

# LWML *Texas* District

October 31

Meditation

## Stand Firm

*Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love (1 Corinthians 16:13-14).*

Reformation day has long been a day of celebration within the Lutheran church. We think of Luther's 95 thesis nailed to the church door in Wittenberg with pride and accomplishment.

What would it take for you to stand firm in your faith? Would you be willing to go to the great lengths Luther and others were subjected to when confronting heresy?

On November 1, the Lutheran church and churches around the world remember All Saints' Day. A day dedicated to remembering those who have gone before us and died as Christians — those faithful believers who have been received into eternal glory.

When you think of Christians you know who are no longer living, what traits and experiences do you remember? Were they individuals who lived courageously? Did they hold fast to their faith through trials, temptations, or adversity? Did they exemplify Christian love to others? Did they show you how to love others even when the world around you was cruel and unrelenting? Did they speak truth to you even when you didn't want to hear it?

The world today seeks to draw us away from Christ and living a faith-filled life in every way possible. In the Rite of Confirmation, a statement is said which has caused pause for many a young confirmand, "Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?" If you were to answer that question today, could you confidently say, "I do, by the grace of God."

God gives us the strength to endure trials of all kinds, He gives us a way out when we are tempted and encourages us to seek Him first in all things. As we are all painfully aware, we are not perfect, and frequently follow our own ways instead of God's. Praise God for His faithful forgiveness and renewed strength!

So be watchful, be strong, hear God's Word, and follow it faithfully as those before us have. Share the hope you have in Christ in these dark days so that others may rejoice in the power of God!

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