

To the right of the dove is the date **Oct. 31 / 2016**, and between the two of them the words **Lund / Sweden**, the location of the Lutheran Cathedral where Pope Francis with representatives of worldwide Lutheranism and the Roman Catholic Church marked the beginning of the yearlong Lutheran-Roman Catholic Commemoration of the Reformation expressed in the encircling inscription: **From Conflict to Communion / The First Joint Commemoration of the Reformation // 2016 // 2017 // Lutherans and Roman Catholics Together.**

Below the images of Luther and Pope Francis are two olive branches joined at the center with a bow. Olive branches on medals and coins symbolize peace and reconciliation.

Design Concept of the Reverse



In the center of the medal is a 1530 drawing of the **Bishop's**

Palace in the German City of Augsburg that divides two important dates and documents presented in this city involving Lutherans and Roman Catholics. Above the palace, the first date **June 25, 1530**, and the name of a Lutheran document, the **Augsburg**

Confession. On that date and place the Augsburg Confession, written by Philipp Melancthon, was presented to the Emperor Charles V by seven Lutheran princes and two imperial free cities. The Confession contained thirty-five articles with the first twenty one articles setting forth that the followers of Luther did not dissent to any articles of faith from Catholic teaching. The remaining seven

articles outlined abuses that had come to the Western church in the centuries immediately preceding the Reformation. On August 3 the Roman Catholic Church replied with a rebuttal rejecting thirteen of the articles and on September 22 a written reply of rejection by Rome was given to the Lutherans called the *Confutation*. On that same day the Emperor refused to accept the Lutheran response and the Lutheran Church came into existence followed by wars and much bitterness over the centuries.

Below the 1530 image of the Bishop's Palace in Augsburg, in that very same city there are the words, **St. Anna Church** (built in 1521 as a Roman Catholic Church and later became Lutheran in 1545) and the significant Reformation date of **October 31**, but this time in **1999**. It was in this church where some 50 years of theological dialogue bore significant fruit in a new document signed by representatives of the **Lutheran World Federation and the Roman Catholic Church** called the Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification (JDDJ). The primary theological issue that resulted in the Reformation and the separation of the two churches was resolved in the agreement: **Together We Confess: By Grace Alone, In Faith In Christ's Saving Work And Not Because Of Any Merit On Our Part, We Are Accepted By God And Receive The Holy Spirit, Who Renews Our Hearts While Equipping And Calling Us To Good Works.** (JD, 15)

Above the palace are two hands reaching out to clasp each other, symbolizing friendship, and perhaps one day full unity. (A medal commemorating the 300th Anniversary of the Peace of Augsburg has a similar image.)

Encircling the medal is the inscription: **Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification // John 17:21 - 23 / John 15: 4 // American Lutheran / Publicity Bureau.**

At the far left side of the Bishop's Palace immediately under the open door in the gate, **ETS / JTS** (= signatures of the artists).

While the concept and design for this medallion came from Frederick J. Schumacher and approved by the ALPB Board of Directors, the drawings of the obverse and reverse were by Emma Tomiko Schumacher (age 15) and John Taylor Schumacher (age 17).

Produced by New Orleans Mint, Inc. New Orleans, LA.
Mintage: 170 total medallions = 75 antique bronze (10 with loops); 45 antique silver (10 with loops); 25 silver matte (5 with loops); 25 gold matte (5 with loops).

Frederick J. Schumacher
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ALPB Board Member and Director of Medal Projects

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Soli Deo Gloria!

Drawings of the obverse and reverse of the medal:

