

CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH

“Concordia is the Church where the love of Christ is shared through our hearts, our hands, and our voices.”

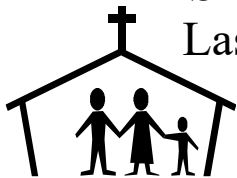
EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST

Saturday, September 26, 2026, at 5:30 pm in the Sanctuary
(WITH Holy Communion)

Online Worship posted to website Saturday evening
Sunday, September 27, 2026

8:00 am and 11:00 am Services in the Sanctuary
(WITH Holy Communion)

AS WE GATHER



Last week we stood at the foot of the mountain and heard the first three commandments — whom we trust, how we speak His name, whether we hold His Word sacred. This week the list turns a corner. The next two commandments move from the sanctuary of the heart to the kitchen table and the front porch: how we treat the authorities God has placed over us, and how we treat the neighbor standing right in front of us.

“Honor your father and your mother” sounds like a commandment for children until Luther points out that every teacher, employer, pastor, and magistrate in your life is standing in for the same authority. And “you shall not murder” sounds like a commandment none of us will ever break until Luther points out that withholding help from a neighbor in need is its own kind of killing — and Jesus goes further still, locating murder in the anger we carry before we ever raise a hand.

Come and hear what it actually costs to honor an authority you didn't choose — and what it costs when that authority has to be defied for the sake of a neighbor's life. Then hear how Christ, who honored His earthly parents perfectly and surrendered everything, even His life, to the very people who killed Him, has kept both commandments for you.

PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS (p. 21-22)

(Please stand as able and face the Cross)

OPENING / PROCESSIONAL HYMN #644 (vs. 1-5)

“The Church’s One Foundation”



1 The Church's one foun - da - tion Is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
 2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, Yet one o'er all the earth;
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der The world sees her op - pressed,
 4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion And tu - mult of her war
 5 Yet she on earth has u - nion With God, the Three in One,



She is His new cre - a - tion By wa - ter and the Word.
 Her char - ter of sal - va - tion: One Lord, one faith, one birth.
 By schisms rent a - sun - der, By her - e - sies dis - tressed,
 She waits the con - sum - ma - tion Of peace for - ev - er - more
 And mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion With those whose rest is won.



From heav'n He came and sought her To be His ho - ly bride;
 One ho - ly name she bless - es, Par - takes one ho - ly food,
 Yet saints their watch are keep - ing; Their cry goes up, "How long?"
 Till with the vi - sion glo - rious Her long - ing eyes are blest,
 O bless - ed heav'n - ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by Your grace



With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.
 And to one hope she press - es With ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
 And soon the night of weep - ing Shall be the morn of song.
 And the great Church vic - to - rious Shall be the Church at rest.
 That we, like saints be - fore us, May see You face to face.

+ DIVINE SERVICE – SETTING THREE +
(Hymnal, p. 184)

INVOCATION (Matthew 28:19b)

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

ALL: Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. (Hebrews 10:22)

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

People: who made heaven and earth. (Psalm 124:8)

Pastor: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

People: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin. (Psalm 32:5)

(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.)

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father,

People: Most merciful God, we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed.

We have done things that we should not have done, and we have failed to do the things we should have done.

We have been impatient. We have grumbled. We have gossiped.

We have been critical of others and we have been difficult. We have used coarse language and have taken Your name in vain.

We have sought and received Your forgiveness and, then, we have refused to forgive our neighbor.

Father, forgive us, renew us, and lead us so that we may be freed from the guilt and burdens that we carry and daily strive to live under Your order and design for us. Amen.

Pastor: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **(John 20:22-23)**

People: Amen.

THE OFFICE OF THE KEYS EXPLANATION

What is the Office of the Keys?

The Office of the Keys is that special authority which Christ has given to His Church on earth and Pastors to forgive the sins of repentant sinners, but to withhold forgiveness from the unrepentant as long as they do not repent.

Where is this written?

This is what St. John the Evangelist writes in chapter twenty: The Lord Jesus breathed on His disciples and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven." (John 20:22–23)

What do you believe according to these words?

I believe that when the called ministers of Christ deal with us by His divine command, in particular when they exclude openly unrepentant sinners from the Christian congregation and absolve those who repent of their sins and want to do better, this is just as valid and certain, even in heaven, as if Christ our dear Lord dealt with us Himself.

(1965, Luther's Small Catechism, pg. 18; "The Office of the Keys and Confession")

(Please remain standing as able)

PSALMODY (Psalm 139)

Pastor: ¹O LORD, you have searched me and known me! ²You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar.

People: ³You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.

Pastor: ⁴Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O LORD, you know it altogether.

People: ⁵You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

Pastor: ⁶Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high; I cannot attain it.

People: ⁷Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence?

Pastor: ⁸If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there! ⁹If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,

People: ¹⁰even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me.

Pastor: ¹¹If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light about me be night," ¹²even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is bright as the day, for darkness is as light with you.

People: ¹³For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb.

Pastor: ¹⁴I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.

People: ¹⁵My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

Pastor: ¹⁶Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them.

People: ¹⁷How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!

Pastor: ¹⁸If I would count them, they are more than the sand. I awake, and I am still with you.

People: ²³Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! ²⁴And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting! Amen.

(Please remain standing as able)

HYMN OF PRAISE #577 (vs. 1-4)

“Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast”



1 Al - might - y God, Your Word is cast Like
 2 Let not the sly sa - tan - ic foe This
 3 Let not the world's de - ceit - ful cares The
 4 So when the pre - cious seed is sown, Life -



seed in - to the ground; Now let the dew of
 ho - ly seed re - move, But give it root in
 ris - ing plant de - stroy, But let it yield a
 giv - ing grace be - stow That all whose souls the



heav'n de - scend And righ - teous fruits a - bound.
 ev - 'ry heart To bring forth fruits of love.
 hun - dred - fold The fruits of peace and joy.
 truth re - ceive Its sav - ing pow'r may know.

Salutation Explanation

The Service of the Word continues with a traditional greeting among Christians. This responsive dialogue unites the people and the pastor in corporate worship. The Hebrew greeting Shalom alechum! Alechum shalom! (“Peace be with you”) is still heard in Israeli streets. Christians replaced the Hebrew wish for peace, shalom, with the Peacegiver Himself. “The Lord be [or is] with you” may be said prior to the Collect of the Day.

The Salutation has been interpreted in several ways, but its underlying emphasis is the existence of a special relationship between the pastor and the congregation. The response “And also with you,” or “And with your spirit,” confirms this caring relationship. This is not a prayer but an exchange of mutual love and respect. The Salutation is a much stronger greeting than the “Good Morning!” often expressed from the chancel prior to a Sunday liturgy.

The salutation signifies a spiritual tie between pastor and the people that the Lord alone brings.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you. (2 Timothy 4:22)

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray together.

ALL: Almighty God, we thank You for the gift of life in this world, for our bodies and souls, but especially for restoring Your original design of eternal life through the sacrifice of Your only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. For us who have been baptized into His death, You have transformed death to be but the gate to the day of resurrection to eternal life. Help us to hold fast to the Word of life and live to Your praise and glory; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(Please be seated)

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING Exodus 20:1-13

(The First through Fifth Commandments)

Reader: The Old Testament Reading is from Exodus, Chapter 20.

¹And God spoke all these words, saying,

²“I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

³“You shall have no other gods before me.

⁴“You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵ You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the

iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, ⁶ but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷ “You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.

⁸ “Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. ⁹ Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, ¹⁰ but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. ¹¹ For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

¹² “Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³ “You shall not murder.

(After the reading...)

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING Ephesians 6:1-9

(Children and Parents, Servants and Masters)

Reader: The Epistle Reading is from First Corinthians, Chapter 10.

¹Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. ² “Honor your father and mother” (this is the first commandment with a promise), ³ “that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land.” ⁴ Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

⁵ Bondservants, obey your earthly masters with fear and trembling, with a sincere heart, as you would Christ, ⁶ not by the way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but as bondservants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart, ⁷ rendering service with a good will as to the Lord and not to man, ⁸ knowing that whatever good anyone does, this he will receive back from the Lord, whether he is a bondservant or is free. ⁹ Masters, do the same to them, and stop your threatening, knowing that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and that there is no partiality with him.

(After the reading...)

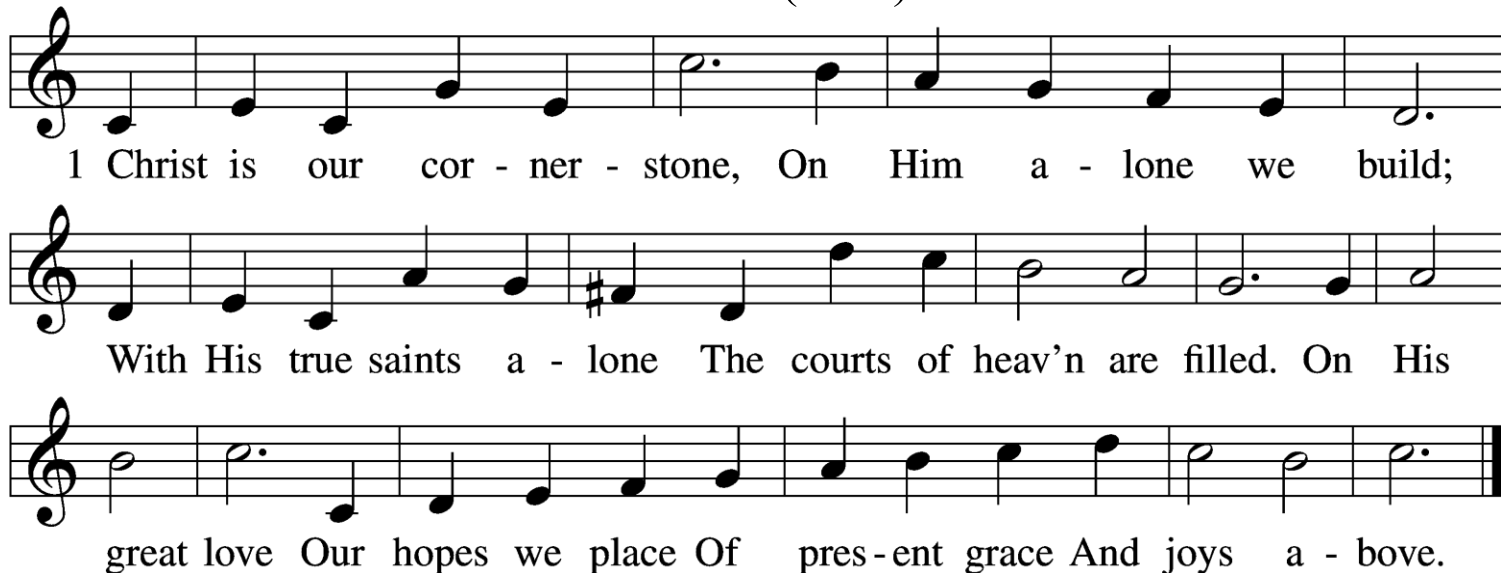
Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

(Please stand as able for the Verse and the reading of the Gospel Lesson)

GOSPEL VERSE

#912 “Christ Is Our Cornerstone” (vs. 1)



1 Christ is our cor - ner - stone, On Him a - lone we build;

With His true saints a - lone The courts of heav'n are filled. On His

great love Our hopes we place Of pres - ent grace And joys a - bove.

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 5:21–26
(Jesus Teaches about Anger and Murder)

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the Fifth Chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

(The Gospel is read)

[Jesus still speaking] ²¹ “You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.’ ²² But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, ‘You fool!’ will be liable to the hell of fire. ²³ So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, ²⁴ leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. ²⁵ Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are going with him to court, lest your accuser hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you be put in prison. ²⁶ Truly, I say to you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

Explanation of the Creed

The word “Creed” comes from the Latin word “credo” which means “I believe.” Creeds in the Church are a confession of faith in God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, the Triune God. Romans 10:9 says, “If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.”

The Church has had the long tradition that goes back to the first centuries after Jesus’ death and resurrection. That tradition is confessing the Church’s faith in a way that shows unity with the whole Christian Church on earth and keeps us from falling into false beliefs.

L: Now, having heard God's Word, let us join together in confessing our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

APOSTLES' CREED

All: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life + everlasting. Amen.

(Please be seated)

CHILDREN'S HYMN

We invite the children to come forward as we sing:

LSB 588, "Jesus Loves Me" vs. 1&2

**Jesus loves me! This I know, For the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to Him belong They are weak, but He is strong.**

**Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.**

**Jesus loves me! He who died Heaven's gates to open wide.
He has washed away my sin, Lets His little child come in.**

**Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE – DCE, Mr. Tim Buss

SERMON HYMN #848 (vs. 1-4)

“Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service”



1 Lord, whose love through hum - ble ser - vice Bore the weight of
 2 Still Your chil - dren wan - der home - less; Still the hun - gry
 3 As we wor - ship, grant us vi - sion, Till Your love's re -
 4 Called by wor - ship to Your ser - vice, Forth in Your dear



hu - man need, Who up - on the cross, for - sak - en,
 cry for bread; Still the cap - tives long for free - dom;
 veal - ing light In its height and depth and great - ness,
 name we go, To the child, the youth, the a - ged,



Of - fered mer - cy's per - fect deed, We, Your ser - vants, bring the
 Still in grief we mourn our dead. As, O Lord, Your deep com -
 Dawns up - on our quick - ened sight, Mak - ing known the needs and
 Love in liv - ing deeds to show; Hope and health, good - will and



wor - ship Not of voice a - lone, but heart, Con - se -
 pas - sion Healed the sick and freed the soul, Use the
 bur - dens Your com - pas - sion bids us bear, Stir - ring
 com - fort, Coun - sel, aid, and peace we give, That Your



crat - ing to Your pur - pose Ev - 'ry gift that You im - part.
 love Your Spir - it kin - dles Still to save and make us whole.
 us to tire - less striv - ing, Your a - bun - dant life to share.
 ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom May Your mer - cy know and live.

SERMON

Rev. Mark Moretz

“HONOR AND LIFE”**TITHES, PLEDGES, AND OFFERINGS***(Please stand as able for the Prayers)***PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Pastor: Almighty God, we give You thanks for all Your goodness and loving kindness that You have bestowed on us as Your own creation. For Your whole creation and the blessings of this life, we give You praise and thanks. Continue Your gift of life and grant that all look to You as their Creator and Giver of life through the gift of Your redemption in Christ Jesus, the Lord. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Grant Your blessing and guidance on Your holy church in this world to be the beacon of the light of Your salvation for all who look to You for the salvation of their souls and for every help in need. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Send upon the ministers of Your church and the congregations committed to their care the healthful spirit of Your grace, making all pastors diligent to preach Your Holy Word, and send Your people faithful obedience that they be comforted and strengthened in faith and do all things that are well pleasing to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Guide and direct the governments of all nations to seek the ways of Your will in peace and justice, especially in the face of any and all adversity. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Help all who call upon You in any need, especially [.....], that they have patience in times of sorrow or suffering and be released from their afflictions. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: We remember before You all those who have loved and served You and who now rest from their labors. Keep us in fellowship with all Your saints and bring us at last to the joys of Your heavenly kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

ALL: Amen.

AS WE PREPARE FOR HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord's Supper is celebrated in the confession and glad confidence that, as He promises, Jesus gives us not only bread and wine, but also His true body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins and for the strengthening of our faith. All baptized Christians, who trust this promise, repent of their sins, and set aside any refusal to love and forgive others, are invited to the Lord's Supper.

It is also important to understand two additional things the Scriptures teach about the Lord's Supper. First, participation in this meal is a bold confession of what we believe as Lutheran Christians. The Apostle Paul writes to the church of God in Corinth and to us:

"For as often as you eat and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. (1 Corinthians 11:26 ESV)

Second, those who eat and drink the Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm. The Apostle continues in his writing,

"Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgement on himself." (1 Corinthians 11:27-29 ESV)

For these reasons, if you have not been instructed in the teachings of the Lutheran faith, have not confessed agreement with the Lutheran faith, or are in doubt about or holds beliefs differing from The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, we request that you do not receive this Sacrament today.

We encourage you to find a time to speak with your Adult Leader or pastor so we might be able to commune together with you sometime in the future.

During the celebration of the Lord's Supper, you may stay in your seat or walk forward together with your group. If you choose to come forward, cross your arms over your chest to indicate that you will not be receiving the body and blood of Jesus. The pastor distributing the Lord's Supper will speak a blessing for you.

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT + (Hymnal, p. 194)

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

(Matt. 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Cor. 11:23-25)

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. (*1 Corinthians 11:26*)

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. (*Revelation 22:20*)

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Matthew 6:9-13)

All: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy Kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

PAX DOMINI (John 20:19)

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

LAMB OF GOD (vs. 3)

3 I was so lost, I should have died, But You have brought me to Your side To be led by Your staff and rod, And to be called a lamb of God.

Refrain

O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God!

O wash me in His pre-cious blood, My Je-sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“Change My Heart, oh God” by Maranatha (CCLI)

Change my heart, oh God, make it ever true.

Change my heart, oh God, may I be like You. (*Twice*)

You are the Potter, I am the clay.

Mould me and make me, this is what I pray. (*once*)

Change my heart, oh God, make it ever true.

Change my heart, oh God, may I be like You. (*once*)

**You are the Potter, I am the clay.
Mould me and make me, this is what I pray.**

**Change my heart, oh God, make it ever true.
Change my heart, oh God, may I be like You. (once)**

#435 “Come to Calvary’s Holy Mountain” (vs. as needed)



1 Come to Cal - v'ry's ho - ly moun - tain, Sin - ners, ru - ined
2 Come in pov - er - ty and mean - ness, Come de - filed, with -
3 Come in sor - row and con - tri - tion, Wound - ed, im - po -
4 They that drink shall live for - ev - er; 'Tis a soul - re -



by the fall; Here a pure and heal - ing foun - tain
out, with - in; From in - fec - tion and un - clean - ness,
tent, and blind; Here the guilt - y, free re - mis - sion,
new - ing flood. God is faith - ful; God will nev - er



Flows for you, for me, for all, In a full, per -
From the lep - ro - sy of sin, Wash your robes and
Here the trou - bled, peace may find. Health this foun - tain
Break His cov - e - nant of blood, Signed when our Re -



pet - ual tide, O - pened when our Sav - ior died.
make them white; Ye shall walk with God in light.
will re - store; They that drink shall thirst no more.
deem - er died, Sealed when He was glo - ri - fied.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Pastor: Let us pray.

Pastor: O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Benediction Explanation

Using the words of Numbers 6:22-27, the pastor speaks the trinitarian blessing on the people. The last word of the liturgy comes from God, who hosted the service. The Benediction is more than a prayer or a wish. By His most holy name, the Benediction bestows God's blessing on the people for the rest of the week. To rephrase the Benediction as a wish (for example, beginning with "May the Lord bless..." removes the divine significance of our Host's parting declaration to His gathered guests. The Aaronic Benediction (Numbers 6:24-26) is a uniquely Lutheran choice, yet it underscores the continuity of praise with all God's people.. Worshippers also may make the sign of the cross on themselves as the pastor makes it over the whole congregation.

THE BENEDICTION (Numbers 6:24-26)

Pastor: The LORD bless you and keep you,

The LORD make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The LORD look upon you with favor + and give you peace.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN #728 (vs. 1-5)

“How Firm a Foundation”



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
 2 “Fear not! I am with you, O be not dis - mayed,
 3 “The soul that on Je - sus has leaned for re - pose
 4 “When through fi - ery tri - als your path - way will lie,
 5 “Through - out all their life - time My peo - ple will prove



Is laid for your faith in His ex - cel - lent Word!
 For I am your God and will still give you aid;
 I will not, I will not, de - sert to his foes;
 My grace, all - suf - fi - cient, will be your sup - ply.
 My sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;



What more can He say than to you He has said
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
 That soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,
 The flames will not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
 And then, when gray hairs will their tem - ples a - dorn,



Who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
 Up - held by My righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
 I'll nev - er, no nev - er, no nev - er, for - sake!
 Your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine.
 Like lambs they will still in My bos - om be borne.”

THE SENDING

Pastor: Our worship is now ended.

People: My service now begins.

Pastor: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

IN SERVICE OF THE LORD TODAY:

Officiant	Rev. Mark Moretz
Leaders	Concordia Elders
Organist	Cindy Golem
Pianist	Shelly Hector, Kathy Schleef
Lectors	Kevin Long (5:30) Ron Golem (8:00) Mary Kate Moretz (11:00)
Greeters	Volunteer (5:30) Diane Braun (8:00) Cheryl Dawson & Brenda Ellis (11:00)
Video	Adam Brown, Sam Moretz and Jaymes Yeakle
Visuals	Cari Lowery, Fred Tichnell and Sam Moretz
Usher	Chip Brown, Dory Brown, Maggie Brown, Adam Brown, Joe Brown, Carrol Gatling, Jody Gann, Jesse Lowery, Bert Brittain, Mark Roeder, and Paul Roeder
Altar Guild	Sylvia Shives, Ron Golem, Mike and Nancy Flicek, Marian Foster, Dory Brown, and Deaconess Beverly Walling
Acolytes	Evan Moretz; Erin, Aubrey, and Tommy Davidson; Sydney and Katie Hector; Joe, Charlotte, Andrew Brown and Sarah Brown; Alexis Lowery, Nethanel Lowery; Grayson and Logan Moreland

Altar flowers age given to the glory of God by Pastor Mark Moretz and family.



The people of Concordia have joined together to do the Lord's work in our community and around the world, and our offerings are a joyful response of our faith. If you are our guest today, please do not feel obligated to give an offering. You can bring your offering to the Lord using the plate as it is passed or online at concordiahagerstown.org under "Give".

ANNOUNCEMENTS

[Please check the newsletter for additional announcements]

Email addresses:

Church: concordia.hagerstown@gmail.com

Open Arms: openarms.hagerstown1@gmail.com

Gluten-free wafers are now available. Please let Pastor Mark know at the Communion Rail if you prefer these.

Sunday – 9:30 a.m. - Adult Bible Class, in the Sanctuary, Pastor Mark will lead a study of the Book of Revelation.

SUNDAY MORNING CLASS: Downstairs in the Outreach Center -Pastor Pekari will lead a study on Matthew.

MONDAY Bible Study – will begin September 14th at 1:30 p.m.

CHOIR – Choir will begin rehearsing Wednesday, August 19 at 7:30 p.m.

“MISSION OF THE MONTH” for Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod Disaster Response.

Subscriptions to the Lutheran Witness are due now. The cost is \$26.00 per year. Subscription forms have been placed in the worship folders. Additional forms are on the table in the Welcome Center. Place forms (with check, payable to Concordia Lutheran Church) in specially marked basket in the office by **October 13.**

PORTALS OF PRAYER devotional books for July- September (and large print) are available in the basket in the narthex.

OPEN ARMS PRESCHOOL – Donations from the congregation of cleaning supplies would be greatly appreciated. Clorox type wipes, Lysol spray, bleach, paper towels, sanitizers, etc. Thank you, Natalie.

ALTAR FLOWERS –the price for altar flowers is \$70.00 per arrangement.

The flower chart for 2026 is on the bulletin board outside pastor's office. Member participation is encouraged and appreciated.

PLEASE SIGN UP FOR A SUNDAY (or two or three).

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Request forms to have a prayer shawl made for you or a loved one are on the bulletin board outside Pastor's office. Please complete the form and put it in Jane O'Farrell's mailbox. If anyone would like to share their talent of knitting or crocheting for this ministry please contact Jane O'Farrell

CHURCH SIGN MESSAGE – All church events can be advertised on the Electric Sign. Please contact: Mark Eberly [at emark353@comcast, .net](mailto:emark353@comcast.net) or Chip Brown, 301- 797-1703.

Keep messages short and to the point. No need to call the Pastor or any Board Member for approval.

Mission

We are the Church where love of Christ is shared through our hearts, our hands, and our voices.

Vision

A welcoming community where the grace of Christ transforms lives through Word and Sacrament, equips disciples for faithful service, and shares His love with every neighbor.

Core Values

1. We believe in one God, our Father, His Son Jesus our savior and shepherd, and His Holy Spirit our helper and comforter. We believe that God comes first in our lives. Therefore, attendance and worship and active, enthusiastic, and persistent involvement in God's mission are vital to our witness.
2. We believe that trusting God's love for us all is at the heart of our relationship to Him, and to our relationships with each other, and should be a part of every aspect of church life (1 Corinthians 13; John 13:34-35).
3. We believe that every person matters to God, and therefore, all people matter to the church. Likewise, we believe that we should be a loving, welcoming, and compassionate place that actively invites our community and neighbors to join us (Luke 15; Luke 5:30-32).
4. We believe, as Christ's followers, that we have been humbled, that we should be authentic (real) about our own need for forgiveness, that we live in God's amazing grace, and that we yearn for continuous growth (Ephesians 4:25-26; Hebrews 12:1).
5. We believe that God's church is one, and holy as He is Holy, and that His love and forgiveness is universal in scope, and that we should remain faithful to the Biblical truths passed on to us by Christ and Scripture, the apostles, and expressed in Lutheran doctrine while engaging with our surrounding culture through our facility, mission efforts, and communications (1 Corinthians 9:19-

23).

6. We believe the pursuit of full devotion to Christ is normal for every believer and this includes the teaching or servanthood and putting our faith into action, stewardship and the pursuit of kingdom goals (Philippians 2:1-11; 2 Corinthians 8:7).
7. We believe God is uniting His people into one Body with His over-arching ministry of reconciliation, and that every believer is endowed with certain unique spiritual abilities and we should equip them to minister out of their gifts and passion (Ephesians 4).
8. We believe that we are to be patient, kind, gentle, honest, peaceful, loving, and that having self-control is essential to our witness and church effectiveness. This includes speaking the truth in love, communicating honestly with one another, and practicing forgiveness with one another (Galatians 5:22-25; Ephesians 4:15).
9. We believe excellence honors God and inspires people, and that our giving of thanks for whatever we can do, see, or find that is excellent, brings God honor. We also believe that God has given us First Article gifts with which we work to be innovative, adaptable, and dynamic in the way we minister to our communities (Malachi 1:6-14; Proverbs 27:17; First Article of The Apostles' Creed).
10. We Believe that we are to be a people of prayer as Jesus taught us, calling on God as children ask their dear Father. We pray continually for our families, for Church, for our communities, for our leaders, for our nation, and for the Holy Spirit to bring all people to faith (Matthew 6:9-15).

Worship with us!

Saturday in the Sanctuary:

Traditional (*Liturgical*) Service, 5:30 p.m.

Sunday in the Sanctuary:

Traditional (*Liturgical*) Service, 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Holy Communion celebrated at all Services.

- ***Sunday School meets in the Education Wing, 9:30 a.m.***

Preschool (age 3-5) Community Room

Elementary (Grades 1-5) Community

Middle School (Grades 6-8) Luther Room

High School (Grades 9-12) Luther Room

- ***Adult Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.***

Sanctuary (Pastor Mark Moretz)

Outreach Center (Pastor Pekari)

- ***Open Arms Preschool***

Registration required for 2, 3, or 4 day AM program