hymn of the Day: Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation (ELW 645)



1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ, our head and
 2 To this tem - ple, where we call you, come, O Lord of
 3 Here be - stow on all your ser - vants what they seek from
 4 Praise and hon - or to the Fa - ther, praise and hon - or



cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord and pre - cious,
 hosts, and stay; come with all your lov - ing - kind - ness,
 you to gain; what they gain from you, for - ev - er
 to the Son, praise and hon - or to the Spir - it,



bind - ing all the church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's
 hear your peo - ple as they pray; and your full - est
 with the bless - ed to re - tain; and here - af - ter
 ev - er three and ev - er one: one in might and



help for - ev - er and our con - fi - dence a - lone.
 ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in these walls to - day.
 in your glo - ry ev - er - more with you to reign.
 one in glo - ry while un - end - ing a - ges run!

Apostles' Creed:

L: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

C: **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

L: Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

A brief silence.

L: As we celebrate Reformation Sunday, we remember the witness of Martin Luther and the reformers of the church in every generation. Empower us to continue the work of reform and renewal in our own day. Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

- L: We pray for the healing of natural places despoiled by pollution and human greed. Give all living creatures access to safe land, water, and air. Hear us, O God.
- C: **Your mercy is great.**
- L: We pray for our criminal justice systems and all those whose lives are affected by them. Give wisdom and discernment to police, probation officers, judges, and attorneys; give courage and peace to prisoners and the formerly incarcerated. Hear us, O God.
- C: **Your mercy is great.**
- L: We ask your blessing upon all people who have been harmed by the church and its leaders, that the truth may make them free. We pray for the relief of all those who are sick or suffering. Hear us, O God.
- C: **Your mercy is great.**
- L: We give thanks for those exploring or returning to a life of faith. Encourage and guide them, that they may find their hope in you. Hear us, O God.
- C: **Your mercy is great.**
- L: With gratitude, we remember those disciples who paved the way for us and all of our beloved dead. Hear us, O God.
- C: **Your mercy is great.**
- L: Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C: **Amen.**

The Peace of Christ:

- L: The Peace of Christ be with you always.
- C: **And also with you.**
- L: Let us share a sign of peace with one another, as you are comfortable.

Anthem:

Deep, Settled Peace

traditional; words by Kate Peters Sturgill

You are welcome to give by scanning the QR code, by visiting our church website, or by placing your offering in the offering plate. We are inviting you to give financially out of your heart and love for God. Our giving is a spiritual practice as part of our faith and discipleship.



Offering Song and Prayer: We Are an Offering (ELW 692)

After the offering is gathered, the assembly stands, and the offering song is sung by all.

The musical score is written on six staves in treble clef. It features a melody with various note values including eighth, quarter, and half notes, as well as rests. There are three triplet markings (indicated by a '3' over a group of notes) on the first, third, and sixth staves. The lyrics are printed below the notes, aligned with the corresponding staves.

We lift our voic-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an
of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voic-es, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our
lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are,
all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.
We lift our voic-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:
we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

L: God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always.

C: **Amen.**

+ MEAL +

The Great Thanksgiving:

L: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

L: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

L: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the witness of your saints you show us the hope of our calling and strengthen us to run the race set before us, that we may delight in your mercy and rejoice with them in glory. And so, with the Reformers and all the saints, with the choirs of angels and all the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and

God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your

glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the

Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

L: When the time was right, O God, you sent Jesus
 To show us the way that we had lost.
 He healed the broken and fed the hungry.
 People of power feared him;
 People in need followed him.
 He invited those on the edges to come to the center.
 Wherever he went, he broke bread with those who needed him most.

In the night before he died for us,
 our Lord Jesus gathered with faltering friends
 for a meal that tasted of freedom.
 Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
 broke it, and gave it to them, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, Jesus took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

We remember that night Jesus spent with friends,
and we feel his presence with us now.
We ask God, through the Holy Spirit
to bless these gifts we offer and share,
making them Christ for us,
and making us into Christ's holy body.
Together with all the church, we give you thanks:
Creator, Redeemer, Spirit of love.
Bind us together. Open our hearts. Grant us peace.

C: Amen.

Lord's Prayer:

L: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

All are welcome to receive communion. Those online will be communed first. Then, ushers will dismiss you by row to come forward for communion. You may proceed down the center aisle to the front, where you may receive bread to dip into the cup. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice cups are available for those who prefer them. If you are unable to come forward but desire to receive, please let the usher know so that the Eucharist may be brought to you. If you do not wish to commune, you are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing and may indicate this by crossing your hands over your chest when you approach the minister. After you have received communion, please return to your seat using the side aisles.

Invitation to Communion:

L: Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!
C: Amen.

Communion Song:

'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus

William J. Kirkpatrick

Prayer after Communion:

L: Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.
C: Amen.

+ SENDING +

Blessing:

L: The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus.
C: Amen.
L: The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit.
C: Amen.
L: The God of grace ☩ bless you now and forever.
C: Amen.

Sending Hymn: A Mighty Fortress Is Our God (ELW 504)



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who



to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
 ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
 your us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
 fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
 God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
 weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,



has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
 in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
 goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
 they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Dismissal:

L: Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude:

Prelude in C

Johann Sebastian Bach

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Happy Birthday to: Celeste Starankovic (10/30).

Sunday Morning Worship Volunteers

We are in need of volunteers to lector/read and assist during communion. If you would like to volunteer, please sign up using the QR Code or contact Dale in the church office. Thank you for your flexibility and willingness to serve. Holy Trinity's ministry is possible because of the many people who share their gifts. We are grateful for all that you do.



Join Us for Formation Hour

Stay after worship and join us for Formation Hour! We'll gather to continue our series exploring the Gospels: what they are, how they came to be, and what they tell us about Jesus. Whether you're new to the Bible or have been reading it for years, there's a place for you in the conversation. Come learn, ask questions, and grow in faith together. All are welcome!

Reminder: Estimate of Giving Cards due Nov. 1

Thank you to everyone who has participated in our *A New Thing Is Growing* stewardship campaign so far! If you haven't yet returned your Estimate of Giving Card, please do so as soon as possible. These cards help us plan for the year ahead and discern how we can continue growing in faith and ministry together. You may place your card in the offering plate or return it to the church office. Thank you for your generosity and for being part of Holy Trinity's ministry!

All Saints Sunday – Names for Remembrance

On All Saints Sunday, November 1, we will remember loved ones who have died and give thanks for their lives. If you would like a loved one's name included in our prayers and remembrance during worship, please submit their name to the church office (holytrinitynarberth@gmail.com) by **noon on October 28, 2026**. We hold their memories in our hearts and give thanks for the promise of new life in Christ.

Giving Garden

We continue to harvest every Wednesday at 8am. Just bring your garden gloves and whatever hand tools you may want for digging and harvesting. All are welcome as your schedules permit.

Don & Nancy Hall Turkey Fundraiser

Help make Thanksgiving special for our neighbors in need! Holy Trinity is collecting donations for the Don & Nancy Hall Turkey Fundraiser to help provide holiday meals for local families. Please make your donation by November 18. Contributions may be made online at holytrinitynarberth.com. If you prefer to send in a donation via check, please mail it to the church office at 196 Woodbine Ave., Narberth, PA 19072 or place your donation in the offering plate during worship. Note Don & Nancy Hall Turkey Fundraiser on the memo line. Thank you for helping ensure everyone has a place at the table this Thanksgiving!

Winter Coats for Grace Lutheran

The cold weather is creeping in on us and once again we'll be collecting winter coats for our beloved friends at the Grace Food Bank. Please donate coats for women, men and children in gently worn or new condition. Leave them in our pantry closet, on the porch, at the Woodbine Ave. entrance. This coat drive will be ongoing until Christmas. Thank you for your kindness.

Help Us Get Ready for the Narberth Dickens Festival!

The Outreach Team is getting ready for the Narberth Dickens Festival, and we'll be selling soup in a jar as part of the festivities! We'll need helping hands to assemble the jars before the event. A date will be set soon. If you'd like to help with this fun community outreach project, please contact Pastor Jessica and keep an eye out for more details. All are welcome, and we'd love to have you join us!

Subscribe to our Weekly Newsletter

If you would like to subscribe to our weekly newsletter, please scan the QR code or contact Dale in the church office.



Holy Trinity's Prayer List

Jan Doan

Friends and Relatives

Bettina Chavanne (friend of the McCluskeys)
Sharon Neall (Hall family member)
Beth Brady (Kristine DelMonte's co-worker)
Norma DelMonte (Tom's mother)
The Houghs (friends of Pat Brubaker)
Linda Baldi-Boyd
Marbury Hooey
John & Rosemary (friends of Pat Brubaker)
Margie (Jan Doan's friend)
Joseph Davis
Heinrich Mengel (cousin of the Hoffmann Family)
Louise Jackson (cousin of Julie Ackerman)
Mary Fran (friend of Dorothy McCluskey)
Tara Echelmeier Dolan (friend of Julie Ackerman)
Mary Ann Dixon (friend of the Hoffmans)
David Segermark (Kristine DelMonte's father)
Jane S. (friend of Pat Brubaker)
Ken Ackerman (Carl Ackerman's father)
Grace Vanartsdalen (friend of Bruce & Dorothy McCluskey)
Ellen Mitchell (sister of Mary Williamson)
Steve Crews (Kim's father)
The Lim family (friends of the Princes)
Cestare family (Extended family of Kim)
Bob Gamble (friend of Bruce & Dorothy McCluskey)
Joe Prince & Greg Savoy (loved ones of the Princes)
Deborah deHeyman and family (friends of Holy Trinity)
Lori Chambers (friend of Mark and Dee Jaye Frye)
Laurie & Wayne (friends of Pat Brubaker)
Bob Fuhrmeister (grandson of Bob Catherman)
David Rovner (friend of Holy Trinity)
Butch & Jackye (cousins of Pat Brubaker)
Gloria Guy (Grace Lutheran)
Kevin McMaster (son of Winnie McMaster)
Nina (Bob Catherman's cousin)
Julia Williamson (Carter Williamson's sister)
Bob Berger (Donna Hall Berger's husband)
R. J. Battaglia and Family (friends of Mark and Dee Jaye Frye)