

**In Response to God**  
**Activities for the week of October 29, 2023**

Today's Lectionary: Deuteronomy 34:1-12; Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17; Thessalonians 2:1-8; Matthew 22: 34-46

Sunday	October 29	9:00 am – Church School
Focus on Food Sunday		10:00 am – Worship
		11:00 am – Fellowship & Refreshments
		Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Monday	October 30	3 -7 pm – Houston Dragon Academy
Tuesday	October 31	3 -7 pm – Houston Dragon Academy
		10 am-2 pm – CCSC food collection
Wednesday	November 1	3 -7 pm – Houston Dragon Academy
Thursday	November 2	3 -7 pm – Houston Dragon Academy
		4-5 pm – Strength Training Class
Friday	November 3	3 -7 pm – Houston Dragon Academy
Saturday	November 4	9 am-6 pm – Houston Dragon Academy
Sunday	November 5	9:00 am – Church School
All Saints' Sunday		10:00 am – Worship
		11:00 am – Fellowship & Refreshments
		Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Save the Date:	November 12	1:00 pm – Houston Youth Ensemble Concert
	November 19	11:00 am – Thanksgiving Lunch

**ST. LUKE'S STAFF**

Pastor	The Rev. W. Scott Harbison
Parish Associate	The Rev. Dr. Bill Wade
Director of Music-Organist/Choirmaster	Marvin Gaspard
Business Manager	Patti Ernst
Assistant to Head of Staff	Mary Ann White
Artists in Residence	Sarah Bunk, Ann Guercio, and Laura Smith



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St. Luke's Presbyterian Church  
 October 29, 2023

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# The Order of Worship

October 29, 2023

REFORMATION SUNDAY

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## GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

*Please begin quiet preparation for worship as the Tolling begins.*

TOLLING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE Highland Cathedral  
Mihir Zambre, piper Ulrich Roever and Michael Korb

WELCOME

PASSING OF THE PEACE .

✦ OPENING HYMN 229 From All That Dwell Below the Skies  
LAST UNS ERFREUEN

CONFESSION OF SIN AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

**People's Response: Thanks be to God.**

## HEARING THE WORD

EPISTLE READING (NT p. 175) 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

ANTHEM Clap Your Hands  
Psalm 47 Alfred V. Fedak

GOSPEL READING (NT p. 25) Matthew 22:34-40

REFLECTION ON THE WORD Chaplain Jim Mayer  
"Reformed and Reforming—Taking It to the Next Level"

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

✦ HYMN OF RESPONSE 179 God Is My Strong Salvation  
CHRISTUS, DER IST MEIN LEBEN

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYERS

OFFERTORY A Mighty Fortress Is Our God  
Based on EIN FESTE BURG Martin Luther (1483-1546)  
Setting by Gordon Young (1919-1998)

✦ DOXOLOGY 592

PRAYER

CHORAL RESPONSE Alleluia, Amen!  
From *How Excellent Is Thy Name*, Eugene Butler

✦ BENEDICTION

RECESSIONAL Scotland the Brave  
Scottish Gaelic: ALBA AN AIGH



**Welcome to St. Luke's Presbyterian Church!** If you are looking for a church home in Houston, we invite you to unite with St. Luke's. New members are welcomed by the Session following worship each Sunday. Speak to Chaplain Jim Mayer after worship, if you have any questions.

**Joys and Concerns** are an opportunity to share a need for prayers of thanksgiving or intercession with the congregation. You will have an opportunity to mention your joys and concerns verbally at the time for Pastoral Prayer.

**Sunday School: Children's Sunday School** meets at 9 a.m. in Room 115 with Don Mims teaching the class. **Adult Sunday School** meets at 9 a.m. in the Library. Patti Ernst is now leading a study of Colossians. **Our Youth Group** meets every other Sunday at 9 a.m. in Room 129. The next meeting is November 5.

**Our Officiant today is Chaplain Jim Mayer.** Jim is a member of St. Luke's, a Certified Lay Pastor, and currently serves as Hospice Chaplain for Vitas Hospice Care. He is an elder of the Presbyterian Church and formerly a member of our session. Thank you, Jim, for serving today while Rev. Harbison is out of town.

**Our special guest today is Mihir Zambre,** a student at St. Thomas Episcopal High School, and member of The St. Thomas' Episcopal School Pipe Band. He joined the school band in 4th grade and was the youngest member to compete with the alumni band at the world championships last summer. Thank you, Mihir, for sharing your amazing gifts with us today, and welcome back to St. Luke's!

**Reformation Sunday** marks the occasion in 1517 when Martin Luther posted his 95 Theses on the church door in Wittenberg, Germany. The Theses, which criticized the sale of indulgences by church officials, are considered the opening salvo in the Protestant Reformation, a movement that emphasized individual relationships with God and salvation through faith alone.

**Today's bulletin cover** is a Celtic Cross with a Luther Rose at its center. The Celtic Cross is a form of a Christian Cross and the shape is often decorated with Celtic Knots, symbolizing strength, harmony, friendship, affection and deep love. Martin Luther oversaw the creation of this symbol. It provides a summary of his faith, that is common to all Christians, of every place and every time.

**Today is Focus on Food Sunday:** On the fifth Sundays of the year we ask everyone to bring non-perishable items to add to the CCSC collection basket in the Narthex. Thanks to everyone who brought items today!

**The Houston Youth Harp Ensemble** will present a concert at St. Luke's at 1 p.m. on November 12. The Ensemble was established to offer harp students in Houston the opportunity for musical growth, and connect with harp students throughout the city. Admission to the concert is free and open to the public.

**Our Presbytery's Youth Rally** will be held Sunday, November 12, at First Presbyterian Church, Pasadena. The mission project for the day is care packages for children in the hospital. Check out the flyer on the bulletin board for items that are needed for the packages. Please bring donations before November 12. Thank you!

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