



**October, 2017**  
**Anglican Church of the Holy Trinity**  
*Christ-centered, Biblically grounded, worshiping in the Anglican Tradition*

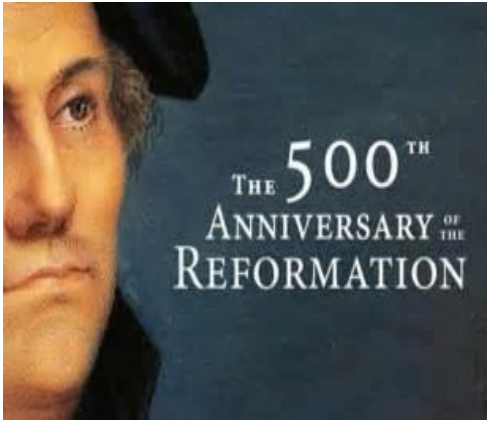


**Newsletter**

***Celebrating the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Protestant Reformation***

Christianity, now 2000 years old, was instituted by God “in the fullness of time” (i.e. at the right time), that God might redeem a fallen and hurting world back to Himself. He stepped into Creation in the person of Jesus, providing a full revelation of Himself and of His perfect will for humankind, in order that “*all who believe in Him would not perish, but have everlasting life.*” (John 3:16)

Jesus instructed His church to be His continuing presence in the world and, as His ambassadors, carry on His work of redemption: Jesus commanded, “*Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.*” (Matthew 28:19-20)



We imperfect humans, still tainted as sons and daughters of Adam and products the “*The Fall*,” have not always gotten “being the Church” right. A remarkable thing happened in the 16<sup>th</sup> C, however, to help the Church turn back to the Truth, to the basics, and to biblical foundations that God had given us in Christ. This came to be known as The Protestant Reformation. Men such as Martin Luther, John Calvin, Huldrych Zwingli and Thomas Cranmer stepped forward to correct deviations from the truths once delivered to the Church through the Apostles. The Reformation was not about anything new, but about returning to the unchanged and unchanging revelation of God in Christ.

This upcoming All Saints Eve (October 31) marks the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the start of the Protestant Reformation when Martin Luther purportedly nailed his 95 Theses to the door of All Saints Church, Wittenberg. This occasion gives us a great opportunity to connect with our Reformation heritage and revisit for ourselves these great truths that lay at the heart of the Reformation. In October and early November, we are thus going to do the following:

1. **Sunday preaching series on the “Five Solas:”** The **Five Solas** are **five** Latin phrases that emerged from the Protestant **Reformation** intended to summarize the Reformers' biblical principles.
 

|        |                               |                           |
|--------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Oct 1  | <b><i>Sola Scriptura</i></b>  | Scripture Alone           |
| Oct 8  | <b><i>Solus Christus</i></b>  | Christ Alone              |
| Oct 15 | <b><i>Sola Fide</i></b>       | Faith Alone               |
| Oct 22 | <b><i>Sola Gratia</i></b>     | Grace Alone               |
| Oct 29 | <b><i>Soli Deo Gloria</i></b> | To the Glory of God Alone |
2. **Friday evening, Oct 20, the movie “Luther:”** The movie will be introduced with background teachings on the life, witness and work of Martin Luther by one of our clergy.
3. **Friday evening, Saturday morning, All Saints Sunday, Nov 3, 4 and 5- “A Reformation Celebration:”** With a covered-dish fellowship supper Friday evening, and a continental breakfast Saturday morning, we will celebrate our Reformation Heritage and discuss the life, works, witness and theology of the Continental and British Reformers, and how that set the stage for us today and for worldwide Protestantism.

Mark your calendars!

**Father Rob+**

***Holy Trinity  
Being Christ  
to a broken  
and hurting  
world***

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## Letting Go of the Other Person's Throat

In Matthew 18:21-22, Peter comes to Jesus and asked, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times."



Jesus makes it clear that, in the great economy of the Kingdom of God, forgiveness is not an option. In fact, in the parable that Jesus tells following Peter's question, we see that God's forgiveness of us is inextricably and uncomfortably tied to our forgiveness of others.

Scripture has plenty to say about forgiveness:

- In **Mark 11:25-26** Jesus says, "Whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him, that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses. But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father in heaven forgive your trespasses."
- Paul in **Ephesians 4** writes, "Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ forgave you."
- And, of course, in our beloved Lord's Prayer given us in both Matthew's and Luke's Gospels, Jesus prays, "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." How Jesus' words would have been understood in its original context is that God forgives us in proportion to our forgiveness of others. And if that is not uncomfortably clear enough, Matthew records Jesus driving this point home with these words, "<sup>14</sup> For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, <sup>15</sup> but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses." (Matt 6)



Rembrandt, *The Return of the Prodigal Son*, 1662–1669 ([Hermitage Museum](#), [St Petersburg](#))

Jesus should have our undivided attention on this issue. The bottom line is that Jesus is telling us that we cannot appropriate the mercy, compassion and forgiveness of God if we ourselves do not choose to extend mercy, compassion and forgiveness to others;

Still, we all struggle to forgive the transgressions and traumas of our lives. Unforgiveness can shape our lives, define our identity, even determine our destiny. It darkens, deadens and can even destroy our life. It morphs into bitterness, and bitterness into anger. Instead of becoming a child of God unconditionally loving those around us, we are angry and bitter.

It is helpful to be clear about what forgiveness is and is not: It is not pretending it did not happen; it is not acting like it really wasn't all that bad; it is not turning a blind eye; it is not forgetting. Forgiving does not mean moving back into a trust relationship with the person who injured you. Although it is a prerequisite, forgiveness is not necessarily reconciliation or restoration.

Forgiveness, fundamentally, is release- "letting go of the other person's throat," to quote from the book, *The Shack* (W. P. Young). Forgiveness is giving your pain, bitterness and anger to God and trusting Him with it. Even when reconciliation is not possible, release is. Jesus on the Cross said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." True Christian forgiveness is mercy based, not justice based.

What, then, are you to do? This is where God's Holy Spirit comes in. It is by the working of the God's Holy Spirit in our lives that our minds, hearts and wills are transformed such that we can learn to forgive the way Jesus forgives. We think of forgiveness as an emotion, but at its heart, forgiveness is an act of the will- aligning our will with God's will. Even when you do not feel like forgiving, forgiveness is possible- thanks be to God!

Here is what you can do?

- **Through the Holy Spirit in you, seek the grace to forgive:** We cannot do it out of our old, unconverted nature. If you really want to obey his command to forgive, then pray for and open yourself to Him empowering you to do so.
- **Again, through the Holy Spirit in you, choose to forgive:** Align your will and spirit with the will and Spirit of Jesus
- **Pray for those who have transgressed in your life:** Pray that God forgive them, but also pray that God will convert their heart as He is converting yours.
- **Finally, ask God to forgive you:** ... not just for passing judgement on the other person, which in unforgiveness you are surely doing, but ask God also to forgive you for the ways you have taken on and owned your unforgiveness and carried it with you like an old worn out bag. Agreeing and clinging to unforgiveness in your heart is not your offender's sin- it is yours.

By the grace of God and the power of the Holy Spirit working in us, may we learn to forgive.

**Father Rob**

## *International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church*

**Sunday, Nov. 5**

On this important day, we will join thousands of other churches across the United States and around the world in prayer for our persecuted Christian brothers and sisters.

| 2017                         | October 1<br>Sola Scriptura    | October 8<br>Solus Christus     | October 15<br>Sola Fide         | October 22<br>Sola Gratia        | October 29<br>Soli Deo Gloria   | November 5<br>All Saints       |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Euch. Min.</b>            | Rosemarie M                    | Mike S                          | Paula W                         | Sandra S                         | Jerry N                         | Rosemarie M                    |
| <b>Ushers / Greeters</b>     | Judy C<br>Deborah K<br>Donna L | Wayne L<br>Richard M<br>Jason N | Mike S<br>Monte S<br>Margaret W | Joseph A<br>Bill B<br>Judy C     | Deborah K<br>Donna L<br>Wayne L | Richard M<br>Jason N<br>Mike S |
| <b>Presenting Bread/Wine</b> | Lisa J<br>Phyllis K            | Debora K<br>Donna L             | Wayne L<br>Rosemarie M          | Richard M<br>Caleb M             | Jason &<br>Kimber N             | Jerry &<br>Terry N             |
| <b>Prayer Team</b>           | Rosemarie M<br>Margaret W      | Ginger H<br>Monique T           | Nancy H<br>Wayne L              | Rosemarie M<br>Margaret W        | Ginger H<br>Monique T           | Nancy H<br>Wayne L             |
| <b>Lector-OT</b>             | Billy H                        | Sue J                           | Wayne L                         | Richard M                        | Annette M                       | Jason N                        |
| <b>Lector-NT</b>             | Jason N                        | Sandra S                        | Mike S                          | Margaret W                       | Jackie F                        | Avery S                        |
| <b>Altar Guild [week of]</b> | Annette M<br>Donna L           | Rosemarie M<br>JoEllen B        | Virginia F<br>Marguerite P      | Ginger H<br>Monique T<br>Terry N | Annette M<br>Donna L            | Rosemarie M<br>JoEllen B       |
| <b>Acolyte Guild</b>         | Oke I                          | Avery S                         | Sandra S                        | Jackie F                         | Oke I                           | Avery S                        |

### *St. Francis Day Celebration*

#### *Blessing of the Animals*

**Saturday, October 7, 10:30 am**

All creatures great and small are invited. There will be a blessing of our pets and a certificate commemorating the blessing. There will also be music, cookies for the kids, dog biscuits for the dogs and cat treats for the kitties. Just remember that dogs need to remain on their leashes, cats in their cages and fish in their bowls. Come join us for this fun and blessed occasion.



blessed, bone-afied and certified



### *Wednesday Evenings in October*

Dear Church Family,

I'm excited about a study we're doing Wednesday nights entitled "Everyday Questions," produced by Ravi Zacharias International Ministries. While most of us do not see ourselves possessing the gift of evangelism, we are all admonished in 1 Peter 3:15 to "always be prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you." And the reality is that we all have opportunities to discuss the big questions about life with the people we care about and see each day.

I look forward to our conversations as we seek to articulate our beliefs and convictions regarding where we come from, our own significance, our moral compass, and our destiny.

Each week we view a video clip that encourages conversation as we discuss the message of the video and seek answers to spiritual questions that enable us to better understand and explain the Christian worldview. We also discuss how to have meaningful spiritual conversation with people with different belief systems and personalities. In addition, there is a short Bible passage suggested weekly for further study.

Join us on Wednesday nights at 6 PM for supper, prayer and praise, and meaningful dialogue. Come grow with me!

Pressing on, *Tuyba*

**Altar Flowers** are given by members of this congregation either in honor of or in memory of loved ones as well as acknowledging any special occasions. There is a suggested donation of \$35.00 plus a \$6.00 delivery fee for a total of \$41.00. There is a sign up booklet on the table near the entrance to the sanctuary. Remember to make a note in the memo of your check.

### *Wedding Shower for Linden and Caleb*



# October, 2017

| Sunday  | Monday                 | Tuesday  | Wednesday   | Thursday  | Friday    | Saturday  |
|---|------------------------|--|---|-----------|-----------|---|
| <b>1</b>  | <b>2</b>               | <b>3</b>   | <b>4</b>  | <b>5</b>  | <b>6</b>  | <b>7</b>  |
| <b>Reformation Celebration</b><br><i>"Scripture Alone"</i><br>8:00 am Eucharist<br>10:00 am Eucharist<br>11:20 am Coffee<br>11:30 am Christian Ed<br><i>Nursery available</i>           |                        | 10:00-11:30 am<br>Women's Bible Study<br><br>6:00 pm Choir                               | <i>St Francis Day</i><br><br>6:00 pm<br>Fellowship Supper & Study:<br>4. Why are we here?<br><i>Nursery available</i>                       |           |           | <u>No</u> Men's Bible Study<br><br>10:30 am<br><b>Blessing of the Animals</b>                   |
| <b>8</b>  | <b>9</b>               | <b>10</b>  | <b>11</b>   | <b>12</b> | <b>13</b> | <b>14</b>   |
| <b>Reformation Celebration</b><br><i>"Christ Alone"</i><br>8:00 am Eucharist<br>10:00 am Eucharist<br>11:20 am Coffee<br>11:30 am Christian Ed<br><i>Nursery available</i>              |                        | <u>No</u><br>Women's Bible Study<br><br>6:00 pm Choir                                    | 6:00 pm<br>Fellowship Supper & Study:<br>5. Why are we here?<br>part 2<br><i>Nursery available</i>  |           |           | 9:00 to 10:20am<br>Men's Breakfast & Bible Study  |
| <b>15</b>   | <b>16</b>              | <b>17</b>  | <b>18</b>   | <b>19</b> | <b>20</b> | <b>21</b>   |
| <b>Reformation Celebration</b><br><i>"Faith Alone"</i><br>8:00 am Eucharist<br>10:00 am Eucharist<br>11:20 am Coffee<br>11:30 am Christian Ed<br><i>Nursery available</i>               |                        | 10:00-11:30 am<br>Women's Bible Study<br><br>6:00 pm Choir                               | <i>St. Luke, Evangelist</i><br><br>6:00 pm<br>Fellowship Supper & Study:<br>6. How do we know right from wrong?<br><i>Nursery available</i> |           |           | 9:00 to 10:20am<br>Men's Breakfast & Bible Study  |
| <b>22</b>   | <b>23</b>              | <b>24</b>  | <b>25</b>   | <b>26</b> | <b>27</b> | <b>28</b>   |
| <b>Reformation Celebration</b><br><i>"Grace Alone"</i><br>8:00 am Eucharist<br>10:00 am Eucharist<br>11:20 am Coffee<br>11:30 am Christian Ed<br><i>Nursery available</i>               | St. James of Jerusalem | 10:00-11:30 am<br>Women's Bible Study<br><br>6:00 pm Choir                               | 6:00 pm<br>Fellowship Supper & Study:<br>6. How do we know right from wrong?<br>part 2<br><i>Nursery available</i>                          |           |           | <i>St Simon &amp; St Jude, Apostles</i><br><br>9:00 to 10:20am<br>Men's Breakfast & Bible Study |
| <b>29</b>   | <b>30</b>              | <b>31</b>  | <i>Upcoming Events</i>  |           |           |   |
| <b>Reformation Celebration</b><br><i>"To the Glory of God Alone"</i><br>8:00 am Eucharist<br>10:00 am Eucharist<br>11:20 am Coffee<br>11:30 am Christian Ed<br><i>Nursery available</i> |                        | <i>Vigil of all Saints</i><br>10:00-11:30 am<br>Women's Bible Study<br><br>6:00 pm Choir | <b>Reformation Celebration Weekend, Nov. 3-5</b>  |           |           |   |

## Links to the Ways We Communicate

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Parish Website                      | <a href="http://www.achtna.org">http://www.achtna.org</a>   |
| Monthly Newsletters (web + mailed)  | <a href="http://www.achtna.org/newsletters">http://www.achtna.org/newsletters</a>   |
| Sunday Bulletin Announcement Pg.    | <a href="http://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/4a5efa_d2f2833708fd4cb786e26341d2b7e364.pdf">http://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/4a5efa_d2f2833708fd4cb786e26341d2b7e364.pdf</a> |
| Holy Trinity Mobile App             | <a href="http://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/4a5efa_80ea18e8be5a4eb69541c319aa89a00f.pdf">http://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/4a5efa_80ea18e8be5a4eb69541c319aa89a00f.pdf</a> |
| Email Distr. of news and messages   | (If not receiving HT emails, please provide your email address to <a href="mailto:robhartley@comcast.net">robhartley@comcast.net</a> )                            |
| Prayer List (Sun. Bulletin and Web) | <a href="http://www.achtna.org/parish-prayer-list">http://www.achtna.org/parish-prayer-list</a>   |
| Blog (North Augusta Anglican)       | <a href="http://holytrinityna.blogspot.com/">http://holytrinityna.blogspot.com/</a>   |

*Holy Trinity is a congregation of the Anglican Church in North America*

**Christ-centered, biblically grounded, worshipping in the Anglican Tradition**

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Bishop: The Rt. Rev. Steve Wood, Rector: The Rev. Rob Hartley

Assisting Clergy: The Rev.'s Dan Brown and Theophilus Iwuji

Vestry: Jennifer Dorn, Jerry Nault, Larry Pettinato, Mark Watkins Senior Warden: Mike Fekula; Junior Warden: Darren Newman