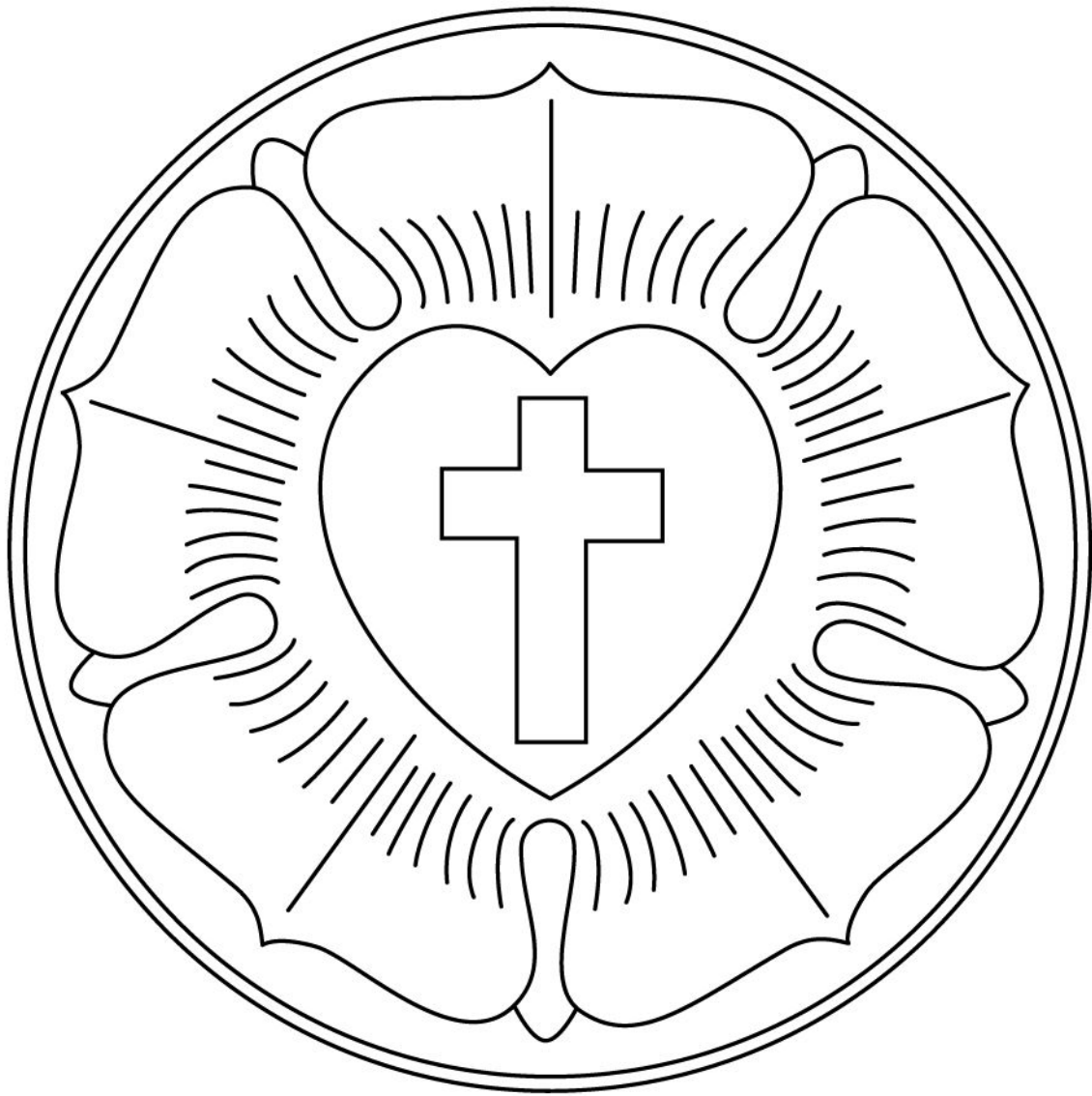


Reformation



This is Martin Luther's seal. Martin Luther drew this picture to show how people are saved. Each picture in the seal shows us something about God's love and plan of salvation for us. Color the seal using the color key below. Read what each item in Martin Luther's seal means.

Cross	black	Christ's death on the cross forgives our sins.
Heart	red	Faith in Christ's death is found in the heart.
Rose	white	Faith in Jesus gives us peace, forgiveness, and joy.
Background	blue	Faith in Christ's death gives heaven.
Ring	gold	Life in heaven brings happiness and will be eternal.



The Story

A long time ago in a country called Germany, Hans and Margareta Luther had a baby boy. They named him Martin Luther. God was going to use Martin Luther to do very important things for the church.

The church at Martin Luther's time was not teaching what God's Word said. The church said that if you wanted your sins taken away you have to do good things. That is not what God's Word says. God's Word says that our sins are forgiven because Jesus died on the cross. The church also said that people should pray to saints. Saints were dead people who believed in Jesus. God does not want us to pray to anyone except Him.

Martin Luther was taught to be afraid of God because God was going to punish him because of his sins. We should not be afraid of God. God loves us so much that He sent Jesus to die for us to take away our sins, but Martin Luther was not taught this.

One day when Martin Luther was on his way home, a thunderstorm came. Lightning struck a tree right next to him. Martin Luther was afraid he was going to die, so he prayed to Saint Anna. He should have prayed to God. He asked Saint Anne to keep him safe. If she would, he would become a monk. A monk is a person who lives away from his family and lives his whole life praying and working for God.

God kept Martin Luther safe from the storm, and Martin Luther became a monk. Martin Luther was still worried about his sins. He tried to do everything that was good. He prayed. He worked. He slept on the floor. The more he tried to be good, the more he knew how bad his sins were. A friend told Martin Luther to read the Bible. There Martin Luther

read the wonderful news that his sins were forgiven because Jesus died on the cross. He did not have to do good things to pay for his sins.

Martin Luther was excited that his sins were forgiven because Jesus died on the cross to take them away. He wanted others to know about this, but the church did not want others to know this. The church told the people that if they wanted their sins forgiven, they had to buy special pieces of paper. Martin Luther did not like this. This is not what God said in the Bible. He wrote 95 sentences saying that the church was not teaching what God says in the Bible. He took these 95 sentences and nailed them to the church door. He did this on October 31, 1517. This is the day we call Reformation Day. God was using Martin Luther to change the church into teaching what God says in the Bible.

The church was not happy with Martin Luther's 95 sentences. They wanted him to stop talking about forgiveness of sins through Jesus' death on the cross. The church said that he could be killed if he did not stop preaching this. Martin Luther prayed to God for help. He said that he had to preach that Jesus died to forgive sins.

Martin Luther's friends were worried that he would die, so they took Martin Luther to a castle. Martin Luther stayed there for about a year writing the Bible in the German language so all the people in Germany could read for themselves how Jesus died to take away their sins.

Martin Luther did many other important things. He wrote some of the songs in our hymnal. One is called, "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God." He wrote two books called

Catechisms. They talk about the important things in the Bible. He even got married and had six children.

God had a special plan for Martin Luther. God used Martin Luther to show the people that Jesus died to take away the sins of the world. No one can do good things in order to be saved because all people are sinful. God used Martin Luther to change what the church was teaching. That is why we celebrate Reformation Day on October 31. We thank God that He sent Jesus to die on the cross to forgive us. We also thank God that He used Martin Luther to find in the Bible the good news that our sins are forgiven because Jesus paid for them. God used Martin Luther to show people from the Bible that they are saved because God loved everyone so much that He sent Jesus to die on the cross.

God showed Martin Luther in the Bible
that sins are forgiven because Jesus
died on the cross for us.

Jesus washed them all away.
Sins are not forgiven because people do
good things.

We thank God that He used Martin
Luther to find in the Bible the good news
that our sins are forgiven because Jesus
paid for them.

Passages

“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.” Ephesians 2:8-9

“But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” Romans 5:8

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” John 3:16

“For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, ‘The just shall live by faith.’” Romans 1:17

Hymn TLH -Hymn 262 v. 1

A mighty Fortress is our God,
A trusty Shield and Weapon;
He helps us free from every need
That hath us now o’ertaken,
The old evil Foe
Now means deadly woe;
Deep guile and great might
Are his dread arms in fight;
On earth is not his equal. Amen.

Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father,
Thank You for loving me so much that You sent Jesus to die on the cross to forgive me of my sins. Help me remember to thank You each day for Your gift of forgiveness.
In Jesus’ name, Amen.

Activity One - Reformation Mobile

Directions: Color pieces. Cut out pieces "God's Word Shows Us Jesus" and "Died To Forgive Our Sins" along the black lines. Glue the two pieces together end to end to make a top ring. With a hole puncher, punch six holes along the bottom of the top ring. Punch one hole in the top of each rectangular picture. Connect the pictures to the top ring with yarn and hang.

Glue
Here

God's Word Shows Us Jesus

Glue
Here

Died To Forgive Our Sins.

The Bible



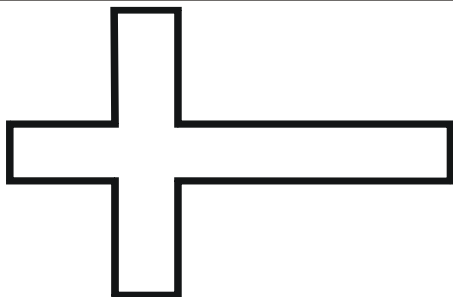
Lutheran Church



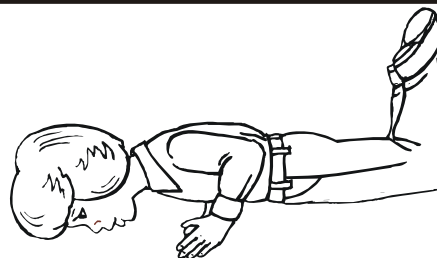
Hymns



Martin Luther



Jesus



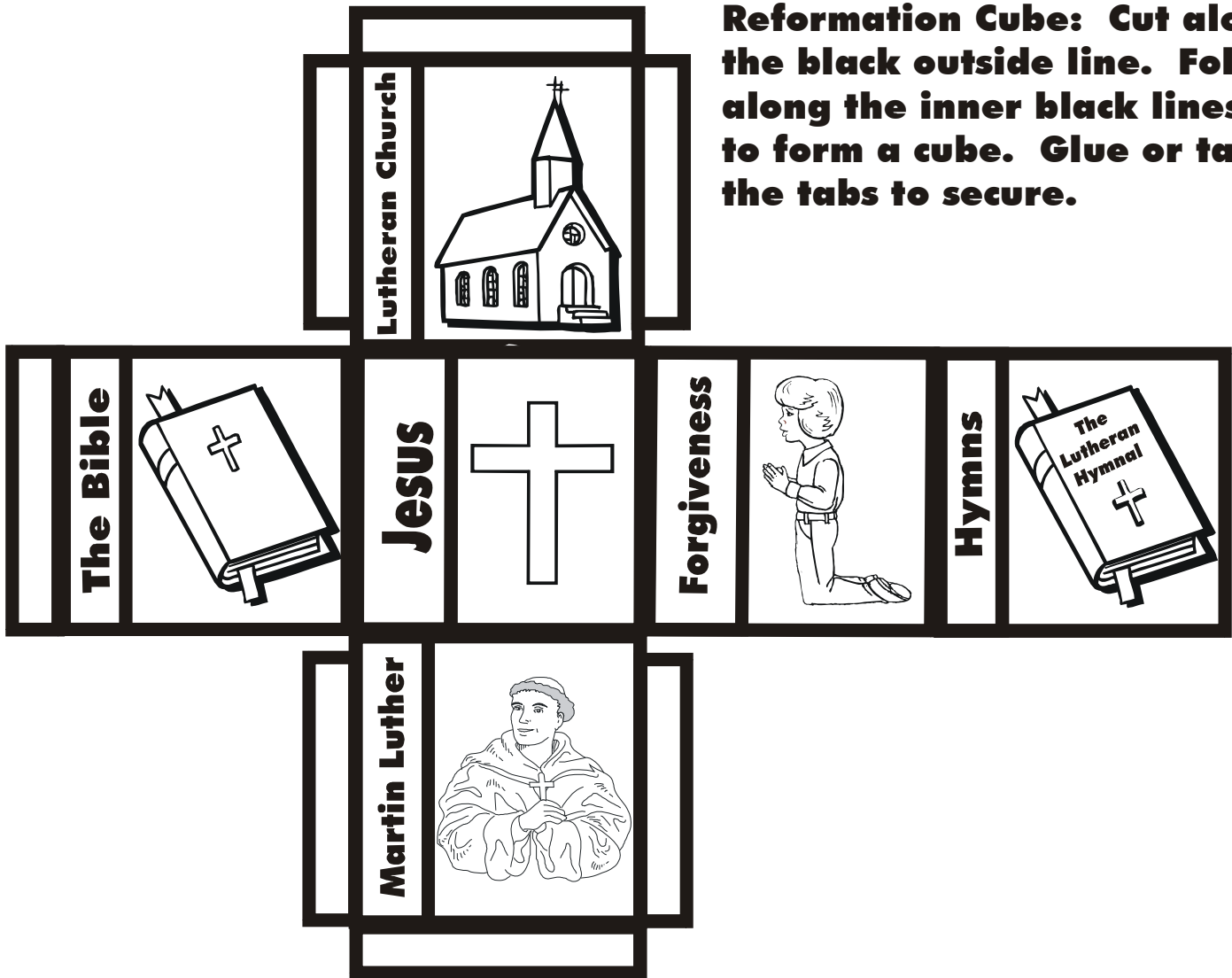
Forgiveness

Activity Two - Color the cross stained glass window.

Martin Luther read in God's Word that forgiveness of sins only comes through Jesus dying on the cross. Color the picture of the stained glass window cross.



Activity Three - Color, cut out and fold the Reformation CUBE.



Reformation

Lesson 1

Martin Luther read in God's Word that forgiveness of sins only comes through Jesus dying on the cross. Color the picture of the stained glass window cross.



Color the stained glass cross above.



The Story

A long time ago in a country called Germany, Hans and Margaretta Luther had a baby boy. They named him Martin Luther. God was going to use Martin Luther to do very important things for the church.

The church at Martin Luther's time was not teaching what God's Word said. The church said that if you wanted your sins taken away you have to do good things. That is not what God's Word says. God's Word says that our sins are forgiven because Jesus died on the cross. The church also said that people should pray to saints. Saints were dead people who believed in Jesus. God does not want us to pray to anyone except Him.

Martin Luther was taught to be afraid of God because God was going to punish him because of his sins. We should not be afraid of God. God loves us so much that He sent Jesus to die for us to take away our sins, but Martin Luther was not taught this.

One day when Martin Luther was on his way home, a thunderstorm came. Lightning struck a tree right next to him. Martin Luther was afraid he was going to die, so he prayed to Saint Anna. He should have prayed to God. He asked Saint Anne to keep him safe. If she would, he would become a monk. A monk is a person who lives away from his family and lives his whole life praying and working for God.

God kept Martin Luther safe from the storm, and Martin Luther became a monk. Martin Luther was still worried about his sins. He tried to do everything that was good. He prayed. He worked. He slept on the floor. The more he tried to be good, the more he knew how bad his sins were. A friend told Martin Luther to read the Bible. There Martin Luther read the wonderful news that his sins were forgiven because Jesus died on the cross. He did not have to do good things to pay for his sins.

God forgives our sins because Jesus died on the cross.

Passages

"But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8

"For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, 'The just shall live by faith.'" Romans 1:17

Hymn Hymn 342

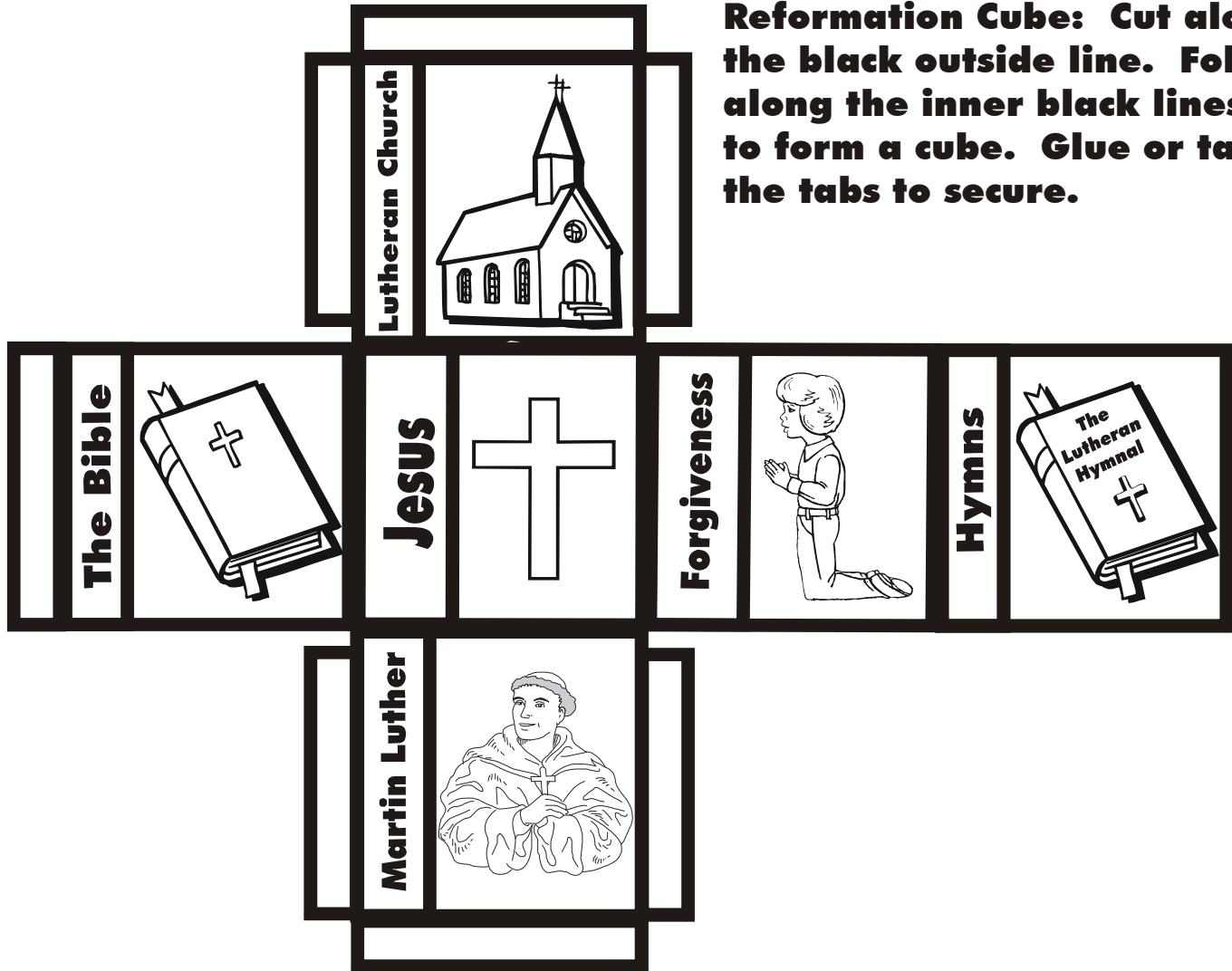
Chief of sinners though I be,
Jesus shed His blood for me;
Died that I might live on high,
Lived that I might never die.
As the branch is to the vine,
I am His, and He is mine.

Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father,
Thank You for loving me so much that You sent Jesus to die on the cross to forgive me of my sins. Help me remember to thank You each day for Your gift of forgiveness.
In Jesus' name, Amen.

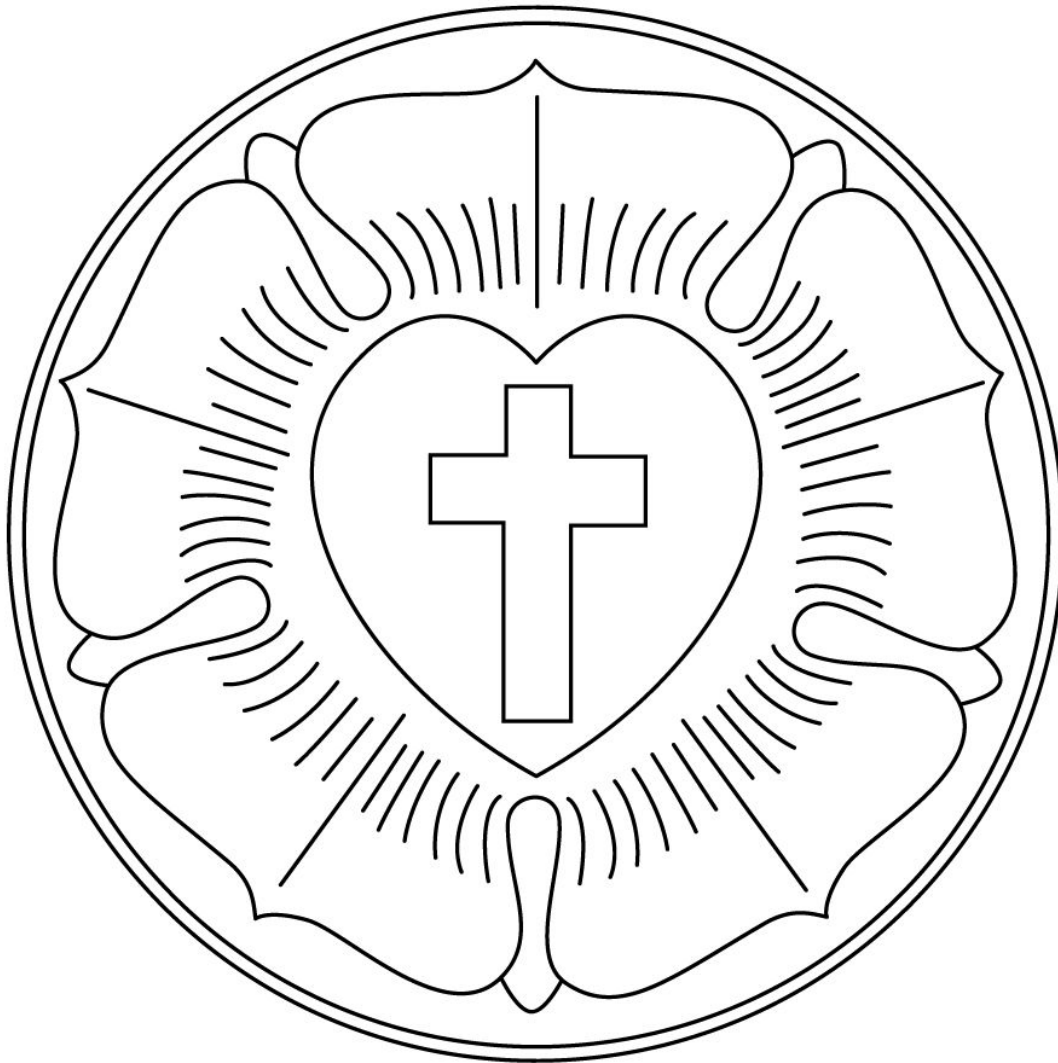
Activity One - Color, cut out and fold the Reformation CUBE.

Reformation Cube: Cut along the black outside line. Fold along the inner black lines to form a cube. Glue or tape the tabs to secure.



Reformation

Lesson 2



This is Martin Luther's seal. Martin Luther drew this picture to show how people are saved. Each picture in the seal shows us something about God's love and plan of salvation for us. Color the seal using the color key below. Read what each item in Martin Luther's seal means.

Cross	black	Christ's death on the cross forgives our sins.
Heart	red	Faith in Christ's death is found in the heart.
Rose	white	Faith in Jesus gives us peace, forgiveness, and joy.
Background	blue	Faith in Christ's death gives heaven.
Ring	gold	Life in heaven brings happiness and will be eternal.



The Story

Martin Luther was excited that his sins were forgiven because Jesus died on the cross to take them away. He wanted others to know about this, but the church did not want others to know this. The church told the people that if they wanted their sins forgiven, they had to buy special pieces of paper. Martin Luther did not like this. This is not what God said in the Bible. He wrote 95 sentences saying that the church was not teaching what God says in the Bible. He took this 95 sentences and nailed them to the church door. He did this on October 31, 1517. This is the day we call Reformation Day. God was using Martin Luther to change the church into teaching what God says in the Bible.

The church was not happy with Martin Luther's 95 sentences. They wanted him to stop talking about forgiveness of sins through Jesus death on the cross. The church said that he could be killed if he did not stop preaching this. Martin Luther prayed to God for help. He said that he had to preach that Jesus died to forgive sins.

Martin Luther's friends were worried that he would die, so they took Martin Luther to a castle. Martin Luther stayed here for about a year writing the Bible in the German language so all the people in Germany could read for themselves how Jesus died to take away their sins.

Martin Luther did many other important things. He wrote some of the songs in our hymnal. One is called, "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God." He wrote two books called Catechisms. They talk about the important things in the Bible. He even got married and had six children.

God had a special plan for Martin Luther. God used Martin Luther to show the people that Jesus died to take away the sins of the world. No one can do good things in order to be saved because all people are sinful. God used Martin Luther to change what the church was teaching. That is why we celebrate Reformation Day on

October 31. We thank God that He sent Jesus to die on the cross to forgive us. We also thank God that He used Martin Luther to find in the Bible the good news that our sins are forgiven because Jesus paid for them.

God used Martin Luther to show people from the Bible that they are saved because God loved everyone so much that He sent Jesus to die on the cross.

Passages

"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast."
Ephesians 2:8-9

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." John 3:16

Hymn TLH -Hymn 262 v. 1

A mighty Fortress is our God,
A trusty Shield and Weapon;
He helps us free from every need
That hath us now o'ertaken,
The old evil Foe now means deadly woe;
Deep guile and great might
Are his dread arms in fight;
On earth is not his equal. Amen.

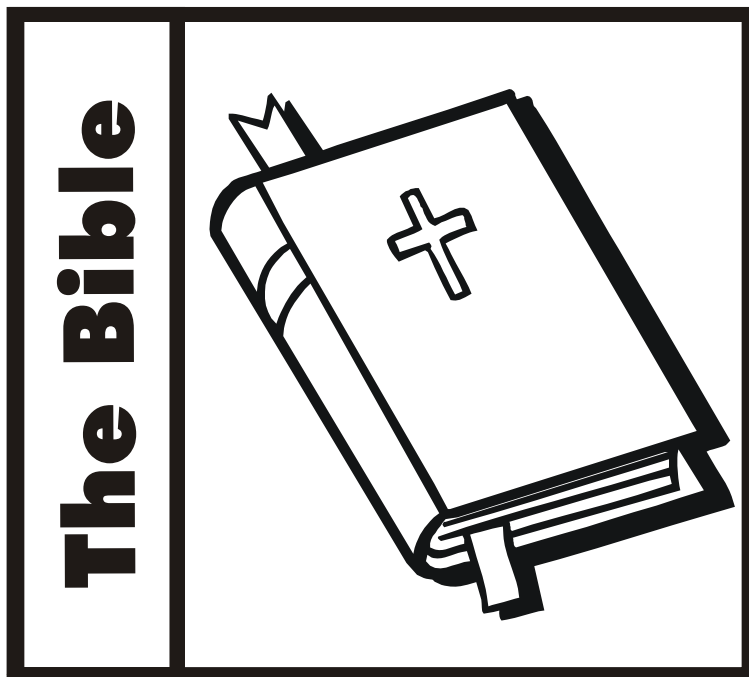
Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father,

Thank You for using Martin Luther to show us that we are saved only because Jesus died on the cross to forgive our sins. Help us always remember to praise You and tell others the good news that Jesus died to forgive the sins of the world. Thank You, Lord. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Activity One - Reformation Mobile

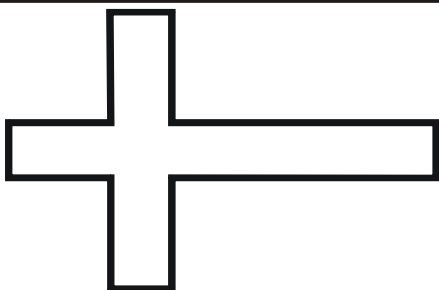
Directions: Color pieces. Cut out pieces along the black lines. Glue the two pieces together to make the top ring. With a hole puncher, punch six holes along the bottom of the top ring. Punch one whole in the top of each picture. Connect the pictures to the top ring with yarn.



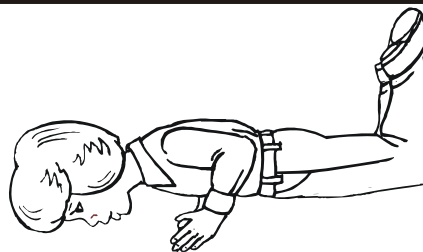
Hymns



Martin Luther

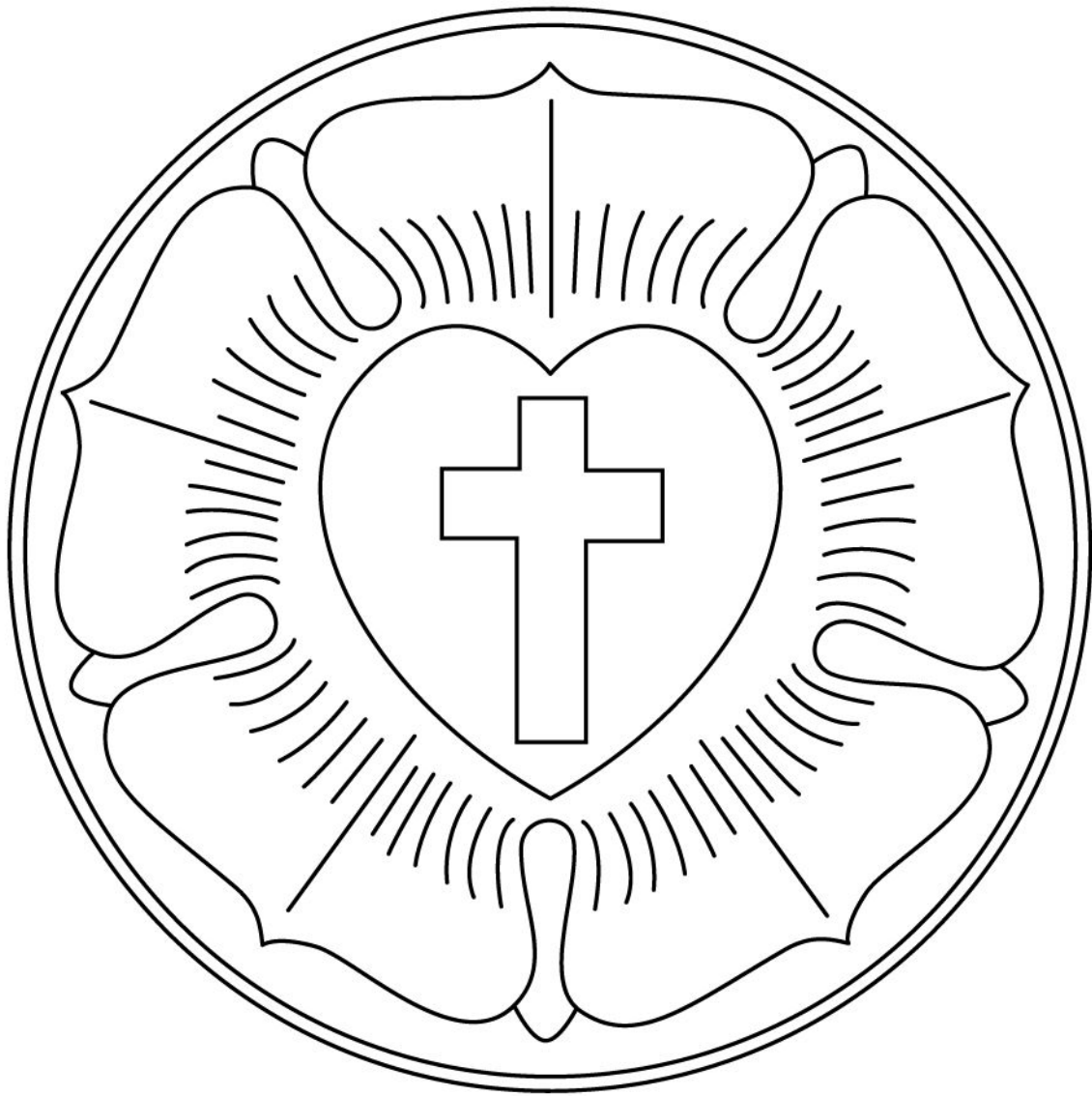


Jesus



Forgiveness

Reformation



This is Martin Luther's seal. Martin Luther drew this picture to show how people are saved. Each picture in the seal shows us something about God's love and plan of salvation for us. Color the seal using the color key below. Read what each item in Martin Luther's seal means.

Cross	black	Christ's death on the cross forgives our sins.
Heart	red	Faith in Christ's death is found in the heart.
Rose	white	Faith in Jesus gives us peace, forgiveness, and joy.
Background	blue	Faith in Christ's death gives heaven.
Ring	gold	Life in heaven brings happiness and will be eternal.



The Story

A long time ago, about 500 years ago, in Germany, a country far away, a baby was born to Hans and Margareta Luther. They named their baby Martin Luther. They brought Martin Luther to church to be baptized. But their church was different from our church. Their church said that in order for your sins to be forgiven, you have to believe in Jesus **and** do good things, but this is not what the Bible says. The Luthers did not know this because there was no Bible for them to read. When the Luthers went to church, they could not understand what the pastor was saying because he was speaking in a different language.

Martin Luther went to school. As he got older, his dad wanted him to become a lawyer. When he was on his way home from school studying to be a lawyer, he was caught in a thunderstorm. A bolt of lightning almost hit Martin Luther. Instead of praying to Jesus for help, Martin Luther prayed to a lady who died a long time ago named St. Anna. Because he was afraid of dying, Martin Luther said that if she would keep him safe from the storm, he would become a monk. A monk was a person who lived in a special place away from his family, prayed, read the Bible, and promised never to marry or have lots of money. St. Anna did not keep Martin Luther safe; God kept Martin Luther safe from the storm because God had a special job for Martin Luther to do.

When Martin Luther was a monk, he felt sorry about all the bad sins he did. These sins bothered him so much, because Martin Luther thought that God was mad at him and would punish him. So Martin Luther tried to do good things in order to be forgiven. He worked hard and prayed. He slept on the floor and beat himself hoping God would feel sorry for him and take his sins away. Then one day he read in the Bible that God forgives sins because Jesus died on the cross. Sins are not forgiven because people do good things. Now Martin Luther was happy his sins were forgiven because Jesus died to take them away. But this was not what the

church was teaching, so Martin Luther wanted to tell others the good news he found in the Bible.

The church did not want him telling others. The church started selling special pieces of paper. They said if a person bought this paper his sins would be forgiven. This is not what Martin Luther read in the Bible. God's forgiveness is free for everyone. It cannot be sold. Martin Luther wanted to do something about this. He wrote down 95 things that were wrong with what the church was teaching. We call these the 95 Theses. He took them to the church door and nailed them on the door. This way everyone who came to the church could read that the church was not teaching what God says in the Bible. Martin Luther nailed these 95 Theses to the church door on October 31, 1517. This is the day we celebrate as Reformation Day.

How do you think the church felt about Luther doing this? They were upset. They wanted Luther to stop talking about God forgiving people because Jesus died for them. They did not want Luther to write these 95 Theses. They told Luther that if he did not stop, anyone could kill him. Martin Luther prayed to God for help. He said that he could not stop telling others about God's free forgiveness because this is what God says in the Bible.

Martin Luther's friends were worried that Martin Luther might die, so they kidnaped him. They took him to a castle where he would be safe. This castle was called the Wartburg. Martin Luther was busy in this castle. He wrote many papers to tell others about Jesus dying for their sins. He also translated the Bible into the German language. Remember how Martin Luther's parents did not have a Bible for them to read. That was because it was written in a different language. Martin Luther wrote the Bible in German so people like his parents could read it.

God protected Martin Luther. Eventually Martin Luther left the castle and got married. He had six children. He kept writing and telling others about God's forgiveness because Jesus died for them. He also wrote songs called hymns. One of his most famous hymns is called "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God." He also wrote books that fathers could read to their children. These books were called Catechisms, and they tell about the Bible.

God had a special plan for Martin Luther. God used Martin Luther to show the people how they can get to heaven. Martin Luther found in the Bible that people are saved only because Jesus died on the cross to take away their sins. No one can do good things in order to be saved because all people are sinful. God used Martin Luther to change what the church was teaching. That is why we celebrate Reformation Day on October 31. We praise God that He sent Jesus to die on the cross to forgive us.

God showed Martin Luther in the Bible
that sins are forgiven because Jesus
died on the cross for us.
He washed them all away.
Sins are not forgiven because people do
good things.

We thank God that He used Martin
Luther to find in the Bible the good news
that our sins are forgiven because Jesus
paid for them.

Passages

"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast." Ephesians 2:8-9

"But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." John 3:16

"For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, 'The just shall live by faith.'" Romans 1:17

Hymn TLH -Hymn 262 v. 1

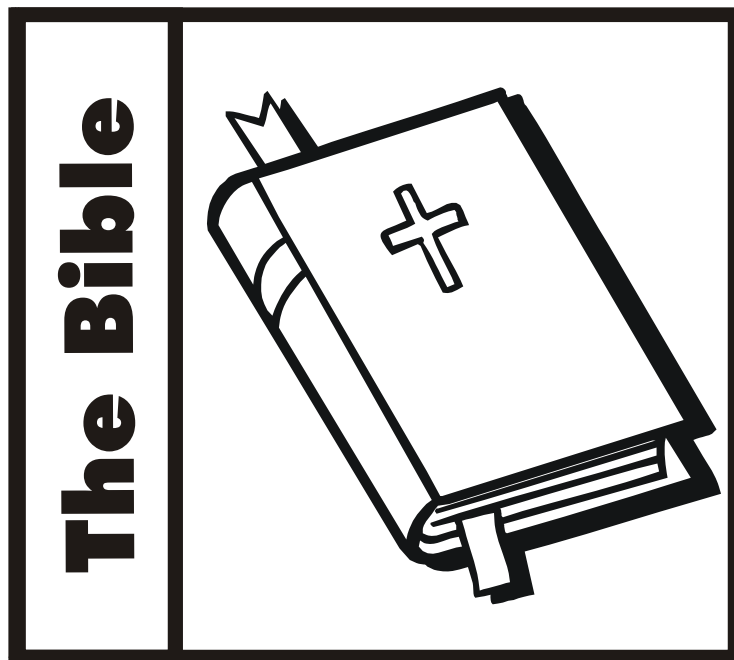
A mighty Fortress is our God,
A trusty Shield and Weapon;
He helps us free from every need
That hath us now o'ertaken,
The old evil Foe
Now means deadly woe;
Deep guile and great might
Are his dread arms in fight;
On earth is not his equal. Amen.

Prayer

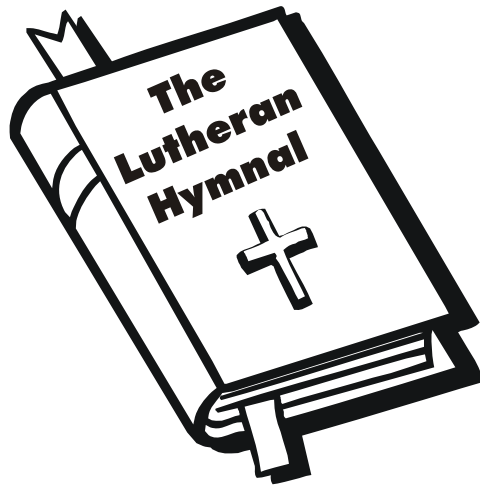
Dear Heavenly Father,
Thank you for using Martin Luther to show us that You loved us so much that You sent Jesus to die on the cross to forgive our sins. Remind us that we cannot do anything to save ourselves. Help us always remember to praise You and tell others the good news that Jesus died to forgive the sins of the world. Thank You, Lord. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Activity One - Reformation Mobile

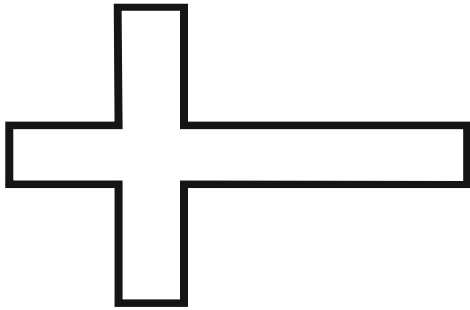
Directions: Color pieces. Cut out pieces "God's Word Shows Us Jesus" and "Died To Forgive Our Sins" along the black lines. Glue the two pieces together end to end to make a top ring. With a hole puncher, punch six holes along the bottom of the top ring. Punch one hole in the top of each rectangular picture. Connect the pictures to the top ring with yarn and hang.



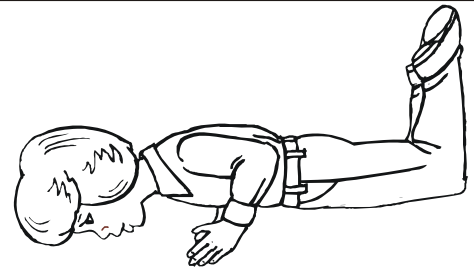
Hymns



Martin Luther



Jesus



Forgiveness

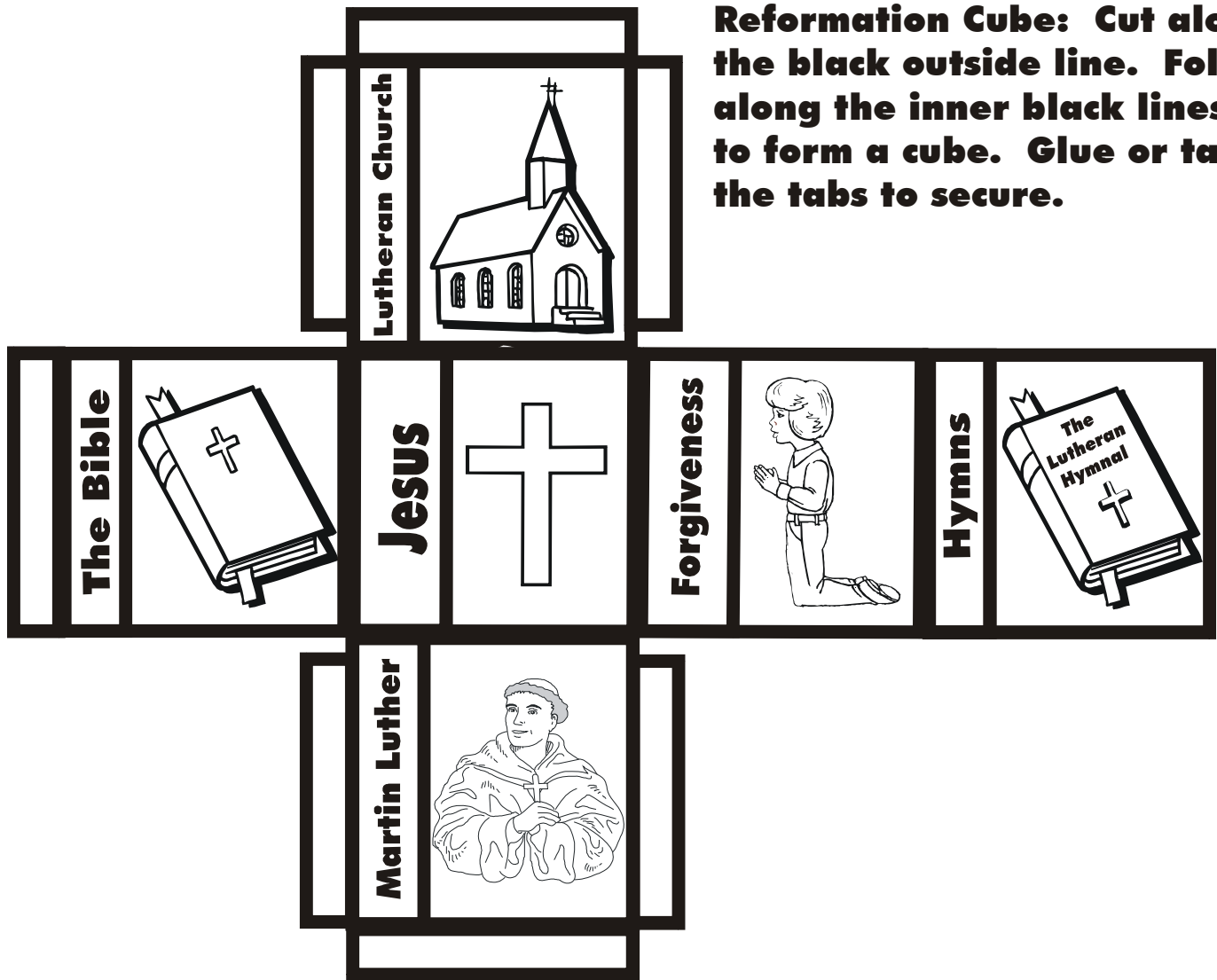
Activity Two - Color the cross stained glass window.

Martin Luther read in God's Word that forgiveness of sins only comes through Jesus dying on the cross. Color the picture of the stained glass window cross.



Activity Three - Color, cut out and fold the Reformation CUBE.

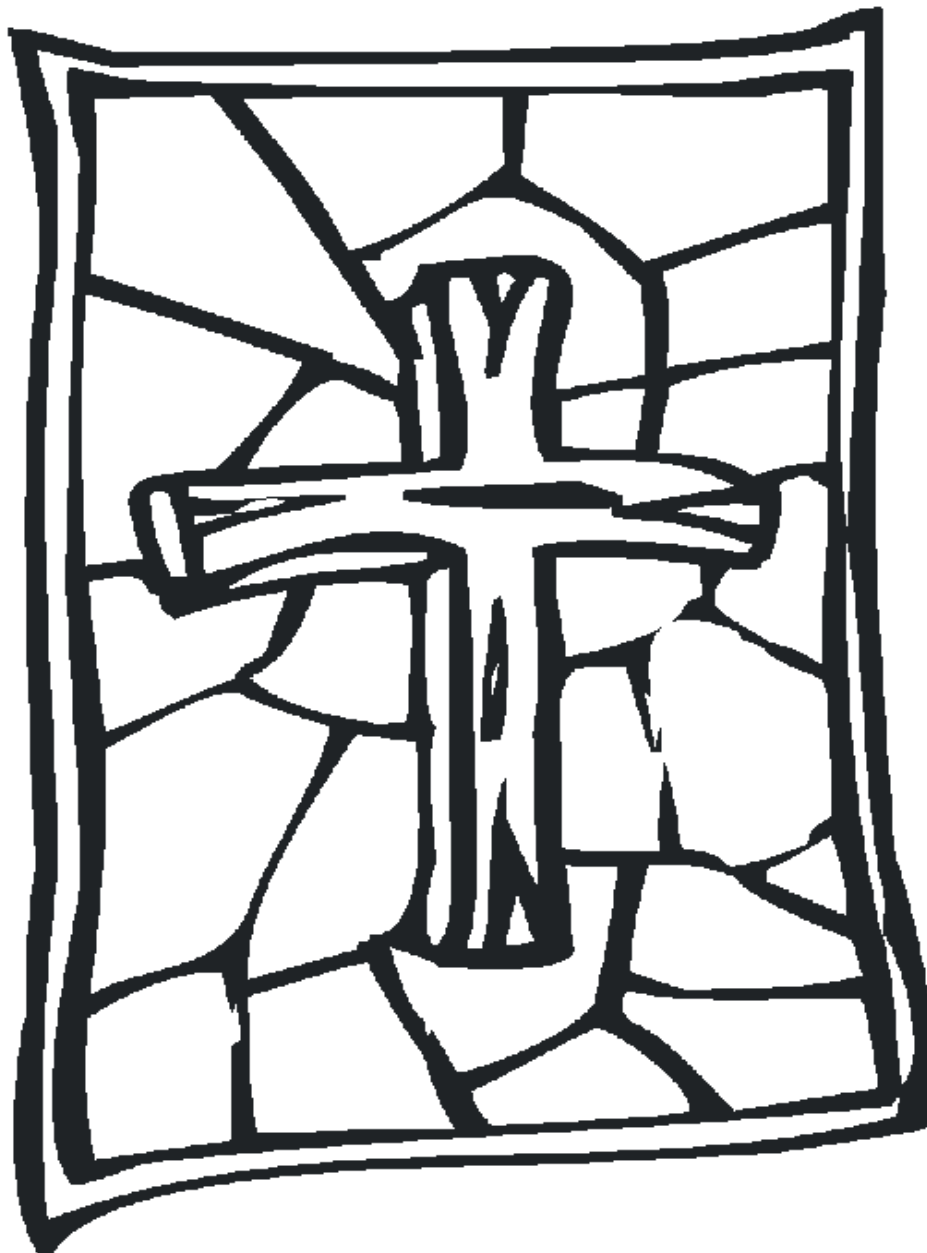
Reformation Cube: Cut along the black outside line. Fold along the inner black lines to form a cube. Glue or tape the tabs to secure.



Reformation

Lesson 1

Martin Luther read in God's Word that forgiveness of sins only comes through Jesus dying on the cross. Color the picture of the stained glass window cross.



Color the stained glass cross above.



The Story

A long time ago, about 500 years ago, in Germany, a country far away, a baby was born to Hans and Margareta Luther. They named their baby Martin Luther. They brought Martin Luther to church to be baptized. But their church was different from our church. Their church said that in order for your sins to be forgiven, you have to believe in Jesus **and** do good things, but this is not what the Bible says. The Luthers did not know this because there was no Bible for them to read. When the Luthers went to church, they could not understand what the pastor was saying because he was speaking in a different language.

Martin Luther went to school. As he got older, his dad wanted him to become a lawyer. When he was on his way home from school studying to be a lawyer, he was caught in a thunderstorm. A bolt of lightning almost hit Martin Luther. Instead of praying to Jesus for help, Martin Luther prayed to a lady who died a long time ago named St. Anna. Because he was afraid of dying, Martin Luther said that if she would keep him safe from the storm, he would become a monk. A monk was a person who lived in a special place away from his family, prayed, read the Bible, and promised never to marry or have lots of money. St. Anna did not keep Martin Luther safe; God kept Martin Luther safe from the storm because God had a special job for Martin Luther to do.

When Martin Luther was a monk, he felt sorry about all the bad sins he did. These sins bothered him so much, because Martin Luther thought that God was mad at him and would punish him. So Martin Luther tried to do good things in order to be forgiven. He worked hard and prayed. He slept on the floor and beat himself up hoping God would feel sorry for him and take his sins away. Then one day he read in the Bible that God forgives sins because Jesus died on the cross. Sins are not forgiven because people do good things. Now Martin Luther was happy his sins were forgiven because Jesus died to take them away. But this was not what the

church was teaching, so Martin Luther wanted to tell others the good news he found in the Bible.

God showed Martin Luther in the Bible that sins are forgiven because Jesus died on the cross for us. He washed them all away. Sins are not forgiven because people do good things.

Passages

“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.” Ephesians 2:8-9

“For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, ‘The just shall live by faith.’” Romans 1:17

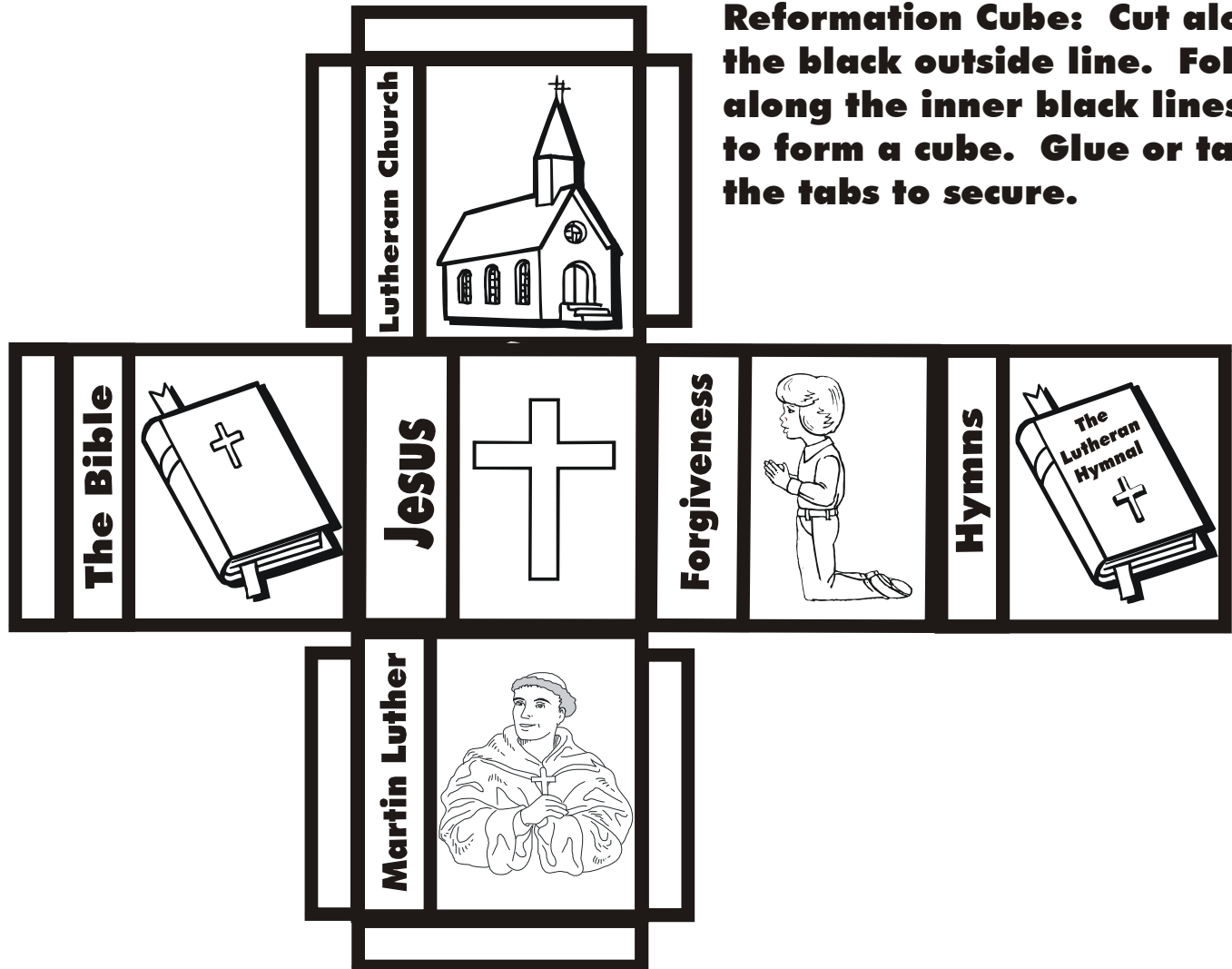
Hymn Hymn 342, v. 1

Chief of sinners though I be,
Jesus shed His blood for me;
Died that I might live on high,
Lived that I might never die.
As the branch is to the vine,
I am His, and He is mine.

Prayer

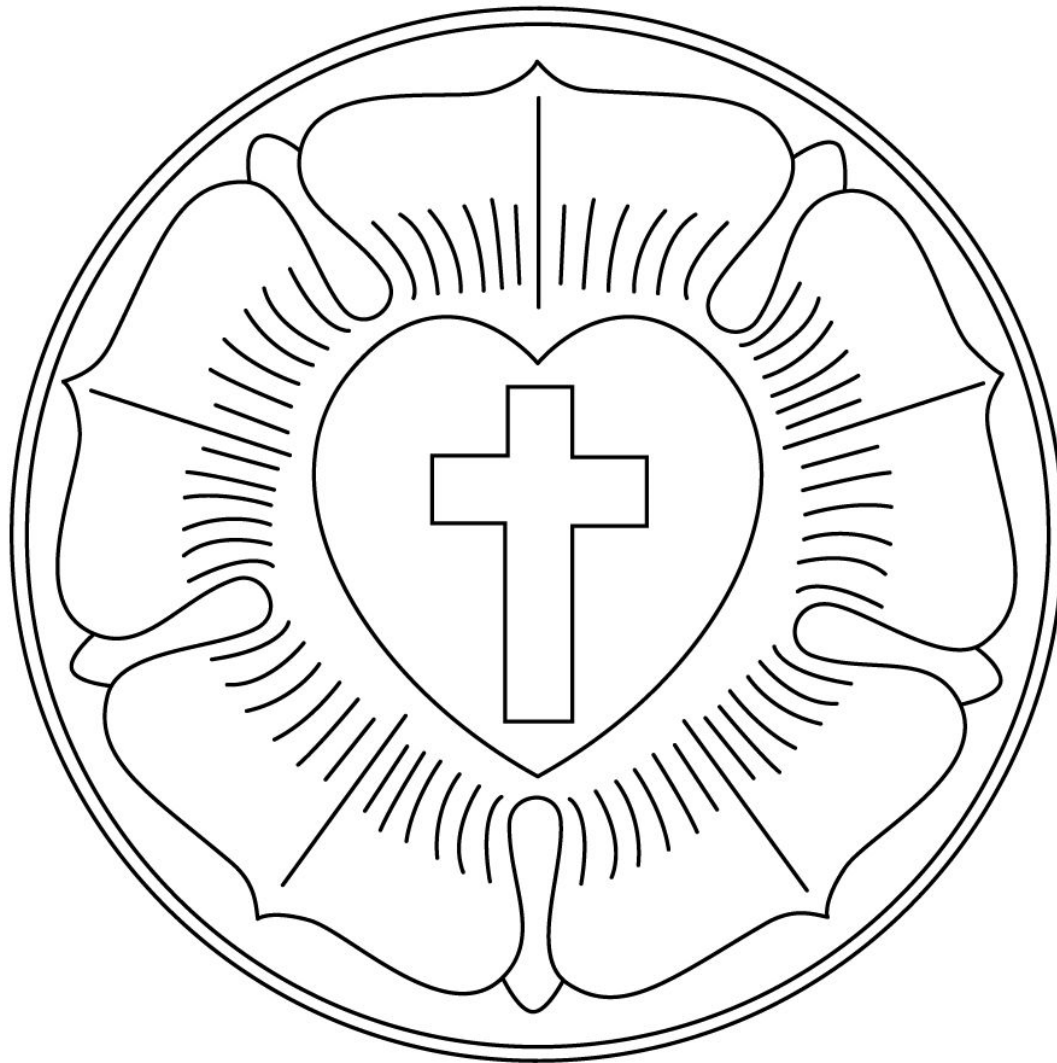
Dear Heavenly Father, Thank You for loving me so much that You sent Jesus to die on the cross to forgive me of my sins. Let me remember to thank You each day for Your gift of forgiveness. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Activity One - Color, cut out and fold the Reformation CUBE.



Reformation

Lesson 2



This is Martin Luther's seal. Martin Luther drew this picture to show how people are saved. Each picture in the seal shows us something about God's love and plan of salvation for us. Color the seal using the color key below. Read what each item in Martin Luther's seal means.

Cross	black	Christ's death on the cross forgives our sins.
Heart	red	Faith in Christ's death is found in the heart.
Rose	white	Faith in Jesus gives us peace, forgiveness, and joy.
Background	blue	Faith in Christ's death gives heaven.
Ring	gold	Life in heaven brings happiness and will be eternal.



The Story

Martin Luther learned that God forgives sins because Jesus died for them. He wanted to tell others about this good news, but the church did not want him telling others. The church started selling special pieces of paper. They said if a person bought this paper his sins would be forgiven. This is not what Martin Luther read in the Bible. God's forgiveness is free for everyone. It cannot be sold. Martin Luther wanted to do something about this. He wrote down 95 things that were wrong with what the church was teaching. We call these the 95 Theses. He took them to the church door and nailed them on the door. This way everyone who came to the church could read that the church was not teaching what God says in the Bible. Martin Luther nailed these 95 Theses to the church door on October 31, 1517. This is the day we celebrate as Reformation Day.

How do you think the church felt about Luther doing this? They were upset. They wanted Luther to stop talking about God forgiving people because Jesus died for them. They did not want Luther to write these 95 Theses. They told Luther that if he did not stop, anyone could kill him. Martin Luther prayed to God for help. He said that he could not stop telling others about God's free forgiveness because this is what God says in the Bible.

Martin Luther's friends were worried that Martin Luther might die, so they kidnapped him. They took him to a castle where he would be safe. This castle was called the Wartburg. Martin Luther was busy in this castle. He wrote many papers to tell others about Jesus dying for their sins. He also translated the Bible into the German language. Remember how Martin Luther's parents did not have a Bible for them to read. That was because it was written in a different language. Martin Luther wrote the Bible in German so people like his parents could read it.

God protected Martin Luther. Eventually Martin Luther left the castle and got married. He

had six children. He kept writing and telling others about God's forgiveness because Jesus died for them. He also wrote songs called hymns. One of his most famous hymns is called "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God." He also wrote books that fathers could read to their children. These books were called Catechisms, and they tell about the Bible.

God had a special plan for Martin Luther. God used Martin Luther to show the people how they can get to heaven. Martin Luther found in the Bible that people are saved only because Jesus died on the cross to take away their sins. No one can do good things in order to be saved because all people are sinful. God used Martin Luther to change what the church was teaching. That is why we celebrate Reformation Day on October 31. We praise God that He sent Jesus to die on the cross to forgive us. We also thank God that He used Martin Luther to find in the Bible the good news that our sins are forgiven because Jesus paid for them.

God used Martin Luther to show people from the Bible that they are saved because God loved everyone so much that He sent Jesus to die on the cross.

Passages

"But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." John 3:16

Hymn TLH -Hymn 262 v. 1

A mighty Fortress is our God,
A trusty Shield and Weapon;
He helps us free from every need
That hath us now o'ertaken,
The old evil Foe now means deadly woe;
Deep guile and great might
Are his dread arms in fight;
On earth is not his equal. Amen.

Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father,

Thank You for using Martin Luther to show us that we are saved only because Jesus died on the cross to forgive our sins. Help us always remember to praise You and tell others the good news that Jesus died to forgive the sins of the world. Thank You, Lord. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Activity One - Reformation Mobile

Directions: Color pieces. Cut out pieces along the black lines. Glue the two pieces together to make the top ring. With a hole puncher, punch six holes along the bottom of the top ring. Punch one whole in the top of each picture. Connect the pictures to the top ring with yarn.

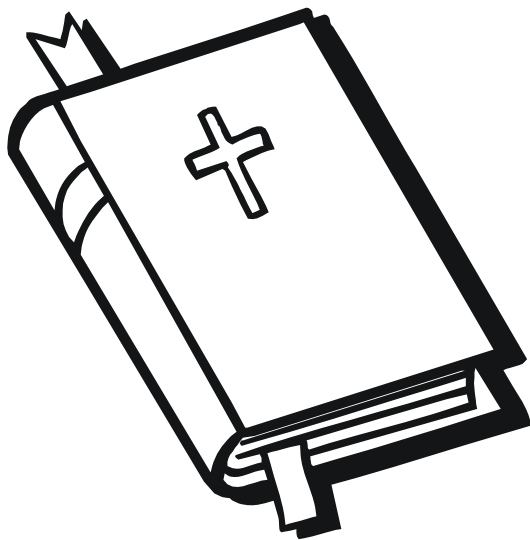
Glue
Here

God's Word Shows Us Jesus

Glue
Here

Died To Forgive Our Sins.

The Bible



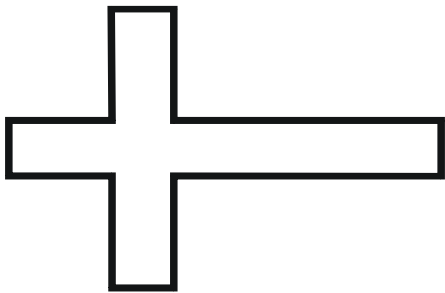
Lutheran Church



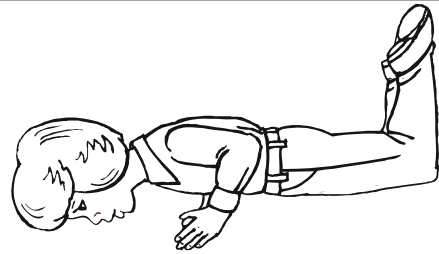
Hymns



Martin Luther



Jesus



Forgiveness

Reformation

The Story

Close your eyes. Pretend you lived in a time with no T.V., no computers, no cars, airplanes, or trains, no electricity, no movies, and no video games. Your life would be very different. Today we are going to talk about a man who lived during a time like this. This man lived over 500 years ago in the late 1400's and early 1500's. He lived after Jesus was alive, but he is not in the Bible at all. He is a very important man because God used him to teach people that they are saved only because Jesus died on the cross for their sins. This man's name was Martin Luther.

Martin Luther lived in Germany. He was born on November 10, 1483, in a city called Eisleben. His parents, Hans and Margareta Luther, did not have much money. They did take Martin Luther to church, but the church in Luther's day was not teaching what the Bible said. They taught that people would be forgiven of their sins if they believed in Jesus **and** did good works. The church even preached in Latin, a different language than the people spoke, so the Luthers and other Germans did not understand what was being said. The Luthers and other Germans did not have a Bible to read because Bibles were expensive and written in Latin. Hans and Margareta wanted Martin Luther to go to school. Hans Luther wanted him to become a lawyer, so when he got older, he went to the University of Erfurt.

One day when Martin Luther was coming home from the university, he was caught in a thunderstorm. A bolt of lightning almost hit Martin Luther. Instead of praying to Jesus for help, Martin Luther prayed to St. Anna. Because he was afraid of dying, Martin Luther said that if she would keep him safe from the storm, he would

become a monk. A monk was a person who lived in a monastery away from his family, prayed, read the Bible, and promised never to marry or become rich. St. Anna did not keep Martin Luther safe; God kept Martin Luther safe from the storm because God had a special job for Martin Luther to do.

In 1505 Martin Luther became a monk because he felt guilty about his sins. He viewed God as an angry judge ready to punish him because of his sins. Martin Luther was taught that he had to be good in order to have his sins forgiven. But Martin Luther realized that he could not be good enough. The more he tried to do what was right, the more he realized that he could not keep God's law perfectly. The Bible says, "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23). He tried to satisfy his guilt by sleeping on the floor and praying and cleaning and even beating himself. But these things did not help him to find peace from his sins. A friend told Martin Luther to read the Bible to feel better about his sins. Luther did, and the more he read the Bible, the more he found out that the church was not teaching what the Bible said. He read that people are forgiven of their sins **not** by the good things they do for Jesus but by the good thing that Jesus did for them. Sins are forgiven because Jesus died on the cross to take away the sins of the whole world. The Bible says that this forgiveness is a gift from God called grace. Grace is God's love for people even though they do not deserve it. (Ephesians 2:1-10)

While in the monastery Luther studied to become a priest. Then in 1508 he left the monastery to preach and teach at the University of Wittenberg. While preparing for his classes,



Martin Luther found more truths about God's salvation by grace through faith in Christ Jesus. Martin Luther was realizing that the church's teaching on forgiveness and salvation was opposed to God's teaching in the Bible. This became very clear when the church wanted to raise money to build St. Peter's Church in Rome, Italy.

The church started to sell special pieces of paper called indulgences. A man named John Tetzel sold these indulgences that said if the people bought them, their sins were forgiven. This is not what the Bible says. The Bible says that forgiveness of sins is free for everyone because Jesus died for all people. Martin Luther did not like the selling of indulgences. He wrote 95 theses or sentences that told the church what they were teaching was wrong. He took them to the church in Wittenberg, and nailed them on the church door. The door of the church was a place where people read important announcements. These 95 theses were nailed on October 31, 1517. On this day we say the Reformation started. The Reformation was a changing from what the church taught to what God taught in the Bible.

The church was very angry with what Martin Luther had written and preached. The church accused Martin Luther of preaching false doctrine. They asked him to change his teaching. After not being able to convince Martin Luther he was wrong, the Pope excommunicated Martin Luther from the church in 1520. Excommunication meant Martin Luther was no longer a member of the church and according to the church he could not be saved from his sins.

Emperor Charles V, ruler over much of Europe, ordered a meeting called a Diet to discuss Martin Luther's teaching. In April of 1521 the meeting was held in Worms, Germany. At the Diet, the church representatives told Martin Luther to take back, recant, everything he preached, taught, and wrote or he would become an outlaw, a criminal. Martin Luther prayed to God for help and said that he could not take back what he taught because it was what the Bible said. Because Martin Luther said this, the church

said that anyone could kill Martin Luther, and they would not be arrested. God was still watching over Martin Luther. Some friends of Martin Luther kidnaped him and took him to a castle called the Wartburg. Here Martin Luther was hidden away safe from his enemies. Martin Luther used this time to write. He translated the New Testament into German so the people could read the Bible for themselves instead of having the church tell them what to believe. Now people could see that forgiveness of sins came only by believing that Jesus died for their sins.

About a year later Martin Luther returned to Wittenberg. He still preached that the only way a person is saved is by believing that Jesus died on the cross to forgive sins. Martin Luther started writing more books and many hymns. He wrote the Large and Small Catechisms for fathers to teach God's Word to their children. He also wrote the famous hymn, "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God." Martin Luther got married to Katherine von Bora and had six children. Then on February 18, 1546 Martin Luther died in the same city where he was born, Eisleben. God blessed Martin Luther throughout his life. God also used Martin Luther to keep the teachings of the Bible correct and alive. The church was teaching many things that were against God's Word, but God caused a Reformation, a changing from what the church taught to what God taught in the Bible.

God's Word says that all people are saved because Jesus came and lived a perfect life for us, died on the cross, and rose again from the dead. Because of this, the sins of the whole world are taken away. When people believe in Jesus as their Savior, God does not see their sins, but God sees Jesus' perfection. We call this teaching justification by faith. God declares the whole world not guilty because of what Jesus has done. Faith in Jesus gives forgiveness of sins and salvation. God used Martin Luther to teach this Bible teaching to the people (Romans 3:19-28).

God also used Martin Luther to write the Bible in the German language so people could read it for themselves. God wants people to read

the Bible so they can learn about Jesus themselves. People do not need the church to tell them what God's Word says. They can learn about the forgiveness God gives through Jesus on their own as it is written in the Bible.

We thank the Lord that He used Martin Luther to show from God's Word that we are saved only through Jesus' death on the cross and resurrection. Forgiveness is a free gift given to us because God loves us. We cannot be saved by doing good works on our own.

God used Martin Luther to show people from the Bible that sins are forgiven and they are saved only because God loved everyone so much that He sent Jesus to die on the cross. Sins are not forgiven because people do good works.

Passages

"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast."-
Ephesians 2:8-9

"Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin. For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus." Romans 3:20, 24-25

"But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." John 3:16

"For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, 'The just shall live by faith.'" Romans 1:17

Hymn TLH -Hymn 262 v. 1

A mighty Fortress is our God,
A trusty Shield and Weapon;
He helps us free from every need
That hath us now o'ertaken,
The old evil Foe
Now means deadly woe;
Deep guile and great might
Are his dread arms in fight;
On earth is not his equal. Amen.

Prayer

Dear Father in heaven,
As we see how much You have blessed us through Martin Luther, help us to treasure Your Word above everything else in life. Remind us to daily search Your Word for the peace that comes from knowing You sent Your Son, Jesus, to die to forgive the sins of the whole world. Forgive us for neglecting Your Word. Keep us from thinking that we can contribute anything to our salvation. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

What the Story Tells Us

As a monk, Luther tried to do good works in order to earn forgiveness from God because that is what the church taught. Later, Luther studied God’s Word and found that this teaching was against what God taught in His Word.
Read Ephesians 2:1-10. Based on these passages, write a paragraph telling why we are not saved by good works.

What God Tells Us

Luther’s life changed dramatically after the Diet of Worms in front of Charles V. He went from a free man to an outlaw who could be killed because of his stand on God’s Word. Write a paragraph explaining how you would feel if you were Luther. You may never have to witness your faith in Jesus and His Word in front of emperors, kings, or princes, but there will be times in your life where trouble may come, fear may weaken your faith, and you may have to stand up for the truth. Read the following passages. Write a paragraph explaining how these passages can give you comfort and strength through your troubling times.

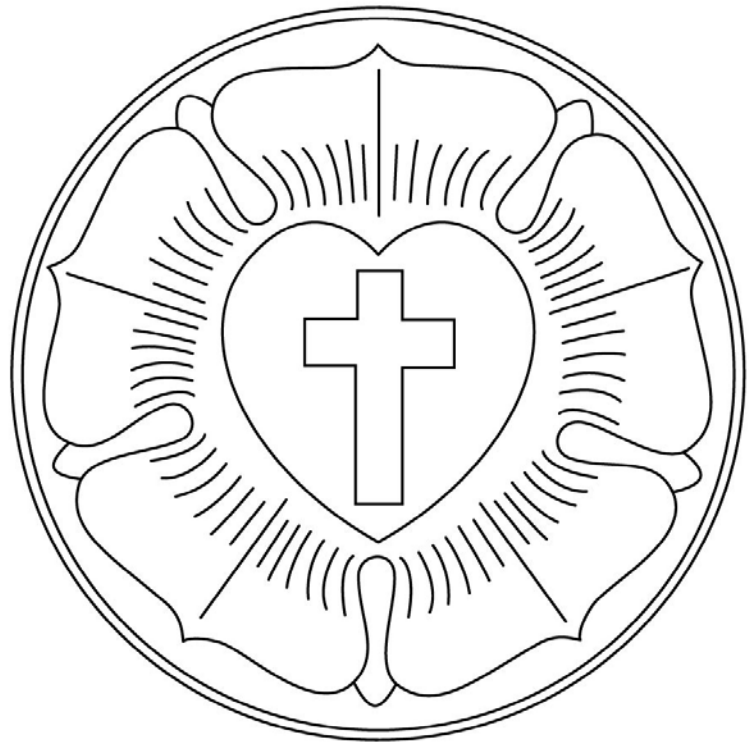
Psalm 23:4 Psalm 46:1 Matthew 10:32 I Corinthians 16:13 II Timothy 1:7

Your Turn .

Luther wrote many books, letters, and hymns that helped preach the Word of God in its truth and purity. We use many of these writings today, especially his hymns. Look in *The Lutheran Hymnal* and find the hymns that Luther wrote. He wrote a total of 24 of them. List them next to the numbers below.

- | | | |
|----|-----|-----|
| 1. | 9. | 17. |
| 2. | 10. | 18. |
| 3. | 11. | 19. |
| 4. | 12. | 20. |
| 5. | 13. | 21. |
| 6. | 14. | 22. |
| 7. | 15. | 23. |
| 8. | 16. | 24. |

Color the Luther Seal.



Cross

black Christ's death on the cross forgives our sins.

Heart

red Faith in Christ's death is found in the heart.

Rose

white Faith in Jesus gives us peace, forgiveness, and joy.

Background

blue Faith in Christ's death gives heaven.

Ring

gold Life in heaven brings happiness and will be eternal.

Reformation

Lesson 1

The Story

Close your eyes. Pretend you lived in a time with no T.V., no computers, no cars, airplanes, or trains, no electricity, no movies, and no video games. Your life would be very different. Today we are going to talk about a man who lived during a time like this. This man lived over 500 years ago in the late 1400's and early 1500's. He lived after Jesus was alive, but he is not in the Bible at all. He is a very important man because God used him to teach people that they are saved only because Jesus died on the cross for their sins. This man's name was Martin Luther.

Martin Luther lived in Germany. He was born on November 10, 1483, in a city called Eisleben. His parents, Hans and Margareta Luther, did not have much money. They did take Martin Luther to church, but the church in Luther's day was not teaching what the Bible said. They taught that people would be forgiven of their sins if they believed in Jesus **and** did good works. The church even preached in Latin, a different language than the people spoke, so the Luthers and other Germans did not understand what was being said. The Luthers and other Germans did not have a Bible to read because Bibles were expensive and written in Latin. Hans and Margareta wanted Martin Luther to go to school. Hans Luther wanted him to become a lawyer, so when he got older, he went to the University of Erfurt.

One day when Martin Luther was coming home from the university, he was caught in a thunderstorm. A bolt of lightning almost hit Martin Luther. Instead of praying to Jesus for help, Martin Luther prayed to St. Anna. Because he was afraid of dying, Martin Luther said that if she would keep him safe from the storm, he would

become a monk. A monk was a person who lived in a monastery away from his family, prayed, read the Bible, and promised never to marry or become rich. St. Anna did not keep Martin Luther safe; God kept Martin Luther safe from the storm because God had a special job for Martin Luther to do.

In 1505 Martin Luther became a monk because he felt guilty about his sins. He viewed God as an angry judge ready to punish him because of his sins. Martin Luther was taught that he had to be good in order to have his sins forgiven. But Martin Luther realized that he could not be good enough. The more he tried to do what was right, the more he realized that he could not keep God's law perfectly. The Bible says,

"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23). He tried to satisfy his guilt by sleeping on the floor and praying and cleaning and even beating himself. But these things did not help him to find peace from his sins. A friend told Martin Luther to read the Bible to feel better about his sins. Luther did, and the more he read the Bible, the more he found out that the church was not teaching what the Bible said. He read that people are forgiven of their sins **not** by the good things they do for Jesus but by the good thing that Jesus did for them. Sins are forgiven because Jesus died on the cross to take away the sins of the whole world. The Bible says that this forgiveness is a gift from God called grace. Grace is God's love for people even though they do not deserve it. (Ephesians 2:1-10)

While in the monastery Luther studied to become a priest. Then in 1508 he left the monastery to preach and teach at the University



of Wittenberg. While preparing for his classes, Martin Luther found more truths about God's salvation by grace through faith in Christ Jesus. Martin Luther was realizing that the church's teaching on forgiveness and salvation was opposed to God's teaching in the Bible. This became very clear when the church wanted to raise money to build St. Peter's Church in Rome, Italy.

The church started to sell special pieces of paper called indulgences. A man named John Tetzel sold these indulgences that said if the people bought them, their sins were forgiven. This is not what the Bible says. The Bible says that forgiveness of sins is free for everyone because Jesus died for all people. Martin Luther did not like the selling of indulgences. He wrote 95 theses or sentences that told the church what they were teaching was wrong. He took them to the church in Wittenberg, and nailed them on the church door. The door of the church was a place where people read important announcements. These 95 theses were nailed on October 31, 1517. On this day we say the Reformation started. The Reformation was a changing from what the church God showed Martin Luther in the Bible that sins are forgiven because Jesus died on the cross for us. He washed them all away. Sins are not forgiven because people do good things. taught to what God taught in the Bible.

God showed Martin Luther in the Bible that sins are forgiven because Jesus died on the cross for us. He washed them all away. Sins are not forgiven because people do good things.

Passages

"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast." Ephesians 2:8-9

"But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8

Hymn Hymn 342, v. 1

Chief of sinners though I be,
Jesus shed His blood for me;
Died that I might live on high,
Lived that I might never die.
As the branch is to the vine,
I am His, and He is mine.

Prayer

Dear Father in heaven,
We sin every day and have not lived up to the perfection You demand in Your holy law. Forgive us of this. Ease the guilt and shame that comes with our sin by giving us the words of peace found only in Your Word. Remind us never to try to satisfy our sins by the works we do ourselves. Let us trust only in You for forgiveness and salvation.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

What the Story Tells Us

As a monk, Luther tried to do good works in order to earn forgiveness from God because that is what the church taught. Later, Luther studied God's Word and found that this teaching was against what God taught in His Word.

Read Ephesians 2:1-10. Based on these passages, write a paragraph telling why we are not saved by good works.

Activity -Color Luther's seal.

Cross

black Christ's death on the cross forgives our sins.

Heart

red Faith in Christ's death is found in the heart.

Rose

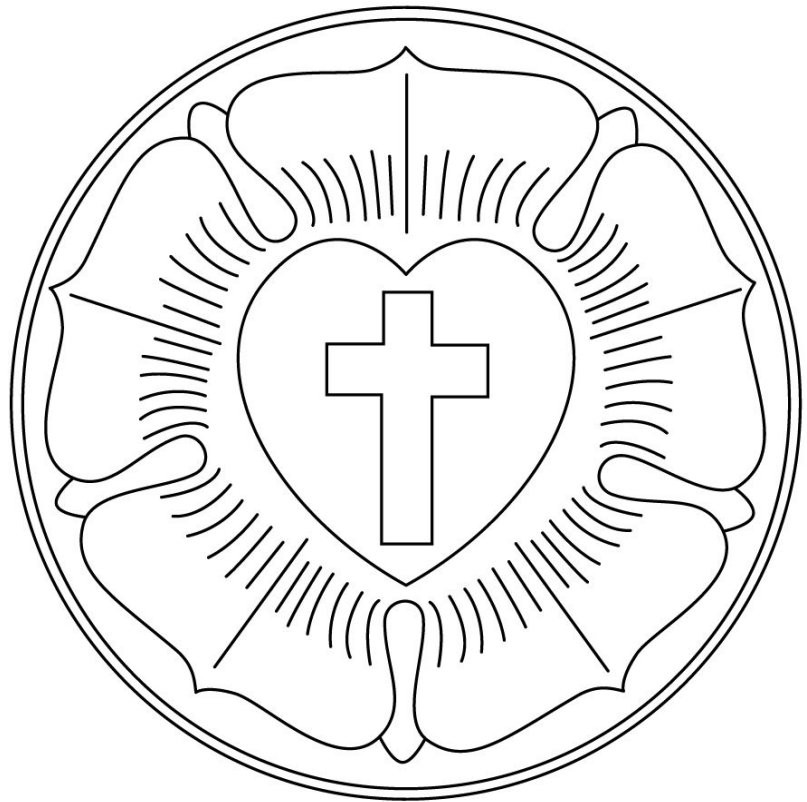
white Faith in Jesus gives us peace, forgiveness, and joy.

Background

blue Faith in Christ's death gives heaven.

Ring

gold Life in heaven brings happiness and will be eternal.



Reformation

Lesson 2

The Story

The church was very angry with what Martin Luther had written and preached. The church accused Martin Luther of preaching false doctrine. They asked him to change his teaching. After not being able to convince Martin Luther he was wrong, the Pope excommunicated Martin Luther from the church in 1520. Excommunication meant Martin Luther was no longer a member of the church and according to the church he could not be saved from his sins.

Emperor Charles V, ruler over much of Europe, ordered a meeting called a Diet to discuss Martin Luther's teaching. In April of 1521 the meeting was held in Worms, Germany. At the Diet, the church representatives told Martin Luther to take back, recant, everything he preached, taught, and wrote or he would become an outlaw, a criminal. Martin Luther prayed to God for help and said that he could not take back what he taught because it was what the Bible said. Because Martin Luther said this, the church said that anyone could kill Martin Luther, and they would not be arrested. God was still watching over Martin Luther. Some friends of Martin Luther kidnapped him and took him to a castle called the Wartburg. Here Martin Luther was hidden away safe from his enemies. Martin Luther used this time to write. He translated the New Testament into German so the people could read the Bible for themselves instead of having the church tell them what to believe. Now people could see that forgiveness of sins came only by believing that Jesus died for their sins.

About a year later Martin Luther returned to Wittenberg. He still preached that the only way a person is saved is by believing that Jesus died on the cross to forgive sins. Martin Luther started writing more books and many hymns. He wrote

the Large and Small Catechisms for fathers to teach God's Word to their children. He also wrote the famous hymn, "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God." Martin Luther got married to Katherina von Bora and had six children. Then on February 18, 1546 Martin Luther died in the same city where he was born, Eisleben. God blessed Martin Luther throughout his life. God also used Martin Luther to keep the teachings of the Bible correct and alive. The church was teaching many things that were against God's Word, but God caused a Reformation, a changing from what the church taught to what God taught in the Bible.

God's Word says that all people are saved because Jesus came and lived a perfect life for us, died on the cross, and rose again from the dead. Because of this, the sins of the whole world are taken away. When people believe in Jesus as their Savior, God does not see their sins, but God sees Jesus' perfection. We call this teaching justification by faith. God declares the whole world not guilty because of what Jesus has done. Faith in Jesus gives forgiveness of sins and salvation. God used Martin Luther to teach this Bible teaching to the people (Romans 3:19-28).

God also used Martin Luther to write the Bible in the German language so people could read it for themselves. God wants people to read the Bible so they can learn about Jesus themselves. People do not need the church to tell them what God's Word says. They can learn about the forgiveness God gives through Jesus on their own as it is written in the Bible.

We thank the Lord that He used Martin Luther to show from God's Word that we are



saved only through Jesus’ death on the cross and resurrection. Forgiveness is a free gift given to us because God loves us. We cannot be saved by doing good works on our own.

God used Martin Luther to show people from the Bible that sins are forgiven and they are saved only because God loved everyone so much that He sent Jesus to die on the cross. Sins are not forgiven because people do good works.

Passages

“Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin. For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.” Romans 3:20, 24-25

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” John 3:16

“For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, ‘The just shall live by faith.’” Romans 1:17

What the Story Tells Us

Luther’s life changed dramatically after the Diet of Worms in front of Charles V. He went from a free man to an outlaw who could be killed because of his stand on God’s Word. Write a paragraph explaining how you would feel if you were Luther.

Hymn TLH -Hymn 262 v. 1

A mighty Fortress is our God,
A trusty Shield and Weapon;
He helps us free from every need
That hath us now o’ertaken,
The old evil Foe
Now means deadly woe;
Deep guile and great might
Are his dread arms in fight;
On earth is not his equal. Amen.

Prayer

Dear Father in heaven,
We sin every day and have not lived up to the perfection You demand in Your holy law. Forgive us of this. Ease the guilt and shame that comes with our sin by giving us the words of peace found only in Your Word. Remind us never to try to satisfy our sins by the works we do ourselves. Let us trust only in You for forgiveness and salvation.
In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

What God Tells Us

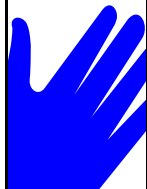
You may never have to witness your faith in Jesus and His Word in front of emperors, kings, or princes, but there will be times in your life where trouble may come, fear may weaken your faith, and you may have to stand up for the truth. Read the following passages. Write a paragraph explaining how these passages can give you comfort and strength through your troubling times.

Psalm 23:4**Psalm 46:1****Matthew 10:32****I Corinthians 16:13****II Timothy 1:7**

Your Turn .

Luther wrote many books, letters, and hymns that helped preach the Word of God in its truth and purity. We use many of these writings today, especially his hymns. Look in *The Lutheran Hymnal* and find the hymns that Luther wrote. He wrote a total of 24 of them. List them next to the numbers below.

- | | | |
|-----|-----|-----|
| 1. | 11. | 21. |
| 2. | 12. | 22. |
| 3. | 13. | 23. |
| 4. | 14. | 24. |
| 5. | 15. | |
| 6. | 16. | |
| 7. | 17. | |
| 8. | 18. | |
| 9. | 19. | |
| 10. | 20. | |



STORY

The Life of Martin Luther

10/16/08

TEACHER PRAYER

Dear Father in heaven, please forgive me of all my sins for Jesus' sake. Please use me as a witness to my students so that I may humbly proclaim and apply your love and guidance through the story of the life of Martin Luther to my students' lives. Keep me from the work righteous ideas that I can in some way contribute to my soul's salvation. Remind me to treasure your Word above all else and go to it for my strength. Help me to stand firm in the face of adversity just as you gave Martin Luther strength. Bless the study of your Word and bless my preparation and lesson. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

OUTER AIM

Martin Luther found from the Bible that the church was not teaching correctly.

INNER AIM

God used Martin Luther to show people from the Bible that sins are forgiven and they are saved only because God loved everyone so much that He sent Jesus to die on the cross. Sins are not forgiven because people do good works.

VOCABULARY

Germany - country in Europe (show on map in relation to the United States)

saint - any believer in Jesus (Catholic Church said that a saint was "an exceptionally holy" person who did a proven miracle)

monk - A monk was a person who lived in a special place away from his family, prayed, read the Bible, and promised never to marry or have lots of money. (Poverty, chastity, and obedience)

monastery - a place where monks live

grace - God's love for us even though we do not deserve it because of our sin

justified by faith - God declares the whole world not guilty because Jesus' perfect life, death, and resurrection from the dead

BACKGROUND

Background information for Martin Luther can be found in many biographies. Here is a list of shorter biographies on Martin Luther.

Martin Luther A Man Who Changed The World by Paul L. Maier

Martin Luther's Small Catechism by Professor Michael Sydow p. 20-22

Martin Luther A Man For Whom God Had Great Plans by Ruth Huebner Hatzung

PASSAGES

The following passages are used throughout the lessons and the teacher should study these before presenting the lesson making sure he or she is ready to explain any unfamiliar words to the students:

Romans 3:20, 24-25 *Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin. For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.*

John 3:16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

Romans 1:17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith."

Eph. 2:8-9 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.

Romans 5:8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

The following passages may be used to apply certain aspects of Martin Luther's life to Scriptures.

Hebrews 10:19-25 -Luther held fast to his confession of faith

Hebrews 10:26-39 - the law shows our sins but the just live by faith

James 2:14-26 - Faith in Jesus leads us to do good works, but these works do not save us

Romans 6 - Grace does not give us free reign to sin (indulgences were used as excuses to sin)

Acts 5:17-32 - Apostles were obeying God rather than men - Luther did the same

Revelation 2:10 - Luther was faithful unto death

Ephesians 4:11-16 - Luther taught the truth in love

Galatians 2:16 - Man is justified by faith apart from the law

Titus 3:5 - Not saved by the righteousness of man, but through the washing of rebirth

Galatians 5:9 - a little false doctrine makes God Word impure

Romans 16:17-18 - Luther pointed out a false teaching and avoided it

INTRODUCTION

Learn a phrase or two in a foreign language and speak it to the class.

-Does anyone know what I just said? (Answers Vary)

-If I spoke to you like that during the whole class, would you be able to understand anything I say? (No)

-Why not? (We can't speak that language and we don't understand it.)

-What if the whole Bible was written in a different language? Could you read it? (No)

-What if Pastor preached in that different language during church? Would your parents know what Pastor was saying? (No)

-Why not? (They can't speak that language either.)

-What would you or your parents not learn about if everything in church and Sunday School and even the Bible was written or spoken in that different language? (We wouldn't know about Jesus or God's Word.)

-Why would this be a bad thing? (We wouldn't know how we are saved.)

In today's lesson we are going to hear about a man named Martin Luther who grew up in a time when everything spoken in church and written in the Bible was in a different language. The church was teaching things that were not in the Bible, but people had a hard time knowing what God really said in the Bible. We will see how God used Martin Luther to show people how they were saved, because the church was not teaching what God said in the Bible.

PRESENTATION

The presentation of anything to children is enhanced and remembered with pictures. I strongly recommend using pictures to teach the story of Martin Luther. *Martin Luther A Man Who Changed The World* by Paul L. Maier is an excellent book to use while teaching the story of Martin Luther. The whole book is filled with pictures of Martin Luther's life. I highly recommend holding this book up for all each of the grade levels to see while you tell the story to them.

If you cannot get or use this book, I recommend printing off full page (preferably color) pictures at the end of the teacher's notes to show the students as you present the story. This will give students a mental image of who Martin Luther was and what the time period in which he lived was like.

APPLICATIONS

1. God used Martin Luther to rediscover the truth that our sins are forgiven because Jesus paid for them on the cross. This truth has been preserved for us so we know how we are saved.
2. God used Martin Luther to stand up for the truth. God uses us to stand up for what is right. Apply this to students' lives at home, at school, at church, with friends, and during their daily lives.
3. God used Martin Luther to confess the name of Jesus to others despite opposition. God uses us to confess the name of Jesus to others no matter what consequences come because of it (people laughing, losing friends, considered to be weak, etc.).

For a more in-depth look into Martin Luther's life that would span a few Sunday school lessons, Levels 3-4 could use *Martin Luther A Reformation Study based on the book Martin Luther A Man Who Changed The World*.

I have also enclosed a copy of the 95 Theses. Some students may find it interesting to read Martin Luther's 95 Theses.

Disputation of Doctor Martin Luther on the Power and Efficacy of Indulgences

by Dr. Martin Luther, 1517

31 October 1517

Out of love for the truth and the desire to bring it to light, the following propositions will be discussed at Wittenberg, under the presidency of the Reverend Father Martin Luther, Master of Arts and of Sacred Theology, and Lecturer in Ordinary on the same at that place. Wherefore he requests that those who are unable to be present and debate orally with us, may do so by letter. In the Name our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

1. Our Lord and Master Jesus Christ, when He said Poenitentiam agite, willed that the whole life of believers should be repentance.
2. This word cannot be understood to mean sacramental penance, i.e., confession and satisfaction, which is administered by the priests.
3. Yet it means not inward repentance only; nay, there is no inward repentance which does not outwardly work divers mortifications of the flesh.
4. The penalty [of sin], therefore, continues so long as hatred of self continues; for this is the true inward repentance, and continues until our entrance into the kingdom of heaven.
5. The pope does not intend to remit, and cannot remit any penalties other than those which he has imposed either by his own authority or by that of the Canons.
6. The pope cannot remit any guilt, except by declaring that it has been remitted by God and by assenting to God's remission; though, to be sure, he may grant remission in cases reserved to his judgment. If his right to grant remission in such cases were despised, the guilt would remain entirely unforgiven.
7. God remits guilt to no one whom He does not, at the same time, humble in all things and bring into subjection to His vicar, the priest.
8. The penitential canons are imposed only on the living, and, according to them, nothing should be imposed on the dying.

9. Therefore the Holy Spirit in the pope is kind to us, because in his decrees he always makes exception of the article of death and of necessity.

10. Ignorant and wicked are the doings of those priests who, in the case of the dying, reserve canonical penances for purgatory.

11. This changing of the canonical penalty to the penalty of purgatory is quite evidently one of the tares that were sown while the bishops slept.

12. In former times the canonical penalties were imposed not after, but before absolution, as tests of true contrition.

13. The dying are freed by death from all penalties; they are already dead to canonical rules, and have a right to be released from them.

14. The imperfect health [of soul], that is to say, the imperfect love, of the dying brings with it, of necessity, great fear; and the smaller the love, the greater is the fear.

15. This fear and horror is sufficient of itself alone (to say nothing of other things) to constitute the penalty of purgatory, since it is very near to the horror of despair.

16. Hell, purgatory, and heaven seem to differ as do despair, almost-despair, and the assurance of safety.

17. With souls in purgatory it seems necessary that horror should grow less and love increase.

18. It seems unproved, either by reason or Scripture, that they are outside the state of merit, that is to say, of increasing love.

19. Again, it seems unproved that they, or at least that all of them, are certain or assured of their own blessedness, though we may be quite certain of it.

20. Therefore by "full remission of all penalties" the pope means not actually "of all," but only of those imposed by himself.

21. Therefore those preachers of indulgences are in error, who say that by the pope's indulgences a man is freed from every penalty, and saved;

22. Whereas he remits to souls in purgatory no penalty which, according to the canons, they would have had to pay in this life.

23. If it is at all possible to grant to any one the remission of all penalties whatsoever, it is certain that this remission can be granted only to the most perfect, that is, to the very fewest.

24. It must needs be, therefore, that the greater part of the people are deceived by that indiscriminate and high-sounding promise of release from penalty.

25. The power which the pope has, in a general way, over purgatory, is just like the power which any bishop or curate has, in a special way, within his own diocese or parish.

26. The pope does well when he grants remission to souls [in purgatory], not by the power of the keys (which he does not possess), but by way of intercession.

27. They preach man who say that so soon as the penny jingles into the money-box, the soul flies out [of purgatory].

28. It is certain that when the penny jingles into the money-box, gain and avarice can be increased, but the result of the intercession of the Church is in the power of God alone.

29. Who knows whether all the souls in purgatory wish to be bought out of it, as in the legend of Sts. Severinus and Paschal.

30. No one is sure that his own contrition is sincere; much less that he has attained full remission.

31. Rare as is the man that is truly penitent, so rare is also the man who truly buys indulgences, i.e., such men are most rare.

32. They will be condemned eternally, together with their teachers, who believe themselves sure of their salvation because they have letters of pardon.

33. Men must be on their guard against those who say that the pope's pardons are that inestimable gift of God by which man is reconciled to Him;

34. For these "graces of pardon" concern only the penalties of sacramental satisfaction, and these are appointed by man.

35. They preach no Christian doctrine who teach that contrition is not necessary in those who intend to buy souls out of purgatory or to buy confessionalia.

36. Every truly repentant Christian has a right to full remission of penalty and guilt, even without letters of pardon.

37. Every true Christian, whether living or dead, has part in all the blessings of Christ and the Church; and this is granted him by God, even without letters of pardon.

38. Nevertheless, the remission and participation [in the blessings of the Church] which are granted by the pope are in no way to be despised, for they are, as I have said, the declaration of divine remission.

39. It is most difficult, even for the very keenest theologians, at one and the same time to commend to the people the abundance of pardons and [the need of] true contrition.

40. True contrition seeks and loves penalties, but liberal pardons only relax penalties and cause them to be hated, or at least, furnish an occasion [for hating them].

41. Apostolic pardons are to be preached with caution, lest the people may falsely think them preferable to other good works of love.

42. Christians are to be taught that the pope does not intend the buying of pardons to be compared in any way to works of mercy.

43. Christians are to be taught that he who gives to the poor or lends to the needy does a better work than buying pardons;

44. Because love grows by works of love, and man becomes better; but by pardons man does not grow better, only more free from penalty.

45. Christians are to be taught that he who sees a man in need, and passes him by, and gives [his money] for pardons, purchases not the indulgences of the pope, but the indignation of God.

46. Christians are to be taught that unless they have more than they need, they are bound to keep back what is necessary for their own families, and by no means to squander it on pardons.

47. Christians are to be taught that the buying of pardons is a matter of free will, and not of commandment.

48. Christians are to be taught that the pope, in granting pardons, needs, and therefore desires, their devout prayer for him more than the money they bring.

49. Christians are to be taught that the pope's pardons are useful, if they do not put their trust in them; but altogether harmful, if through them they lose their fear of God.

50. Christians are to be taught that if the pope knew the exactions of the pardon-preachers, he would rather that St. Peter's church should go to ashes, than that it should be built up with the skin, flesh and bones of his sheep.

51. Christians are to be taught that it would be the pope's wish, as it is his duty, to give of his own money to very many of those from whom certain hawkers of pardons cajole money, even though the church of St. Peter might have to be sold.

52. The assurance of salvation by letters of pardon is vain, even though the commissary, nay, even though the pope himself, were to stake his soul upon it.

53. They are enemies of Christ and of the pope, who bid the Word of God be altogether silent in some Churches, in order that pardons may be preached in others.

54. Injury is done the Word of God when, in the same sermon, an equal or a longer time is spent on pardons than on this Word.

55. It must be the intention of the pope that if pardons, which are a very small thing, are celebrated with one bell, with single processions and ceremonies, then the Gospel, which is the very greatest thing, should be preached with a hundred bells, a hundred processions, a hundred ceremonies.

56. The "treasures of the Church," out of which the pope grants indulgences, are not sufficiently named or known among the people of Christ.

57. That they are not temporal treasures is certainly evident, for many of the vendors do not pour out such treasures so easily, but only gather them.

58. Nor are they the merits of Christ and the Saints, for even without the pope, these always work grace for the inner man, and the cross, death, and hell for the outward man.

59. St. Lawrence said that the treasures of the Church were the Church's poor, but he spoke according to the usage of the word in his own time.

60. Without rashness we say that the keys of the Church, given by Christ's merit, are that treasure;

61. For it is clear that for the remission of penalties and of reserved cases, the power of the pope is of itself sufficient.

62. The true treasure of the Church is the Most Holy Gospel of the glory and the grace of God.

63. But this treasure is naturally most odious, for it makes the first to be last.

64. On the other hand, the treasure of indulgences is naturally most acceptable, for it makes the last to be first.

65. Therefore the treasures of the Gospel are nets with which they formerly were wont to fish for men of riches.

66. The treasures of the indulgences are nets with which they now fish for the riches of men.

67. The indulgences which the preachers cry as the "greatest graces" are known to be truly such, in so far as they promote gain.

68. Yet they are in truth the very smallest graces compared with the grace of God and the piety of the Cross.

69. Bishops and curates are bound to admit the commissaries of apostolic pardons, with all reverence.

70. But still more are they bound to strain all their eyes and attend with all their ears, lest these men preach their own dreams instead of the commission of the pope.

71. He who speaks against the truth of apostolic pardons, let him be anathema and accursed!

72. But he who guards against the lust and license of the pardon-preachers, let him be blessed!

73. The pope justly thunders against those who, by any art, contrive the injury of the traffic in pardons.

74. But much more does he intend to thunder against those who use the pretext of pardons to contrive the injury of holy love and truth.

75. To think the papal pardons so great that they could absolve a man even if he had committed an impossible sin and violated the Mother of God -- this is madness.

76. We say, on the contrary, that the papal pardons are not able to remove the very least of venial sins, so far as its guilt is concerned.

77. It is said that even St. Peter, if he were now Pope, could not bestow greater graces; this is blasphemy against St. Peter and against the pope.
78. We say, on the contrary, that even the present pope, and any pope at all, has greater graces at his disposal; to wit, the Gospel, powers, gifts of healing, etc., as it is written in I. Corinthians xii.
79. To say that the cross, emblazoned with the papal arms, which is set up [by the preachers of indulgences], is of equal worth with the Cross of Christ, is blasphemy.
80. The bishops, curates and theologians who allow such talk to be spread among the people, will have an account to render.
81. This unbridled preaching of pardons makes it no easy matter, even for learned men, to rescue the reverence due to the pope from slander, or even from the shrewd questionings of the laity.
82. To wit: — "Why does not the pope empty purgatory, for the sake of holy love and of the dire need of the souls that are there, if he redeems an infinite number of souls for the sake of miserable money with which to build a Church? The former reasons would be most just; the latter is most trivial."
83. Again: — "Why are mortuary and anniversary masses for the dead continued, and why does he not return or permit the withdrawal of the endowments founded on their behalf, since it is wrong to pray for the redeemed?"
84. Again: — "What is this new piety of God and the pope, that for money they allow a man who is impious and their enemy to buy out of purgatory the pious soul of a friend of God, and do not rather, because of that pious and beloved soul's own need, free it for pure love's sake?"
85. Again: — "Why are the penitential canons long since in actual fact and through disuse abrogated and dead, now satisfied by the granting of indulgences, as though they were still alive and in force?"
86. Again: — "Why does not the pope, whose wealth is to-day greater than the riches of the richest, build just this one church of St. Peter with his own money, rather than with the money of poor believers?"
87. Again: — "What is it that the pope remits, and what participation does he grant to those who, by perfect contrition, have a right to full remission and participation?"
88. Again: — "What greater blessing could come to the Church than if the pope were to do a hundred times a day what he now does once, and bestow on every believer these remissions and participations?"
89. "Since the pope, by his pardons, seeks the salvation of souls rather than money, why does he suspend the indulgences and pardons granted heretofore, since these have equal efficacy?"
90. To repress these arguments and scruples of the laity by force alone, and not to resolve them by giving reasons, is to expose the Church and the pope to the ridicule of their enemies, and to make Christians unhappy.
91. If, therefore, pardons were preached according to the spirit and mind of the pope, all these doubts would be readily resolved; nay, they would not exist.
92. Away, then, with all those prophets who say to the people of Christ, "Peace, peace," and there is no peace!
93. Blessed be all those prophets who say to the people of Christ, "Cross, cross," and there is no cross!
94. Christians are to be exhorted that they be diligent in following Christ, their Head, through penalties, deaths, and hell;
95. And thus be confident of entering into heaven rather through many tribulations, than through the assurance of peace.

Published in: **Works of Martin Luther**, Adolph Spaeth, L.D. Reed, Henry Eyster Jacobs, et Al., Trans. & Eds. (Philadelphia: A. J. Holman Company, 1915), Vol. 1, pp. 29-38.

**Eisleben, Germany, house where
Martin Luther was born Nov. 10, 1483**



Map of Germany



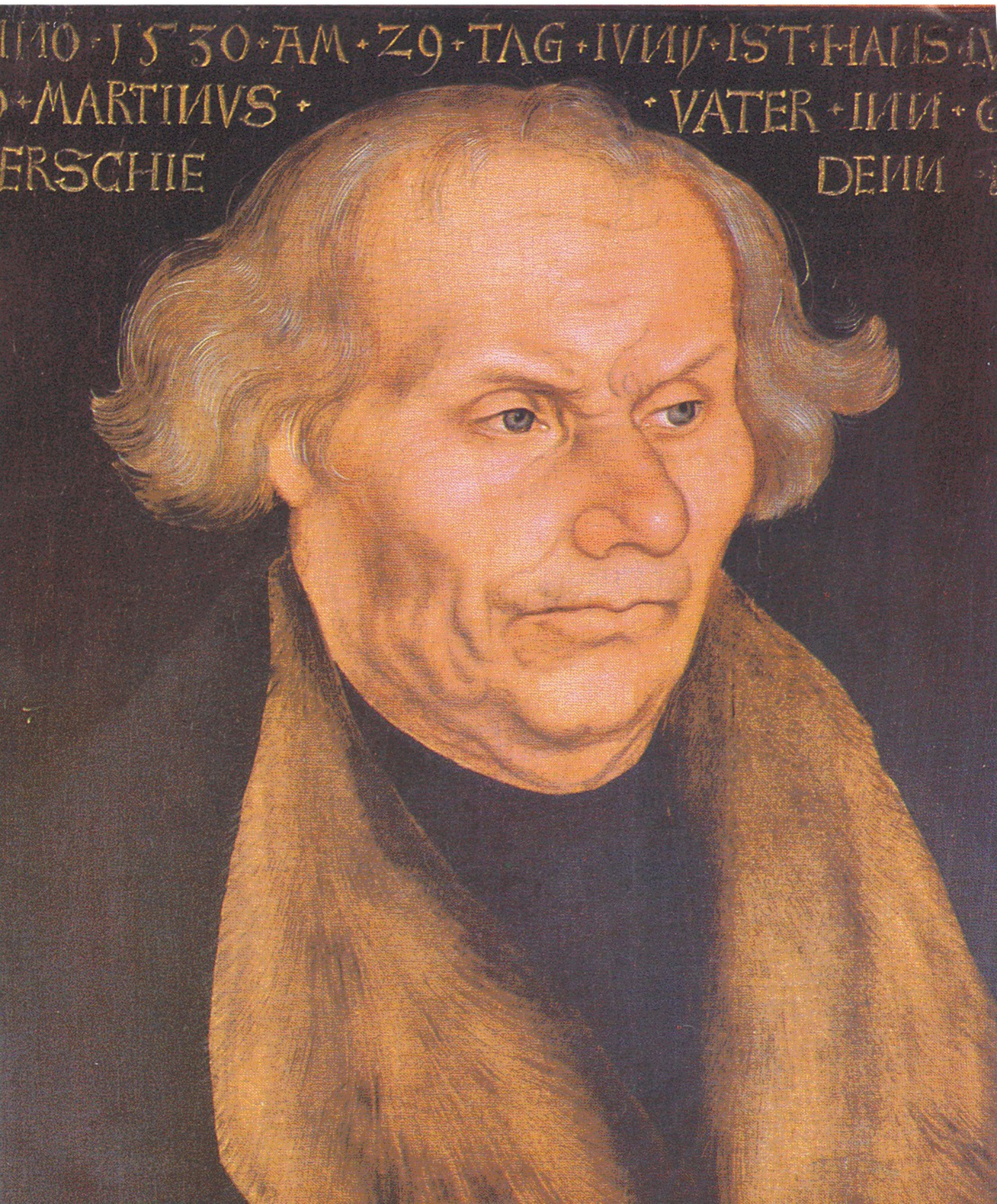
**Eisleben, Germany, house where
Martin Luther died Feb. 18, 1546**



Martin Luther's mother, Margareta Luther



Martin Luther's father, Hans Luther




95 Theses



Church doors in Wittenberg where Martin Luther nailed the 95 Theses.



An Indulgence

In Vollmacht  aller Heiligen
und in Erbarmung gegen Dich, absolviere
Ich Dich von allen Sünden und Missetha-
ten und erlasse Dir alle Strafen auf zehn
Tage.

Johannes Dietzel.

Martin Luther burning the paper that said he was excommunicated by the Pope.





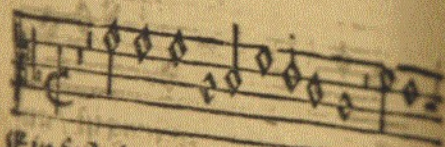
Vol. 486
2424151
1. *Unimod. Cantabrig. 13448*
= 4. 5.
4. 5. 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31. 32. 33. 34. 35. 36. 37. 38. 39. 40. 41. 42. 43. 44. 45. 46. 47. 48. 49. 50. 51. 52. 53. 54. 55. 56. 57. 58. 59. 60. 61. 62. 63. 64. 65. 66. 67. 68. 69. 70. 71. 72. 73. 74. 75. 76. 77. 78. 79. 80. 81. 82. 83. 84. 85. 86. 87. 88. 89. 90. 91. 92. 93. 94. 95. 96. 97. 98. 99. 100. 101. 102. 103. 104. 105. 106. 107. 108. 109. 110. 111. 112. 113. 114. 115. 116. 117. 118. 119. 120. 121. 122. 123. 124. 125. 126. 127. 128. 129. 130. 131. 132. 133. 134. 135. 136. 137. 138. 139. 140. 141. 142. 143. 144. 145. 146. 147. 148. 149. 150. 151. 152. 153. 154. 155. 156. 157. 158. 159. 160. 161. 162. 163. 164. 165. 166. 167. 168. 169. 170. 171. 172. 173. 174. 175. 176. 177. 178. 179. 180. 181. 182. 183. 184. 185. 186. 187. 188. 189. 190. 191. 192. 193. 194. 195. 196. 197. 198. 199. 200. 201. 202. 203. 204. 205. 206. 207. 208. 209. 210. 211. 212. 213. 214. 215. 216. 217. 218. 219. 220. 221. 222. 223. 224. 225. 226. 227. 228. 229. 230. 231. 232. 233. 234. 235. 236. 237. 238. 239. 240. 241. 242. 243. 244. 245. 246. 247. 248. 249. 250. 251. 252. 253. 254. 255. 256. 257. 258. 259. 260. 261. 262. 263. 264. 265. 266. 267. 268. 269. 270. 271. 272. 273. 274. 275. 276. 277. 278. 279. 280. 281. 282. 283. 284. 285. 286. 287. 288. 289. 290. 291. 292. 293. 294. 295. 296. 297. 298. 299. 300. 301. 302. 303. 304. 305. 306. 307. 308. 309. 310. 311. 312. 313. 314. 315. 316. 317. 318. 319. 320. 321. 322. 323. 324. 325. 326. 327. 328. 329. 330. 331. 332. 333. 334. 335. 336. 337. 338. 339. 340. 341. 342. 343. 344. 345. 346. 347. 348. 349. 350. 351. 352. 353. 354. 355. 356. 357. 358. 359. 360. 361. 362. 363. 364. 365. 366. 367. 368. 369. 370. 371. 372. 373. 374. 375. 376. 377. 378. 379. 380. 381. 382. 383. 384. 385. 386. 387. 388. 389. 390. 391. 392. 393. 394. 395. 396. 397. 398. 399. 400. 401. 402. 403. 404. 405. 406. 407. 408. 409. 410. 411. 412. 413. 414. 415. 416. 417. 418. 419. 420. 421. 422. 423. 424. 425. 426. 427. 428. 429. 430. 431. 432. 433. 434. 435. 436. 437. 438. 439. 440. 441. 442. 443. 444. 445. 446. 447. 448. 449. 450. 451. 452. 453. 454. 455. 456. 457. 458. 459. 460. 461. 462. 463. 464. 465. 466. 467. 468. 469. 470. 471. 472. 473. 474. 475. 476. 477. 478. 479. 480. 481. 482. 483. 484. 485. 486. 487. 488. 489. 490. 491. 492. 493. 494. 495. 496. 497. 498. 499. 500. 501. 502. 503. 504. 505. 506. 507. 508. 509. 510. 511. 512. 513. 514. 515. 516. 517. 518. 519. 520. 521. 522. 523. 524. 525. 526. 527. 528. 529. 530. 531. 532. 533. 534. 535. 536. 537. 538. 539. 540. 541. 542. 543. 544. 545. 546. 547. 548. 549. 550. 551. 552. 553. 554. 555. 556. 557. 558. 559. 560. 561. 562. 563. 564. 565. 566. 567. 568. 569. 570. 571. 572. 573. 574. 575. 576. 577. 578. 579. 580. 581. 582. 583. 584. 585. 586. 587. 588. 589. 590. 591. 592. 593. 594. 595. 596. 597. 598. 599. 600. 601. 602. 603. 604. 605. 606. 607. 608. 609. 610. 611. 612. 613. 614. 615. 616. 617. 618. 619. 620. 621. 622. 623. 624. 625. 626. 627. 628. 629. 630. 631. 632. 633. 634. 635. 636. 637. 638. 639. 640. 641. 642. 643. 644. 645. 646. 647. 648. 649. 650. 651. 652. 653. 654. 655. 656. 657. 658. 659. 660. 661. 662. 663. 664. 665. 666. 667. 668. 669. 670. 671. 672. 673. 674. 675. 676. 677. 678. 679. 680. 681. 682. 683. 684. 685. 686. 687. 688. 689. 690. 691. 692. 693. 694. 695. 696. 697. 698. 699. 700. 701. 702. 703. 704. 705. 706. 707. 708. 709. 710. 711. 712. 713. 714. 715. 716. 717. 718. 719. 720. 721. 722. 723. 724. 725. 726. 727. 728. 729. 730. 731. 732. 733. 734. 735. 736. 737. 738. 739. 740. 741. 742. 743. 744. 745. 746. 747. 748. 749. 750. 751. 752. 753. 754. 755. 756. 757. 758. 759. 760. 761. 762. 763. 764. 765. 766. 767. 768. 769. 770. 771. 772. 773. 774. 775. 776. 777. 778. 779. 780. 781. 782. 783. 784. 785. 786. 787. 788. 789. 790. 791. 792. 793. 794. 795. 796. 797. 798. 799. 800. 801. 802. 803. 804. 805. 806. 807. 808. 809. 810. 811. 812. 813. 814. 815. 816. 817. 818. 819. 820. 821. 822. 823. 824. 825. 826. 827. 828. 8

[illegible]

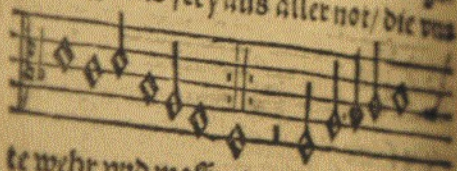
Martin Luther's hymn "A Mighty Forress Is Our God"

Der xlvj. Psalm/ Deus
noster refugium et
virtus/ &c.

Martinus Luther.

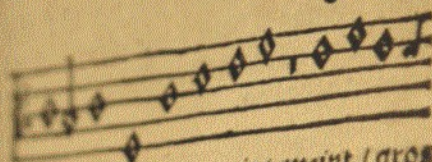


Ein feste burg ist unser Gott Ein
Er hilff vns frey aus aller not/ die vns

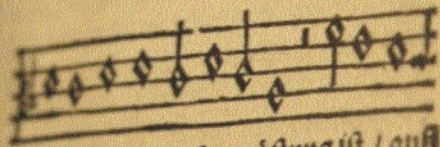


te wehr vnd waffen/
ist hat be troffen/ Der alt b̄d,
se selde

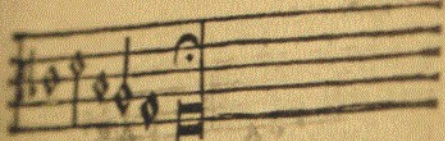
Jo. 43



se sind/ mit ernst ers ist meint/ gros
(macht vnd



viel list/ sein grausam rüstung ist/ auß
erd ist



nicht seins gleichen.
Nun unser macht ist nichts gethan/
wie sind gar bald verloren/ Es streit
für vns der rechte man/ den Gott hat
G ist selbs

Martin Luther



Martin Luther's seal

