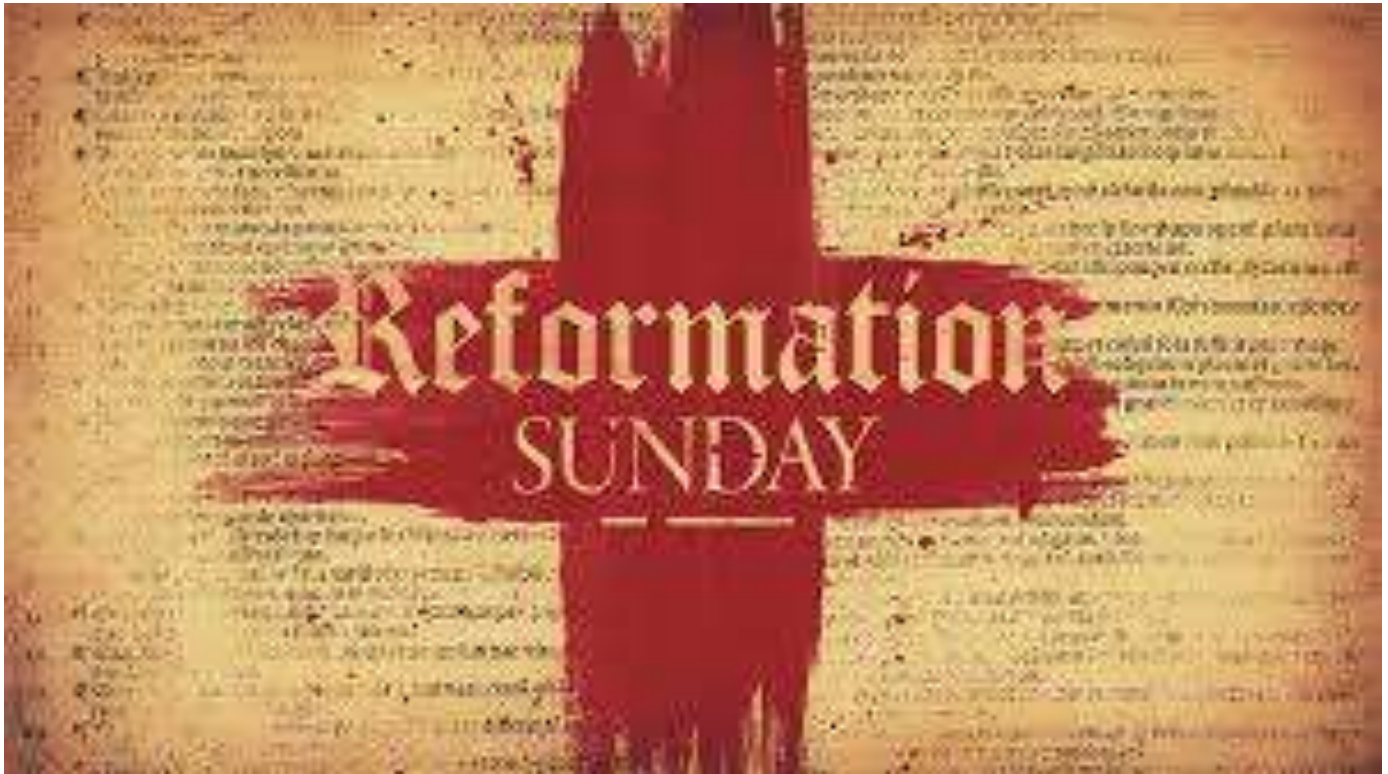


WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Reformation Sunday

October 26, 2025



First Evangelical & Holy Cross Churches

2740 Parker Ave.

West Palm Beach, FL 33405

www.felcwpb.com

“We are a community of churches and a church to the community.”

Welcome to worship with First Evangelical and Holy Cross churches. We come together for worship each Sunday to share in the ministry and mission of our Lord Jesus Christ with our own unique traditions and history. Seven other Christian ministries are located onsite with us.

If you are a guest or visitor and would like to know more about First Evangelical or Holy Cross, please reach out to one of our ushers, pastors, or fill out a welcome card and drop it in the offering boxes.

Thank you for joining us in worship this morning. May God bless you.

WELCOME

INVOCATION

CALL TO WORSHIP *based on Psalm 46*

L: The earth shakes, the mountains quake—tempting our hearts to fear.

C: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

L: Storms rage, winds swirl—destroying schools, hospitals, homes.

C: Still, God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

L: Violence comes to light in our communities and violence continues around the world—causing us to wonder if our prayers for peace are futile.

C: Yet God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

L: For those mourning and rebuilding after the storms,

C: God is their refuge.

L: For those living in fear of their neighbors,

C: God is their strength.

L: For those dreading the sounds of missiles and bombs,

C: God is present.

L: For the distraught and displaced and dismembered throughout the world,

C: God is a very present help in trouble.

L: Therefore, we will not fear.

C: Therefore, we will lay down our weapons and worship our God.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: "A Might Fortress Is Our God"



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!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

L: Let us put aside our good works and remember that we do sin and fall short of the glory of God. Lord of all,

**C: the demands of your righteousness
are too hard for us to fulfill alone,
so we rush off with this excuse
and ignore your law.**

**You forgive our iniquity and remember our sin no more,
and we abuse this freedom
as if it were a license to selfishness,
self-indulgence and self-righteousness.**

**You give us the gift of grace: atonement in the blood of your Son,
yet we make it cheap without serious repentance.**

We fail to see the power of your faithfulness.

We are your people, but do we know you as our God?

Forgive us Lord, the sins we know in our heart.

Save us Lord from the sins we hide.

(pause for reflection and self-examination)

L: God of our refuge and strength...

C: have mercy on us, write on our hearts. Amen

L: God does show us God's own righteousness,
and divine forbearance.

Through the work of the Holy Spirit given to us,
we may come to know the truth and be made free.

Jesus Christ the Son of God sets us free from our slavery to sin.

Our sins are forgiven.

Through his death and resurrection
a place is made for us in the household,
and we may be known as children of God.

To the glory of the Father, and the Son, + and the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CHORAL ANTHEM: *"God So Loved the World"*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. . .

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Welcome** to worship with First and Holy Cross churches. Remember to join us for a special **Reformation Lunch** following worship today.
- Would you like a **nametag** for church? We are ordering some new ones. This is open to everyone – please put your name on the sign-up sheet by the offering plates or call or email the office.
- Remember to “like” and “follow” us on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube.
- We are parking **additional cars** on the property for workers being shuttled out to the Royal Poinciana Plaza seven days a week. You may see signs for valet parking, parking on the grass areas and basketball courts.

CHILDREN’S CHOIR: *“Your Way is Better”*

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

*The elementary-aged children are excused for Flame, our **Sunday School class**.*

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the LORD means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the LORD will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.

³¹ “The days are coming,” declares the Lord, “when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah. ³² It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them,” declares the Lord.

³³ “This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time,” declares the Lord. “I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. ³⁴ No longer will they teach their neighbor, or say to one another, ‘Know the Lord,’ because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest,” declares the Lord. “For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.”

R: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God

SECOND READING: Romans 3:19-28

Paul’s words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ’s death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

¹⁹ Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God. ²⁰ Therefore no one will be declared righteous in God’s sight by the works of the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of our sin.

²¹ But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. ²² This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. ²⁵ God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished— ²⁶ he did it to demonstrate his righteousness at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.

²⁷ Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded. Because of what law? The law that requires works? No, because of the law that requires faith. ²⁸ For we maintain that a person is justified by faith apart from the works of the law.

R: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God

GOSPEL READING: John 8:31-36

P: The Holy Gospel, according to Saint John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹ To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. ³² Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

³³ They answered him, “We are Abraham’s descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?”

³⁴ Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. ³⁵ Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. ³⁶ So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Dan Baker

HYMN OF THE DAY: "Christ Be our Light"



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for
2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for
3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for
4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for
5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.

Refrain



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE OFFERING

***Your OFFERING is received in the back of the church.
Separate BOXES are available for both Holy Cross &
First Evangelical churches.***

**For First Evangelical only, you can give online at
www.felcwpb.com or TEXT2GIVE 844-504-1678 or
Scan QR Code.**



PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

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

C: It is right to give Him thanks and Praise.

SONG: “*Holy, Holy, Holy*”

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow’r and might,
heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD’S PRAYER

C: 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.

THE DISTRIBUTION – CONTINUOUS FORMAT (*Silence is appreciated*)

We practice Open Communion at Holy Cross and First Evangelical. If you believe that the Holy Sacrament carries with it the promises of the forgiveness of sins and eternal life and are a **baptized Christian** – you are welcome to receive. We do ask, however, that younger children who have not yet been instructed in the meaning of the sacrament - please come to the chancel for a blessing but refrain from receiving. Grape juice is also available in place of wine in the center of the communion trays.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

AARONIC BLESSING AND BENEDICTION IN HEBREW

P: “The LORD bless you and keep you,
Y’varech’cha Adonai v’yeesh’m’reicha.

The LORD make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you;
Yaer Adonai panav eleicha veechooneka.

The LORD lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace.”
Yeesa Adonai panav eleicha v’yasem l’cha shalom.

C: Amen.

RECESSIONAL SONG: "How Great Thou Art"



1 O Lord my God, when I in awe - some won - der con - sider
2 When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der, I hear the
3 But when I think that God, his Son not spar - ing, sent him to
4 When Christ shall come, with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion, and take me



all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might-y
birds sing sweet-ly in the trees; when I look down from loft - y moun-tain
die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross my bur - den glad - ly
home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum - ble ad - o -



thun - der, thy pow'r through-out the u - ni - verse dis - played;
gran - deur and hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze;
bear - ing he bled and died to take a - way my sin;
ra - tion and there pro - claim, "My God, how great thou art!"

Refrain



Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to thee, how great thou



art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to



thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

C: Thanks be to God!

WELCOME to all and thank you for joining us in worship today as we give thanks and praise to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We pray that the service will be meaningful and uplifting for you. If you are a first-time visitor, please sign the Guest Register. You are invited to stay for coffee and refreshments following the service. We very much would like to greet you and hope to make you feel welcome.

Serving in Worship

Pastors	- Rev. Daniel D. Baker & Rev. Dr. Michael Breznen
Crucifers	- Tom Kalorgis, Hilka Schroderus-Rowe
Liturgists	- Dianne Breznen, Sera Butz
Communion Assistants	- Dianne Breznen, Sera Butz, Hilka Schroderus-Rowe
Sound/Live Stream	- Ken Burton
Video	- Sera Butz, Scot Alexander

	This Week	Next Week
Musicians	Sandra Baran & Elias Cohen	Sandra Baran
Lector	Susan Moncher	Andi Devine
Ushers	Katherine S., Judith M., Susan M.	Katherine S., Christine W.
Greeters	Bob S. & Susan M.	Bob S. & Susan M.

Remember in Prayer

We pray for peace between nations and peoples and for just resolutions to the conflicts throughout the world – especially the people of Israel and fellow believers facing life-threatening persecution; those in war-torn countries; for all members of our armed services and law enforcement personnel; for our country and our nation’s leaders; for the Church, Church leaders, for **Youth for Christ**, and all faithful witnesses to the Gospel; for our missionaries – **Anthony and Soyoung Sellari** and their work in Egypt. Our condolences to the family and friends of **Terry Taylor**.

We pray for God’s healing presence to be with: **Dennis, Bill, Cynthia Amsden, Dylan Bauer, John Ackerman, Leona, Lisa & Don, Sandy, Carl, Trish, Lou, Allan, Carson, David S, Gertrude, Holly, Katie, Linda, Marilynn, and Patrick; Lesley Hogan** (friend of Katherine Summers); **Linda Zier** – lung cancer (Lori Kinney’s friend); **Cyndy Sellari** (for healing); **Joan Cannon** (health issues); and members of the **Holy Cross and First Evangelical Church** families who are at home and unable to attend.

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First Evangelical & Holy Cross Churches

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Church Office Hours
Monday – Wednesday – Friday
9 a.m. until 1 p.m.