



CELEBRATING THE 500TH REFORMATION ANNIVERSARY Concordia University, Nebraska

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ! [Romans 5:1]



500th Reformation Anniversary Reformation Speaker Series

REV. DR. ROBERT ROSIN

Concordia University
Weller Chapel
1:30 - 3:00 PM

The Reformation Then and Now: Context Counts and Method Matters

The Reformation turned the world upside down. That movement, championed by Martin Luther, not only unleashed a revolution in theology but also marked a turn toward the modern world. On both counts, Luther and the Reformation found an ally in the Renaissance, a cultural/educational rebirth that looked back to the classical liberal arts while striding forward into a new age. In seeking to solve his own theological problems, to find a God who would love and accept him, Luther enlisted the practical tools of this New Learning, along with elements of the larger Renaissance mindset, and wound up reading the Scriptures with new eyes. The paradise gates flung wide, as Luther put it, meant spiritual comfort coupled with energy for life in that world turned upside down—a perspective that still holds true.

Dr. Robert Rosin is professor emeritus of historical theology at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. He received a BA from Concordia Teachers College, River Forest, an MDiv from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, and an MA and PhD from Stanford.

Rosin was a research fellow at the Institut für Europäische Geschichte in Mainz, Germany, before joining the St. Louis faculty in 1981. He has taught primarily Reformation history and theology along with courses in the area of the modern world. He has been the editor of Concordia Seminary Publications (1988 to 2004), chairman of the department of historical theology (1995 to 2004), Director of the Center for Reformation Research 1997 to 2013), and served as an officer and board member for the Society for Reformation Research, the Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, and the American Friends of the Herzog August Bibliothek (Wolfenbüttel). For more than three decades he has been a guest professor in East and Southeast Asia, Africa, Central and Northern Europe, and South America, teaching frequently over the last decade in Kyrgyzstan and at Westfield House in Cambridge, England.

Prof. Rosin is the author of *Reformers, the Preacher, and Skepticism: Luther, Brenz, Melancthon and Ecclesiastes* (Mainz, Zabern). He is the editor/translator of Luther's commentary and historical introductions for the Concordia Reference Bible. He authored entries for the Oxford Encyclopedia of the Reformation, the Encyclopedia of Protestantism (Routledge), and The Oxford Handbook on Martin Luther's Theology. He also has written articles for journals such as *Lutheran Quarterly* and *CUNE's Issues in Christian Education*, and he has contributed chapters to a number of books and spoken at a variety of international conferences. The next project is a collaboration to result in a book revisiting ecclesiology past and present.

Rosin's wife, Laine, also a River Forest and Concordia St. Louis graduate, is a retired senior copy editor from Concordia Publishing House.

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reformation.cune.edu