

Music Box

OCTOBER 30, 2016 — REFORMATION SUNDAY

Melinda Coffey Armstead, piano & organ

CHAPEL CONCERTINO

Music of Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Preludes from The Well-Tempered Clavier BWV 846-893

Book II: C major; Book I: C major; G major; F minor; E major;
B-flat minor; B-flat major

“Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring” from Cantata Herz und
Mund und Tat und Leben, BWV 147

Toccata in D minor..... BWV 565

What you can learn from careful research:

When he was 48, Johann Sebastian Bach acquired a copy of Luther’s three-volume translation of the Bible. He underlined passages, corrected errors in the text and commentary, inserted missing words, and made notes in the margins. At Chronicles II, 5:13 he noted, “At a reverent performance of music, God is always at hand with his gracious presence.”

What you can learn from a sixth grader:

Johann Bach wrote many musical compositions and had a large number of children. In between he practiced on an old spinster which he kept up in his attic. He died from 1750 to the present. He was the most famous composer in the world and so was Handel. Handel was half German, half Italian and half English. He was very large.

More can be said, but none of it is anywhere near as interesting.

Melinda Coffey Armstead



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Monday morning, October 24, 2016

Dear Members and Friends,

This coming Sunday we celebrate Reformation Sunday. On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther, a devout Catholic monk, posted 95 Theses on the door of the Wittenberg Castle Church to debate the sale of indulgences for forgiveness. But he raised deeper issues that attacked the heart of Catholic governance and faith. An uproar ensued, catalyzing the Reformation and splinter between protesting Christians and the Catholic Church.

If we celebrate the Reformation, are we celebrating Catholic and Protestant disunity, with all its religious prejudice and conflicts?

No.

What we are celebrating is Luther's insistence that we are saved by grace, not works.

"Grace" means that God's love is the primary foundation of existence: we find who we are meant to be through God's love. God's love makes the first move to us. God desires that we know Him, because He loves us. And God can be discovered when we listen to God, and consider the reality of our lives and world.

This isn't just a religious idea. It became the foundation of a scientific and social revolution and spirit.

First, it set in motion a break from the regulation of truth by human, ecclesiastical authority. God's loving grace implies that God desires to communicate with us, without our relying on fallible human intermediaries. For the early reformers, this was expressed as, "*Sola Scriptura*," studying the Bible for one's self. But this spirit of inquiry grew into Immanuel Kant's famous credo of the Enlightenment, "*Sapere Aude*"—"Dare to think for yourself!" The Reformation set in motion a spirit of independent inquiry.

Second, the Reformation enshrined a profound distrust of human power that has positively shaped democracy. God's grace implied that there were no human acts that made some people more holy than others—no one was more connected to God or more deserving of power. Now, every power was considered merely human, from the pope to the town mayor. They could be questioned and even removed if they abused their position of power.

On Reformation Sunday we celebrate the Protestant emphasis that we are saved by grace, not works. And we celebrate its spirit of continual reformation that gives our faith, knowledge and governments integrity and vitality.



The Rev. Joanne M. Swenson, Th.D.

Calendar

**Sunday October 30, 2016—Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost
Reformation Sunday**

8:30 AM Bible Study in the Multipurpose Room led by the Rev. Ken Feske
Topic: Luke 19:1-10

9:15 AM **Chapel Concertino**

9:30 AM **Morning Prayer**

Passages Hosea 11:1-4; 7-9; Psalm 119:137-144; Luke 19:1-10

Lector Bob Janzen

Crucifer Rae Janzen

Flowers Dave & Julie Nee

Cookies Leslie Buck

Ushers Arlen & Cindy Lackey

Altar Care Martha Jordan & Sandy Rice

Sermon The Rev. Joanne M. Swenson, Th.D.

Title "How to Change"

Tuesday, November 1, 2016, Small Study Group "Celebrating All Saints":
—*Hebrews 11*, at the home of **Ruth Gleisner**, 3004 Sloat Road, Pebble
Beach, **10:15–11:30 am**.

Sunday November 6, 2016 — Honoring Veterans Day

Sunday November 13, 2016 — Prayer Book Launch!