

Reformation Sunday

October 31, 2021

SERVICE OF WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION AT 8:30AM and 11AM

We are honored that you are joining our worship today. We hope to make you feel welcome whether you are visiting with us for the first time or have been worshipping with us for years.

Welcome

St. Thomas Lutheran Church is a Christ-centered community that lives, shares, and celebrates God's grace with all people!

As disciples of Christ who value the faith, gifts, and ministry of all God's people, and who seek justice and reconciliation, we welcome all God's children to an inclusive community. This welcome is extended without exception and regardless of sex, race, national origin, educational background, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical and mental ability, age, or economic condition.

Worship Aids

In this worship bulletin, worshipers are invited to stand at the places marked with an * and bold type denotes the congregation's response. Everything you need to participate in worship is found in this bulletin, except for the hymns which are found in the back third of the red Evangelical Lutheran Worship under your seat.

You are encouraged to join us in praying, singing, sharing the peace, and receiving Holy Communion as you feel moved. Assisted hearing devices and large print bulletins are available from an usher.

Children in Worship

We welcome all children to worship with us—including full participation in Holy Communion. Whether talking, crying, laughing, or singing, the sounds of children in worship are joyful sounds of praise. God put the wiggle in children, and we rejoice! For indoor services, our Prayground in the sanctuary and our unstaffed nursery are open for quiet, supervised play. Children's bulletins are also available.

A Note About Our Livestream Service

Today's 8:30am service is livestreamed. Most rear-row seats are out of view of the camera, but we cannot guarantee that any seat is off camera. By attending this service, you are giving permission to be in the video we produce.

A Few Requests

We ask that you silence your cell phone or electronic devices.
We would love to pray for the concerns of your heart during this service.
Prayer request slips are located on the table near the main doors.

+ GATHERING +

PRELUDE

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God
Movement I

Georg Telemann
arr. Donald Rotermund

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the + holy Trinity, the one who fashions us, the one who heals us, the one who reforms us again and again.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P: Source of all life,

C: we confess that we have not allowed your grace to set us free. We fear that we are not good enough. We hear your word of love freely given to us, yet we expect others to earn it. We turn the church inward, rather than moving it outward. Forgive us. Stir us. Reform us to be a church powered by love, willing to speak for what is right, act for what is just, and seek the healing of your whole creation. Amen.

P: God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us and to empower our lives in the world. Our sins are forgiven, + God's love is unconditional, and we are raised up as God's people who will always be made new, in the name of Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

"Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation"

ELW #645

***GREETING**

P: 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.

*HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain

Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray. Gracious Father, 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.

C: Amen.

+WORD+

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pr. Adrienne Meier

FIRST LESSON

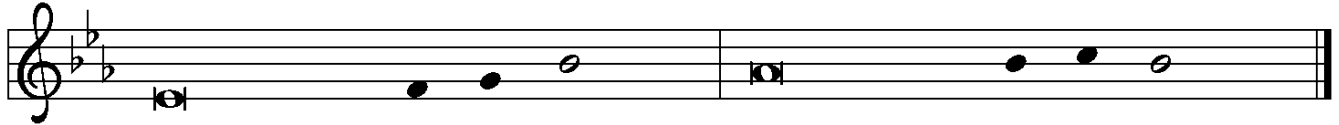
Jeremiah 31:31-34

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. 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 married to them, says the LORD. 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. 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 (sung responsively, choir/congregation)



¹God is our ref- | uge 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;**

³though its waters | rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble | with its tumult.

⁴**There is a river whose streams make glad the cit- | y of God,
the holy habitation of | the Most High.**

⁵God 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.**

⁷The 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 up- | on the earth;**

⁹behold 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."**

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

SECOND LESSON

Romans 3:19-28


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. For "no human being will be justified in the sight of God" by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin. But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction,

since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; they are now justified by God's grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in divine forbearance God had passed over the sins previously committed; it was to prove at the present time that God is righteous and that God justifies the one who has faith in Jesus. Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. 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. Lord, to whom shall we go?




You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

***HOLY GOSPEL**

John 8:31-36, NRSV, emended

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter.

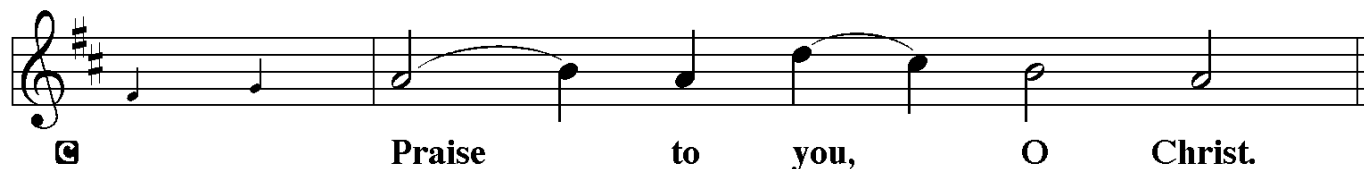


Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to the Judeans who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." 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?'"

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

P: The Gospel of Our Lord!



HOMILY

Pr. Lecia Beck

TESTIMONY BY CONFIRMANDS (11:00 only)

Audrey Knipstein
Irene Fogelman
Molly Wyatt

*HYMN OF THE DAY

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

ELW #504

*LUTHER'S EXPLANATION OF THE APOSTLE'S CREED (8:30 only)

A: What does it mean when we say, "I believe in God, the Father Almighty"?

C: I believe that God has created me together with all that exists. God has given me and still preserves my body and soul: eyes, ears, and all limbs and senses; reason and all mental faculties.

In addition, God daily and abundantly provides shoes and clothing, food and drink, house and farm, spouse and children, fields, livestock, and all property—along with all the necessities and nourishment for this body and life. God protects me against all danger and shields and preserves me from all evil. And all this is done out of pure, parental, and divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness of mine at all! For all of this I owe it to God to thank and praise, serve and obey him. This is most certainly true.

A: What does it mean when we say, "I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son"?

C: I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father in eternity, and also a true human being, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord. He has

redeemed me, a lost and condemned human being. He has purchased and freed me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death. He has done all this in order that I may belong to him, live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in eternal righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as he is risen from the dead and lives and rules eternal. This is most certainly true.

A: What does it mean when we say, "I believe in the Holy Spirit"?

C: I believe that by my own understanding or strength I cannot believe in Jesus Christ my Lord or come to him, but the Holy Spirit has called me by through the gospel, enlightened me with her gifts, made me holy and kept me in the true faith, just as she calls, gathers, enlightens, and makes holy the whole Christian church on earth and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one common, true faith. Daily in this Christian church the Holy Spirit abundantly forgives all sins—mine and those of all believers. On the last day the Holy Spirit will raise me and all the dead and will give to me and all believers in Christ eternal life. This is most certainly true.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A: Set free from sin and death and nourished by the word of truth, we join in prayer for all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

Each petition ends:

A: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Concluding petition:

A: Confident that you hear us, O God, we boldly place our prayers into your hands; through Jesus Christ, our truth and life.

C: Amen.

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM (11:00 only)

ELW, page 234

Audrey Knipstein, Irene Fogelman, and Molly Wyatt are presented to affirm their baptisms.

Near the end of the rite:

P: Let us rejoice with these sisters and this brother in Christ.

C: We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.

***SHARING OF THE PEACE**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

During this time of Fading COVID, we encourage you to share the peace with a wave, a bow, or maybe an elbow, checking in with your neighbor for whatever feels safe and conveys the spirit of peace and reconciliation this ritual intends.

OFFERING

An offering receptacle is provided at the entrance to the worship space to receive your gifts to support the ministry of St. Thomas. You can also give online at stlconline.org. If you are new, please fill out the brief form on the back of the bulletin and place it in the offering receptacle.

CHOIR ANTHEM

Lift High the Cross

Donald Busarow

***OFFERING PRAYER**

A: Let us pray. God of life, you give us these gifts of the earth, these resources of our life and our labor. Take them, offered in great thanksgiving, and use them to set a table that will heal the whole creation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Light.

C: Amen.

+ MEAL +

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

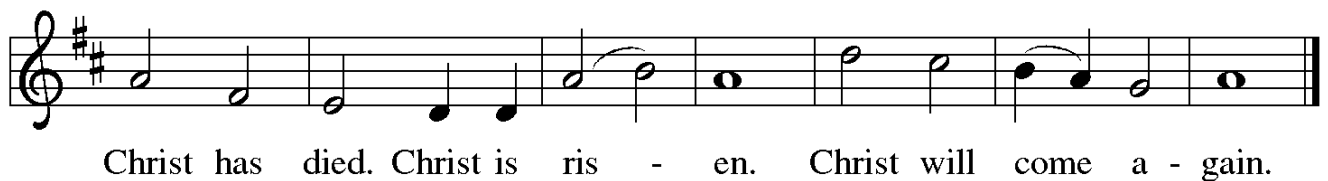
P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of
pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Blest is the one who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

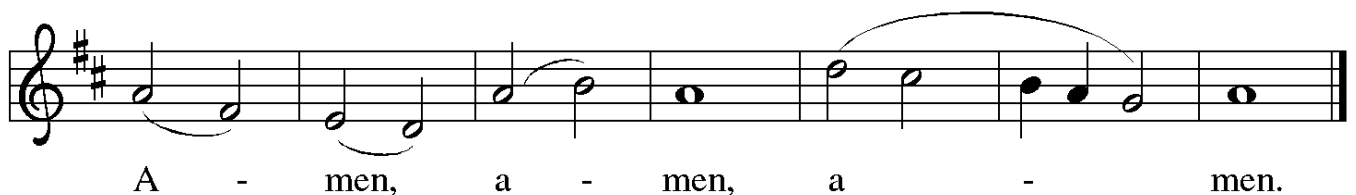
*EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: You are indeed holy ... we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.



Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

P: Remembering, therefore, his salutary command ... all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.



A - men, a - men, a - men.

***LORD'S PRAYER**

Speak this prayer in your preferred language you prefer. The pastor will continue when all version are complete.

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on Earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P: Speak to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread, and make us one with you.

We believe that God is our host and that all people are welcome to this feast of grace, community, and forgiveness. Come forward at the direction of the ushers. Hand-torn bread or gluten-free wafers are offered with pink wine and red grape juice in individual cups. If you wish to receive a blessing, cross your arms over your chest.

Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMNS Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word
Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness

ELW#517
ELW#488

*EUCCHARISTIC BLESSING

C: Amen.

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray. Holy and compassionate God, in bread and wine you give us gifts that form us to be humble and courageous. May your words come to life in our serving and in our witness, that we might speak a living voice of healing and justice to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer.

C: Amen.

+ SENDING +

*BENEDICTION

P: God, creator of all things, speaking reformation into being; Jesus Christ, savior of the world, raising the dead; Holy Spirit, living voice, calling and enlightening the church: Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

*SENDING HYMN

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

ELW#858

(stanza two: choir only)

*DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God
Movement II & III

Georg Telemann
arr. Donald Rotermund

*We depart in peace to continue our worship in lives of witness
to Christ's love in work, play, service, and care for creation.*

Those making Affirmation of their Baptism:

Audrey Knipstein

Irene Fogelman

Molly Wyatt



Following the 11:00 service a reception will be held outdoors on the patio in honor of the confirmands.

At A Glance: This Week at St. Thomas

Sunday October 31 Reformation Sunday

8:30am Worship (indoors/online)
9:45am Faith Formation for All Ages
11am Worship (indoors)
Noon Confirmation Reception (outdoors)

Monday November 1

7pm Mission Committee

Tuesday November 2

6:30pm Worship Committee

Wednesday November 3

Noon Prayer on Zoom

Thursday November 4

7pm Adult Choir Rehearsal

Saturday November 5

10am Fiber Arts Tree Decorating
10am Property Committee Work Day

Sunday November 7 All Saints Day

Daylight Savings Time Ends

8:30am Worship (indoors/online)
9:45am Faith Formation for All Ages
11am Worship (indoors)
2:30pm Bach Cantata Concert

Announcements

Annual Budget Meeting

The Annual Budget Meeting of St. Thomas Evangelical Lutheran Church will be held on **Sunday, November 14 at 1pm** on Zoom. The agenda will include the 2022 Budget and two maintenance projects: replacing the Heritage Hall roof and replacing the HVAC systems that service Community Hall. An agenda along with copies of the budget and maintenance bids will be sent directly to members via email and paper copies will be available in the church office.

<https://bit.ly/2ZExNrg>

Prayer at Noon on Zoom

This calm, quiet moment in the middle of week provides a space for participants to rest with God. Join us for a simple service praying the Lord's Prayer, the Apostle's Creed, and requests of those gathered on the **first Wednesday** of the month. Our next gathering will be **Wednesday, November 3 at noon** on Zoom at

<https://bit.ly/3jVA3k0>

Fiber Arts Tree Decorating

The Fiber Arts Spiritual Growth Group has joyfully crafted handmade bird ornaments over the course of this year and plans to donate a tree to give to New Hope for Families' annual fundraising auction on November 18, New Hope for the Holidays. Come gather at St. Thomas **Saturday, November 6th from 10am-noon** to decorate the tree. Those fully vaccinated and masked are welcome! Questions? Contact Leah Iversen at 812-320-2017.

Property Committee Work Day

The Property Committee will host a work day on **Saturday November 6 from 10am-noon**. Volunteers are needed to paint—indoors and outdoors—or to assist with a small plumbing project. Additional projects added as needed. **Masks required**. The Property Committee hosts work days on the first Saturday and third Tuesday of the month at 10am. For more information contact Sam Eichmiller at sam.eichmiller@yahoo.com or 812-279-5197.

The Bloomington Bach Cantata Project

Bloomington Bach Cantata Project invites you to join us here at St. Thomas in the worship space on **Sunday, November 7 at 2:30pm** for the third concert of the 2021-2022 season, featuring "Was Gott tut, das ist wohlgetan," BWV 99. The Bloomington Bach Cantata Project brings together students and faculty from Indiana University, as well as professional artists from around the region, to present cantatas by J. S. Bach in performances modeled on his own.

Getting Involved

Reformation Celebration

Explore the Reformation **today!** Join us in Heritage Hall from **9:45am-10:45am** for activities to learn more about the Protestant Reformation and Martin Luther. Some serious, some silly, these activities are intended for folks of all ages, individually or as households. You can come for the whole hour or just part. Because this is for all ages, children will enjoy this more if they participate with an adult. If you would like to experience the Reformation Celebration without a crowd, you can sign up online for a time to come by yourself or with your own small group from Monday, November 1 through Wednesday, November 3. <https://bit.ly/3iVTQAd>

Call for Advent Devotion Writers

On Christmas Eve, we often proclaim: "Joy to the world, the Lord is come! / Let earth receive her king; / let ev'ry heart prepare him room and heav'n and nature sing." Christmas still seems so far off, but now is the time when we prepare...to prepare. This year, our Advent theme is *Dwell*. We are asking members of St. Thomas to reflect on what this word means to you. Where do you dwell? On what does your heart dwell? What do you value in your dwelling place? Tell us a short (1-2 paragraph) story and select an accompanying Bible verse or short passage. We will compile these into an Advent devotion for our whole community to use this December. Devotions are due to Erica at parishadmin@stlconline.org in church office **by 4:30pm tomorrow Monday, November 1.**

November Collection Drive for Afghan Refugees

There is a cart in the narthex for collecting **new winter items** for Afghan Refugees. We are collecting mens & womens sweaters, fleeces, and long-sleeved shirts for adults in sizes small and medium. We are collecting sweaters, fleeces, and long-sleeved shirts for children in sizes toddler and up. This drive begins this Sunday, October 31, and ends Sunday, November 21. Again, **this drive is for new items only**. Interested in more ways to helps? Contact Chris Ogan directly at ogan@indiana.edu.

Can't make it to the drop-off? You can order clothes and shoes off the Association of Central Eurasian Students (ACES)'s Gift Registry on Amazon at <http://www.bit.ly/atterburyrefugees>. The list is continuously being updated based on current needs, and all packages will ship directly to Camp Atterbury.

Prayers for those with health and safety concerns

Elif Ogan, Jan Ellis, Caretta Van Ruler, Erik Engebretson, Maren Larsen, Shane Clements, Anne Smith, Carole Kirsch, Tim Kirsch, Roger Sasse, Paula Ionescu, Audrey Alpers, JoAnne Namy, Deborah O'Brien, Casey-Marie, Mike Ost, Ethelyene Thomason, and Seth Lahn.

Contact the church office for inclusion in this list of concerns and to be included in the Sunday prayers.

A separate, confidential prayer chain is also available. Contact **Susan Colston** at skcolston@aol.com to join the prayer chain or make a request for prayer.

Due Date for **printed** Weekly Announcements: **Wednesdays**
Due Date for **emailed** Weekly Announcements: **Thursdays**
To submit an announcement, please email the Church Office at
parishadmin@stlconline.org

To receive these **Weekly Announcements** via email
please contact the Church Office at
parishadmin@stlconline.org or 812-332-5252

Today's Worship Leaders

Altar care: Gail Seegert, Barb Unger, Charlene Braun

Bread/Wine: Drew & Melissa Watters

8:30am Service

Assisting Minister: Kathleen Boggess

Lector: Karlyn Grise

Usher/Greeter: Gene & Gayl Laughman

Crucifer: Kent Unger

Council Coordinator: Frank Nierzwicki

11am Service

Assisting Minister: Tim Smith

Lector: Susan Hiller

Usher/Greeter: Gretchen Moehlmann, Kari Esarey

Crucifer: Dean Arnold

Council Coordinator: Frank Nierzwicki

Musicians

Richard Stinson, trumpet

Matthew Ruwe, trumpet

Kunal Tiwari, trombone

Peter Miksza, trombone

The altar flowers this week are given
by the Knipstein Family
in honor of the confirmands
and
in celebration of Stephanie Hulett's birthday

ST. THOMAS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

3800 East Third Street
Bloomington, Indiana 47401
Office Hours 9:00a.m.-4:30p.m.
Phone: (812) 332-5252
stlconline.org

Rev. Adrienne Meier, Pastor
pastor@stlconline.org
Rev. Lecia Beck, Minister of Youth and Christian Nurture
christiannurture@stlconline.org

Erica Whichello, Administrator parishadmin@stlconline.org
Mike Powell, Director of Music and Organist
Dr. Katie Gardiner, Adult Choir Director
Melissa de Graaf, Children's Choir Director

In covenant with

LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY AT INDIANA UNIVERSITY

314 Rose Avenue Bloomington, Indiana 47401
Rev. Amanda Ghaffarian, Campus Pastor
Email: lutheran@indiana.edu
Phone: (812) 333-2474
lcmiu.org

St. Thomas Lutheran Church and LCM-IU are Reconciling in Christ Ministries

Welcome to St. Thomas Lutheran Church! We are honored that you joined our worship today.

Your Name: _____

Your Address: _____

Your Email: _____

Your Phone Number: _____

Would you like to join our weekly email list?

Would you like to join the monthly newsletter list?

Would you like the pastor to contact you?

Please tear
off and
place in the
Offering
Receptacle.
Thank
You!